The John Felice Rome Center’s bold plans for a new future are taking shape on Monte Mario. Last summer, the JFRC celebrated the purchase of the campus that the program has been renting for over 30 years. Close on the heels of that acquisition, the JFRC moved to purchase the olive grove just southeast of campus, making it one of the largest American study-abroad programs in Europe. This spring, the program welcomed one of the largest classes in its almost three decades on Via Massimi. Academically, the JFRC is expanding its reach and its reputation.

“Our goal is to create a state-of-the-art U.S. university campus in Rome,” says Emilio Iodice, vice president and director of the JFRC. “This will ensure that we provide an even better global experience to our students that will enhance the atmosphere for academic excellence.”

Part of this forward momentum is a six- to eight-year renovation of the JFRC’s outdated facilities that will include updated computing resources, improved accommodations, and new classrooms and meeting spaces for hosting conferences and dignitaries.

Additionally, “Our campus will have a ‘green conscience’ for all new projects that we undertake,” says Iodice. “We will take steps to conserve energy and perhaps grow some of our own fruits and vegetables and recycle selected organic waste.” A plan to install photovoltaic solar panels at the JFRC is already underway. This will allow the program to generate some of its own electricity.

More information on the JFRC’s exciting new vision and plans will be unveiled at the 2010 All-Class Reunion, May 4–8, in Rome. In the coming months and years, opportunities will become available for every member of the global JFRC community to get involved in the renaissance of the John Felice Rome Center.
GREETINGS FROM EMILIO

DEAR JFRC ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Among all the exciting plans surrounding the JFRC this year, I must say that one of the things to which I most look forward is welcoming you all back to Rome this May, and back to the place that changed your life. Four years ago, many of you came to Monte Mario for the 2006 All-Class Reunion—the first to take place on Roman soil—and the wonderful stories I hear and pictures I see are a testament to its success and to the strength in the connection you still feel for the JFRC. I truly hope you will join Susana Cavallo and I for what will be a memorable event, full of opportunities to revisit special places and people, to learn, remember, share, and to look ahead and celebrate the bright future of the JFRC and its future alumni.

Looking ahead is very important for our center right now, as we will be announcing some truly monumental and historic plans for the JFRC campus and program at the reunion this May. I’m sure the news and plans will be music to most of your ears. With plans for cutting-edge renovations and 48 years of experience, the JFRC is positioned to be the best and most comprehensive study-abroad program in Italy. Those 48 years are a testament to our values and traditions, and we will be ever-mindful of this heritage as we move forward.

But we can’t achieve our goals or greatness without you. One of the most important things I ask each of you is to forge a stronger JFRC community. This community, though global in reach, begins with your own classmates, with whom you share an amazing bond.

However, part of our future success is contingent on class solidarity expanding into a true JHRL alumni community. Whether you are from the class of 1963–64 or the class of 1993–94, you all share a love of life and adventure that is fostered by time at the JFRC.

Creating a strong family will mean dynamic networking, greater alumni pride, and new friends from old places. I encourage all of you to reach out to your fellow alumni. Attend JFRC events. Return the JFRC mailing with a donation. Show your support and solidarity. And encourage others to do so.

You can start by joining us this May in Rome; I guarantee you will find the venue, events, and ambiance most agreeable and memorable! Thank you for all that you do in helping keep the JHRL traditions and history alive and for helping us keep its future as rich as your memories.

Wishing you a healthy and happy spring,

Emilio Iodice
Vice President and Director
John Felice Rome Center
RITORNARE A ROMA

REUNION 2010 • MAY 4–8 • FIVE DAYS OF A LIFETIME

Return to Rome with your fellow alumni at an event for the ages—reconnect, reminisce, and revel in all that is Rome! Accommodations have been set aside at two beautiful hotels in central Rome, or relive your glory days and book a room at the center. This isn’t any ordinary reunion. These will be experiences you can’t find anywhere but at the JFRC.

DAY ONE • TUESDAY, MAY 4
Arrive in Rome, get settled, and gather in Monte Mario at the John Felice Rome Center. Tour the campus, meet leaders, and greet other members of the JFRC community.
That evening, buses will whisk you to Piazza Navona to dine under Italian skies.

DAY TWO • WEDNESDAY, MAY 5
Choose from 11 different fascinating classes offered by current JFRC faculty. Enjoy an enlightening lecture, brunch, and on-site excursion with your classmates before having the evening to yourself.

