Student Safety the model for programs around the world

By Robin Graham

It’s 5 p.m. Matt Hart, a senior criminology student, and Dan Sturgeon, a fifth-year physical therapy student, are patrolling the Marquette campus on foot. They carry flashlights and listen to calls coming over their radios. “Our basic job is to observe and report,” says Hart. “We also escort any student, faculty or staff who need someone to walk with them from a campus building to a car.”

“We’re trained to help keep campus safe, every day of the year,” adds Sturgeon. Hart and Sturgeon are employees of Student Safety Programs, an arm of the Marquette University Department of Public Safety run primarily by students for students. The two are supervisors, helping to coordinate the efforts of close to 100 student employees who provide foot patrol, transport and escort services to the Marquette University community.

SSP is also an extra set of eyes and ears for DPS. “When we see something, we call it in to Public Safety and they respond to it,” says Hart. Since SSP was started in 1986, the program has acquired 12 LIMO (Local Intercampus Mobile Operations) vans that have transported more than five million students, faculty and staff.

Each year, LIMO services are more and more in demand: currently, SSP averages a quarter of a million transports per year, mostly taking students to and from late-night events.

Sgt. Dan Kolosovsky is one of two full-time staff employees at SSP. “I’m really just a cheerleader here,” he says. “The students are really the ones running the show.” Together, Kolosovsky and his student supervisors like Hart and Sturgeon are supervisors run a 10-hour shift between 5 p.m. and 3 a.m. daily. Foot patrolers work from 5 p.m. to midnight; LIMO drivers work until 3 a.m.

With their bright-yellow jackets and strobe lights, SSP employees and LIMO vehicles are highly visible and immediately recognizable around campus. “We’re a proactive presence,” says Kolosovsky. “We believe we help to prevent crime just by being present.”

Foot patrolers work in pairs and are continuously connected via radio to a student dispatcher. Student supervisors like Hart and Sturgeon, as well as the dispatcher, are also connected to Public Safety’s main radio. In the spring, SSP patrolers cover campus on bicycles.

SSP FACT SHEET

- SSP covers the neighborhood from North 7th to North 24th streets and Clybourn to State
- LIMOs run every night of the year, with the exception of Christmas Day and New Year’s Day
- Halloween, St. Patrick’s Day and Snowball, Marquette’s winter dance, are the busiest nights for LIMO transports
- Snowball holds the record for the biggest night of the year, with 4,200 transports in one night
- SSP dispatchers receive 300-400 calls each weekend
- Since 1986, SSP has escorted more than 42,000 students, faculty and staff

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Welcome to the spring 2005 issue of the Parents Association newsletter

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Family Weekend this year, when nearly 2,000 parents, grandparents and siblings joined their Marquette students for a fun and activity-packed weekend on campus. More than 200 of you returned evaluation cards, which will help to make Family Weekend 2006 an even greater success — thank you! Save the date for next year’s big event: September 30 – October 2, 2005.

We’ve had a busy year so far as the Parents Association Board continues to grow. For the first time, Family Weekend was fully staffed by over 40 parent volunteers. Also for the first time, parent volunteers were available during Discovery Days at Marquette, answering prospective parents’ questions and promoting the Parents Association. In the next few weeks, an enthusiastic team of parent volunteers will be hitting the phones to welcome incoming Marquette parents, making sure they have the information they need to get their freshmen to Milwaukee this fall. And finally, the new Parents Association Web site — a fabulous resource for all undergraduate parents — is up and running. Check it out at www.marquette.edu/parents.

After putting this newsletter together, we were pleased to see a common theme in our feature stories: Students and staff working together to make Marquette a great place to be. There’s something special about the Marquette experience. It’s a place where our children are not only filled with knowledge, but also cared for by everyone they encounter. We’re so proud to be Marquette parents!

John and Joanne Stelowski
Parents Association National Co-chairs
Late Night Marquette: An alternative to the same-old, same-old

The Parents Association has supported alcohol-free student events on campus, establishing an endowment in 2000 that continues to fund these programs.

“The ideas for Late Night are generated by the Marquette Student Government, residence halls and various student organizations. Late Night events include everything from karaoke to movies and concerts to large-scale, themed affairs,” says Andrea Moore, a junior majoring in international business and economics who has coordinated Late Night programming at Marquette. It’s a wonderful way to meet people and have a good time,” she says.

