

News Release
For Immediate Release: March 30, 2009

Contacts:
Dalene White
Director of Public Relations
dwhite@silver.sl.edu
920-686-6176 Phone
920-686-6224 Fax

Silver Lake College Sponsors Spring Student Symposium



(Manitowoc, Wis.) — Silver Lake College will host its annual student symposium, “A Celebration of Ideas,” on April 16 and 17 on the Manitowoc campus. The Symposium begins with a keynote address and reception on Thursday, April 16th at 6:00 pm in the Generose Enrichment Center followed by a day of presentations, displays, music, and art from 9:00 am to 3:00 PM, on April 17. The Keynote Address entitled, “The Liberal Arts: A pathway to Success” and will be presented by Sister Martina Van Ryzin, Professor Emeritus at Silver Lake College. All events are free and open to the public.

“A Celebration of Ideas” started with a simple idea—to allow an opportunity for students to share their work with the Silver Lake College community. The idea grew through discussions among faculty and sparked excitement in students, staff, and administrators. In 2004, the college sponsored the first conference, giving students the opportunity to experience and participate in inquiry-based intellectual discourse.

The conference’s ongoing theme—A Celebration of Ideas—embraces the Silver Lake College mission and philosophy of education. Dr. George Arnold, president of Silver Lake College explains, “This significant event in the life in the college provides our students with a wonderful opportunity to express how they have been able to celebrate ideas as learners engaged in our curriculum. It also illustrates the value of the liberal arts in preparing them for the world of work; the symposium allows them to demonstrate the knowledge and skills that are necessary in today’s global market.”

The college-wide academic conference brings together students, faculty, staff, and community members in celebrating intellectual inquiry across disciplines. Many Silver Lake College students will be involved as presenters in concurrent sessions on a wide range of

topics; they will have the opportunity to showcase their work and demonstrate connections between liberal arts studies and professional preparation. Patrick Gagnon, director of liberal arts and professor of history at Silver Lake College, believes that the best thing about this conference is that “it gives students at Silver Lake the opportunity to deliver the type of presentation usually given only at a state or national academic conference.”

Now in its sixth year, the symposium is continually expanding its sessions. Vicki I. Anson, Symposium Director and chair of the Department of English/World Languages, explains, “The Symposium continues to evolve to reflect the trends in various disciplines and student interest. Our goal has always been to engage the entire community in an exploration of ideas and to offer another opportunity to empower students through their education and to cultivate lifelong learning. ”

Register to attend the annual student symposium on the web at www.sl.edu. For more information contact Vicki I. Anson, symposium director, at 920-686-6203 or vanson@silver.sl.edu.

###