DAY THREE • THURSDAY, MAY 6
The morning offers you your choice of classes. The day’s classes will conclude near the Vatican, where you’ll gather for an after-hours, one-of-a-kind tour of the Vatican Museums and Sistine Chapel.
You will have the place completely to yourselves as JFRC faculty lead you on the tour of a lifetime.

DAY FOUR • FRIDAY, MAY 7
Choose from one of four exhilarating day trips: Florence, Naples, Orvieto and a Tuscan winery, or Assisi and the Calendimaggio festival.

DAY FIVE • SATURDAY, MAY 8
You will have the entire day to yourselves before celebrating the end of the reunion with a view over all of Rome at the stunning Villa Miani.

REGISTER AT LUC.EDU/ROMEREUNION

April 1, 2010 is the last day to register for this remarkable event.
**Where your dollar goes**

For almost 50 years, the John Felice Rome Center has offered students the kind of personal, global learning experience that transforms lives. Your investment in the JFRC helps sustain this world-class opportunity. Gifts from alumni and friends fund a variety of initiatives at the center such as scholarships, student travel beyond Rome, important speaker series, campus beautification, and much more.

For more information on how you can make a gift to the JFRC, please contact Robin Miller, annual giving officer, at rmiller1@luc.edu or 312.915.6363. Make a gift online at LUC.edu/JFRCGiving.

*Amounts and percentages are estimates calculated from FY09 gift totals*

**Planning for the Future**

Charitable bequests, annuities, trusts, and insurance beneficiary assignments support critical areas of need at the JFRC—areas like student scholarships and programs that keep our campus vibrant and exciting. Making a bequest to the JFRC in your will is easy and allows you to help change the lives of tomorrow’s students without parting with any of your assets today. To date, six donors have made documented planned gifts to the JFRC that total over $1 million.

If you are interested in more information about planned giving to the JFRC, please contact Elaine Kreuz, JFRC director of development, at ekreuz@luc.edu or 312.915.7652.

**Meet your JFRC Alumni Board**

The John Felice Rome Center Alumni Board exists to grow, develop, and support the global JFRC alumni community. This dedicated group of JFRC alumni meets bimonthly to devise ways to strengthen the relationship between alumni and the JFRC.

2010–11 members of the John Felice Rome Center Alumni Board are listed to the right.

For information on joining this board, please contact Allison Coté with the Loyola University Chicago Alumni Association: acote@luc.edu or 312.915.6742.
Help for Haiti

Even though they are studying abroad, the students at the JFRC haven’t forgotten the rest of the world. When the disaster in Haiti struck, in the great Jesuit tradition, the students at the Rome Center stepped up. At an ‘80s-themed dance-a-thon, the students raised over €600 for Jesuit Refugee Services in Haiti. Not to be outdone, the faculty and staff have started a drive to match, if not double, that amount.

The JFRC also hosted a ’60s-style teach-in that helped to coordinate curricular projects on Haiti. Participants in the teach-in included: Emilio Lodice, vice president and director of the JFRC; Claudio Lodici, political scientist and JFRC faculty member; James Stapleton of Jesuit Refugee Services; and Nathan Bland, Public Affairs Office, U.S. Embassy to the Holy See.

New horizons at JFRC

By the fall of 2011, two exciting new programs will start at the John Felice Rome Center: Rome Start and PROLAW. Both of these programs are part of the JFRC’s effort to expand the scope of its academic offerings.

Rome Start

As JFRC alums know, making a transition between cultures can be difficult. For first-year international and U.S. students residing abroad, the JFRC will soon offer the Rome Start option, a bridge between a European and an American collegiate experience.

Students in the Rome Start program will be accepted directly to Loyola University Chicago and will enjoy many of the benefits absent from traditional European universities: a liberal arts education based on the humanities, small classes, and the chance to study together as a small cohort. They will also have the chance to participate in a fall visit to Loyola’s Chicago campus. Perhaps most importantly though, Rome Start students will have the opportunity to study and socialize with JFRC students from all over the country, easing their transition into American higher ed.

PROLAW

In the Jesuit, Catholic tradition, the John Felice Rome Center is committed to providing opportunities for faculty, students, and alumni to take concrete action against injustice and poverty. The new PROLAW program will be one such opportunity. It is a one-year master’s degree program for law graduates from around the world that will give them the knowledge, skills, and experience required to make them effective rule of law advisors in countries that need such guidance.

