



Dr. Robert Mangione, Dean of St. John's College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions.

Alumni were quick to acknowledge the importance of events such as this. "These L.E.A.D. events continue to grow in size and stature," remarked Steve Rosenberg '73Ed. "It's always a pleasure to attend. The honorees are quite impressive and really show the quality of our School of Education graduates."

Outstanding Educators Honored on Staten Island

In April, alumni, students and faculty members gathered at the Staten Island campus to honor the achievements of five individuals who have made significant contributions in the area of education and educational administration.

The honorees, Joann Assante '80NDC, Mary Lee '06GEd, Rosann Mezzacappa '71Ed, Maureen O'Brien '62NDC and Carl A. Perrino '68Ph.D. were recognized for the impact they have made during the course of their careers on the lives of their students.



The evening's festivities included dinner and the presentation of apple-shaped awards in appreciation of the honorees' hard work and dedication by Jerrold Ross, Ph.D., Dean of The School of Education. Dean Ross spoke about his appreciation for the role alumni play in the community and University, remarking that,



"I am encouraged by the way our alumni respond and by their willingness and ability to give back."

Nicholas Legakis '97SVC, '07MPS, Associate Director for Institutional Advancement on the Staten Island campus

noted that, "The University is extremely proud of our honorees and of the outstanding contributions that they have made to the educational community. The influence that they have had will be felt for years to come."

L.E.A.D. Event at Oakdale

In April alumni and friends gathered at the Bourne Mansion on St. John's Oakdale campus to honor the achievements of six exceptional educators and educational administrators whose contributions have made a lasting impact that will be felt locally, nationally and internationally.



Honorees included Richard Castellano '73Ed, Carla D'Ambrosio '06Ed.D., Joseph Geoghan '59CBA, Debra Kalabza-Balsamo '06Ed.D., Michael Keany and Rev. Christopher Okorie '05G, '06GEd.

The 162 guests were welcomed by Jerrold Ross, Ph.D., Dean of The School of Education. Dean Ross expressed his appreciation to everyone for making this inaugural event at Oakdale so successful. He noted that he expects the event to continue to grow in the years ahead, and acknowledged the unique contributions that each of the honorees has made to the field of education and educational administration.

Serving as the Master of Ceremonies, Jim Monnier '74Ed, '79GEd, Assistant Vice President, Development, St. John's University, urged everyone to remember the importance of the Vincentian values that have served as the University's foundation since 1870.

"This has been a tremendous evening for St. John's University and our School of Education," noted Bill Schaeffer '73CBA, Director, Alumni Relations. "This L.E.A.D. event emphasized the importance of education, a reality that was clearly displayed by the deserving honorees and their contributions to the various fields of education. All of us at St. John's University are very proud of our alumni."

Guests enjoyed the first of what will definitely become an annual tradition. "This was a great evening at a wonderful location that brought together a terrific group of education professionals," said Thomas Gilroy '68Ed. "It was nice to be able to honor these six very deserving L.E.A.D. award recipients."

"This was a first class, professionally-run event," said John Schwartz, a guest of honoree Michael Keany. "St. John's University has much to be proud of, especially The School of Education."