“Late Night Marquette” is the umbrella for a host of student activities sponsored by the Office of Student Development, Marquette University Student Government, residence halls and various student organizations. Late Night events include everything from karaoke to movies and concerts to large-scale, themed affairs.

“Swinging in the New Year,” an event held in December in the Alumni Memorial Union, featured swing dance lessons, a toast with sparkling cider, and gingerbread house decorating, among other activities. “We estimated 500 people and way more than that showed up,” says Moore.

Emily Rostkowski, a senior international affairs major who is also executive vice president of MUSG and student representative to the Parents Association Board, says that Marquette prioritizes Late Night. “The idea is to have programming every Thursday through Saturday that offers students a fun and safe place to go,” she says.

Late night, alcohol-free student events held every weekend on the Marquette campus.

Sound like fun? They are, says Andrea Moore, a junior majoring in international business and economics who has coordinated late-night programming at Marquette. It’s a wonderful way to meet people and have a good time,” she says.

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Working at SSP isn’t your typical job either. While the hours may be daunting to some, the trade-off is plenty of fresh air, exercise and intrigue.

“We get out and move around,” says Hart. “I like the freedom.”

“There’s something new every time you go to work,” adds Fitzgerald. “It’s kind of thrilling in that aspect.”

At night, even as most of the Marquette community is safely tucked away in their homes and dorm rooms, SSP continues to work tirelessly to help keep them safe.

“There’s always someone looking after them,” says Sturgeon. “Even if they’re not using LIMOs or calling for an escort, we’re still out there, watching and serving.”

Late Night Marquette Events

**Upcoming Spring 2005 Late Night Marquette Events**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 1**

Marquette Spelling Bee
10 p.m.–1 a.m., AMU
Co-sponsored by Late Night Marquette and MUSG After Dark

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29**

Arabian Nights
10 p.m.–1 a.m., AMU
Co-sponsored by MUSG After Dark, Late Night Marquette and the Arab Student Association

Training to become an SSP employee is rigorous. Patrollers learn how to use radios, 10-codes (a way of communicating on radios) and zone boundaries. “It takes study and dedication to learn everything,” says Kolosovsky, “but after a while it becomes second nature.”

LIMO drivers undergo background checks on their driving records, 40 hours of training, a test course and a probationary period before being “certified” to pick up and drop off actual passengers. Dispatchers, assistant field supervisors and supervisors also undergo intensive training, pointing to the high degree of responsibility and accountability of SSP employees.

This is only one reason Marquette’s Student Safety Programs have attracted the attention of Safety Programs have attracted the attention of parents and the university community.

“The idea is to have similar programs — which comes as no surprise to Kolosovsky. “I believe our program is the biggest and best,” he says.

At SSP there isn’t a typical student profile: employees are all ages, in all majors and have different career goals. Some SSP employees majoring in criminal justice and related majors go on to become DPS officers; others enter careers in criminal justice.

“Because of all they deal with, students learn good people skills,” says Kolosovsky. “They leave here with stronger resumes.”

Megan Fitzgerald, a junior speech pathology major, has worked at SSP since her freshman year. “I definitely enjoy interacting with everyone,” she says. “You really get to know people.”

Dan Sturgeon agrees, citing the breadth of human nature that comes with the job. “The best thing is the variety of people you get to work with, both employees and the students,” he says.

The Parents Association has supported alcohol-free student events on campus, establishing an endowment in 2000 that continues to fund these programs.

“If you don’t want to be a part of the drinking scene, you have a place to go,” says Rostkowski. “Most students think of it as a free night of fun.”

Adam McCostlin, a junior marketing major and co-commissioner of “After Dark,” MUSG’s name for the late-night events it sponsors, says that another benefit of Late Night is involvement.

“It gives students exposure to the different university organizations and clubs that sponsor late-night events,” he says.

Moore says that Late Night is just another way Marquette supports cura personalis, or care for the whole person. “It’s a great example of something the university does to help students be more than just students,” she says.

Rostkowski agrees. “Late Night promotes a sense of community. You feel like you’re a part of something.”