PROLAW is the brainchild of William T. Loris (JFRC ‘66–’67), director general and co-founder of the International Development Law Organization, an inter-governmental organization that promotes the rule of law and good governance in developing countries, countries in economic transition, and countries emerging from violent conflict.

A proud product of the JFRC and Jesuit higher education, Bill Loris’ PROLAW program is a unique opportunity for students to move quickly from classroom to community working on international initiatives and rule of law work.

Friends, Romans, Classmates...

Looking for ways to reconnect with your former John Felice Rome Center classmates? The Loyola University Chicago Alumni Association has revamped its directory. Log in at LUC.edu/alumni/directory and find your default profile. From there, you can update your information and search for fellow JFRC alumni using class year, name, industry, or location.

Looking for a more interactive way to reconnect? Try Facebook—it’s not just for kids any more. Visit LUC.edu/alumni/jfrc for information on how to sign up and start finding your old friends.
ALUM PROFILE

Marria Bayour McTigue
(JFRC Fall ’01, BA ’02, MEd ’04)

• International educator

All roads lead back to Rome • I first went to the John Felice Rome Center the summer before my semester abroad for a two-week class with Dr. Benson. The peace and tranquility of the campus, the tremendous city, and the friends I made in just those short two weeks were so memorable. I loved it so much, I had to go back!

X’s and O’s • I remember playing Hollywood Squares with students placed in each window on the side of the building. It was hysterical. Even the professors were having a good time!

From JFRC to UAE • I recently moved to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, to help restructure their educational system. The country is very wealthy, but it is only 38 years old, and there is some revolutionary work that needs to be accomplished before educational standards can be up-to-par with the Western world.

A lasting legacy • I would never have dreamed of living abroad if it weren’t for my time at JFRC. My experience there helped me to take risks, challenge myself, and most importantly, embrace new cultures and traditions.

Nothing succeeds… • Since the reform is so new, there are many obstacles we must push through, but a lot has been accomplished, even since the fall. Change is difficult in any capacity, so some issues come with the territory.

…like success • I think the amount of English my students are learning has helped me triumph through tough times. Witnessing their progress has been very rewarding. And, of course, so are the travel opportunities I would have otherwise never had!

Unbroken bonds • Yes, I have made some of my best friends during my time in Rome—reminiscing about our time there is one of our favorite things to do! I went to the first JFRC reunion in Rome a few years ago, and until my recent move, I was a JFRC board member.

"I would never have dreamed of living abroad if it weren’t for my time at the JFRC. My experience there helped me to take risks, challenge myself, and most importantly, embrace new cultures and traditions."

Plate Pride

Bruce Shivley (JFRC Spring ’71, BA ’72) credits the John Felice Rome Center with changing his life. A teacher in Catholic schools, Shivley encourages many of his students to attend the center. Quite a few have come back to swap stories with the educator, who can be easily identified on the highways of Wisconsin with his one-of-a-kind vanity plates.

The JFRC might have changed Shivley’s life, but may he never have to change his plates!
“So, we accidentally locked Kim in the villa, got her out again, cried a lot, and went back to Rome.”

—SAMANTHA SLEVA
blogs.luc.edu/ssleva

“I drank ouzo on the shore and harvested sea urchins from the sea”

—RICHARD PUNDURS
blogs.luc.edu/rpundurs

“He’s one of the first Italians that we’ve run into who knows English really well, and he said that he taught himself by listening to System of a Down.”

—SARA VOGL
blogs.luc.edu/svogl

“We had heard so much about women getting stolen away in Egypt. We were very worried.”

—MICHAEL WILK
blogs.luc.edu/mwilk1

Sound familiar? Relive your time in Rome with our JFRC bloggers. Find out what’s changed (Euros) and what has remained exactly the same (having the time of your life) among the stranieri in Monte Mario. Check it out at blogs.luc.edu/romecenter/rome-blogs.
A PRIVATE, AFTER-HOURS TOUR OF
THE VATICAN MUSEUMS AND THE SISTINE
CHAPEL · DINING AL FRESCO IN PIAZZA
NAVONA · A MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL IN ASSISI ·
TUSCAN SUNSETS · RINALDO’S!
THE BEST PIZZA IN NAPLES · LIFELONG
MEMORIES IN THE ETERNAL CITY

A THOUSAND REASONS, FIVE DAYS

RITORNARE A ROMA!

May 4–8, register by April 1
See page 3 for details