For more information about Late Night Marquette, visit www.latenight.marquette.edu
volunteers are welcome to join the Parents Association Board. Parent volunteers who help at various events throughout the year. Your involvement can be heard and result in opportunities to get involved.

The Parents Association is led by a volunteer board of directors. Lazzar administers funds provided by the Parents Association for alcohol awareness and other drug initiatives such as Late Night Marquette, which provides alternative social activities for students. She also serves the liaison between the Parents Association and the Office of Student Affairs.

What is the Parents Association?

When you become a Marquette parent, you automatically become an official member of the Marquette University Parents Association. The Parents Association is led by a volunteer board of directors that meets twice annually. Board members serve on various committees and initiate partnerships with departments across the university including student affairs, admissions, health services, residence life and career services. These relationships allow the parents' voices to be heard and result in opportunities to get involved.

The Parents Association is also home to a growing number of parent volunteers who help at various events throughout the year. While not required to attend board meetings, all active parent volunteers are welcome to join the Parents Association Board. As coordinator of the Parents Association, I invite you to get involved by volunteering. Now is the time you truly can make a difference — and meet generous, warm and friendly people just like you!

For a volunteer sign-up form and additional information, please e-mail kristen.pawlowski@marquette.edu or call (414) 288-7697. You may also download the form at the Parents Association Web site. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Kristen Pawlowski
Parents Association Coordinator

Parents Association Board Members

Tom and Pat Ahern • Arlington Heights, Ill.
Rick and Grace Balduzzi • LaGrange, Ill.
Michael Bedwell • Broadfield, Wis.
Larry Bonitelli • Naperville, Ill.
Cathy Bardenman • Hinsdale, Ill.
Chris Brooks-Gomez • Evanston, Ill.
Carol Bullmore • Union Grove, Wis.
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J. John and J. Anne Slobowczyk • Franklin, Wis.
Barbara Vela • Northbrook, Ill.
Donna Whitaker • Shorewood, Wis.
Gail and Richard Willick • Hinsdale, Ill.

Important Dates

- March 20–29 — Spring break/Easter holiday
- April 14 — Sign-up for residence hall selection begins*
- April 17 — Registration for fall term 2005-2006 begins
- April 15–17 — Little Sibs Weekend **
- May 6 – Deadline for Humphrey Apartments summer housing applications
- May 9–14 – Finals week
- May 14 – Residence halls close at noon
- May 15–20 – Senior Week
- May 21–22 – Commencement weekend

*2005-2006 ROOM SELECTION PROCESS
Room selection for the 2005-2006 academic year begins March 7, when $200 nonrefundable housing deposits are due. Actual sign-up begins April 4. All unmarried first- and second-year students, regardless of classification, are required to live in university residence halls. For more information, visit www.marquette.edu/orl

**LITTLE SIBS WEEKEND
All residence halls are planning exciting activities for your students and their siblings during Little Sibs Weekend. Admission to some events is first-come first-served so register soon — deadline is March 31. Visit www.marquette.edu/orl for information and a registration form. In addition to residence hall activities, there will be several campus events students can take their sibs to for a taste of life at Marquette.

Important news and events
- Where to park when you visit
- Paying tuition online
- Replenishing your student’s MarquetteCard
- Where to park when you visit
- And much, much more

Check out the NEW Marquette Parents Web site

www.marquette.edu/parents

Learn everything you need to know about Marquette:
Four steps to your student’s job-seeking success

How many times have you asked yourself this question: “Will my child get a good job after graduation?” The answer is most likely to be “yes” if your student taps into the programs and services offered by Marquette University’s Career Services Center. And they’re all free. Another question parents (especially of freshmen) ask is, “My child doesn’t know what he (she) wants to do. Should I be worried?” No, says Laura Kestner, director of the Career Services Center.

“At first, a student’s experience really needs to be about Marquette: getting into a routine, making friends, feeling connected, working on studies and study habits,” she says. Once students are acclimated, they should start thinking about careers. “Even though we don’t expect them at age 18 to know what they want to do for the rest of their lives,” says Kestner, “they shouldn’t keep putting off the decision.”

From declaring a major to getting a job, there are definitive steps your student can take to think “career.”

Step one is self-assessment. Students should get a sense of their interests, skills and values and how they fit with specific careers. MU Connect, Marquette’s online alumni community, is a great place to start. After logging in to the system, clicking on “Career Alumni Network” and entering, say, “psychologist,” a list of psychologists both in Milwaukee and the student’s hometown who have agreed to talk with students about their professions can be accessed. Students can then arrange face-to-face meetings or other communication with the alumni to find out what being a psychologist is all about.

Step two is career research. SIGI-Plus, another online program, provides a rich database of career information. Students keying in “psychologist” or “psychology” will find out about majoring in psychology, careers, starting salaries, what a typical day for a psychologist is like, post-graduate education needed, skills used and more.

Step three is career-related experience. Through internships, co-op programs and leadership activities students enhance their resume. According to the Cooperative Education Association, starting salaries for students with internship or co-op experience are higher than those without it.

“These days, students should be graduating with some kind of career-related experience,” says Kestner. “Employers look for it.”

Step four is the job search. During this phase, students can enroll in two classes the Career Services Center offers: career planning and job-search strategies. Students can also participate in practice interviews, use resources like the Kimberly-Clark Career Library, and hone their resumes.

“We critique students’ resumes online,” says Kestner. “We look at anywhere from two to 20 every day.” (see sidebar)

Students can also register in MU CareerTRAK to access internships, and full-time and nonprofit jobs posted at Marquette.

Each spring and fall, students can meet with employers during on-campus career fairs. Parents of Marquette students who would like to recruit on the Marquette campus can go to www.marquette.edu/csc and click on “Employers” for more information.

Previously housed in the basement of Marquette Hall for 30 years, the Career Services Center moved to its new home on the ground floor of Holthusen Hall in August 2004. Funds from Kimberly-Clark made the move possible, and it’s made the center far more visible — and it’s made the center far more visible — and it’s made the center far more visible — and it’s also made the center far more visible.

“Since the move, our walk-in numbers have increased by 70 percent,” says Kestner. “Career counseling appointments with students have also increased by 60 percent.”

According to Kestner, another common question parents is “What is Marquette’s placement rate?” While in 2002 Marquette’s placement rate was 89.9 percent, Kestner says that no single number can be directly applied to each student’s job-search success.

“Being placed in a job depends on the students and what they have done to take responsibility for their own careers,” she says. “Most of the students who use our services have a great chance at getting great employment. Those who don’t tend not to.”

Parents of freshmen:
• Refrain from suggesting or selecting majors
• Tell them there decisions will shape their future
• Support their decisions
• Remind them they don’t have to choose majors right away
• Encourage them to make tentative career choices

Parents of sophomores:
• Encourage:
  - work experience
  - electives that will give additional desirable skills
  - resume writing and development of interviewing skills
  - summer jobs that offer work experience and development of interpersonal communication skills

Parents of juniors:
• Ask them about talking to a Marquette alumnus through MU Connect
• Support membership in student and professional organizations
• Help polish their resumes, stress importance of a critique by a career counselor

Parents of seniors:
• Encourage them to develop job search plans, with strategies that work for them
• Help them in purchasing professional clothing and accessories
• Help them practice interview skills; encourage participation in mock interviews
• Encourage them to use Marquette’s Kimberly-Clark Career Services Library and the Web to research employers and check for job openings
• Help them develop a network of contacts that includes family and friends

For more information, visit Marquette’s Career Services Center on the Web at www.marquette.edu/csc

Many career services are also available to Marquette alumni.

MAKE AN IMPACT

Support the Parents Fund

Tuition covers only 60 percent of the total cost of educating each Marquette student. The Marquette Fund helps bridge this gap, providing funding for scholarships, faculty salaries and spiritual programming.

The Parents Fund supports the Marquette Fund. Therefore, the gift you make to the Parents Fund directly affects your student’s education.

Support from alumni, corporations, current and past parents, and friends help make it possible for your student to receive a top-notch Marquette education. Strong participation not only supports the university financially, but it also affects Marquette’s ranking among peer universities.

Join the more than 2,000 current and past parents who have already made gifts to Marquette this fiscal year. Your participation — at any level — does make a difference.

Make a gift online at www.marquette.edu/alumni/give/fund.shtml by phone at (800) 344-7544 or by using the enclosed envelope.