

# OUTLOOK

summer  
2012

# UNIVERSITY

# OF

# SAINT

# JOSEPH



# *Donor spotlight*

## A LIFELONG CONNECTION

### THE STEPHEN G. AND NELLIE UCCELLO ROMAINE '54 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Nellie Uccello Romaine's ties to the University of Saint Joseph are deep and lasting. One of three sisters to attend (along with Antonina Uccello '44 and Vincenza Uccello '56), Nellie's family legacy also includes cousins, second cousins and a cousin-in-law.

"Saint Joseph is the anchor of my family's education. It has given us so much in our lives and careers," she said. And in a roundabout way, the University was responsible for Nellie meeting her beloved husband, Stephen:

"I met Stephen at my first teaching job. I was a year out of college and working at the Traveler's. One day, I went to campus to pay back my student loan

and I had a conversation with Sister Theodore, who was the president at the time. She asked about my life. When I told her I wasn't happy with my job, she asked if I was interested in teaching. I was. She recommended me for a position in South Windsor,

where the superintendent had called her looking for a Saint Joe's graduate to fill an opening." It was a life-altering move, embarking Nellie on a 27-year career in education and a 43-year marriage to Stephen.

"I established the scholarship in our name as a way to assist a worthy student who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to obtain a quality education," she said. "I remember what it was like to be a student and to have that need. I am delighted to be able to help and wanted to do so while I was alive and well."

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Stephen and Nellie Uccello Romaine '54



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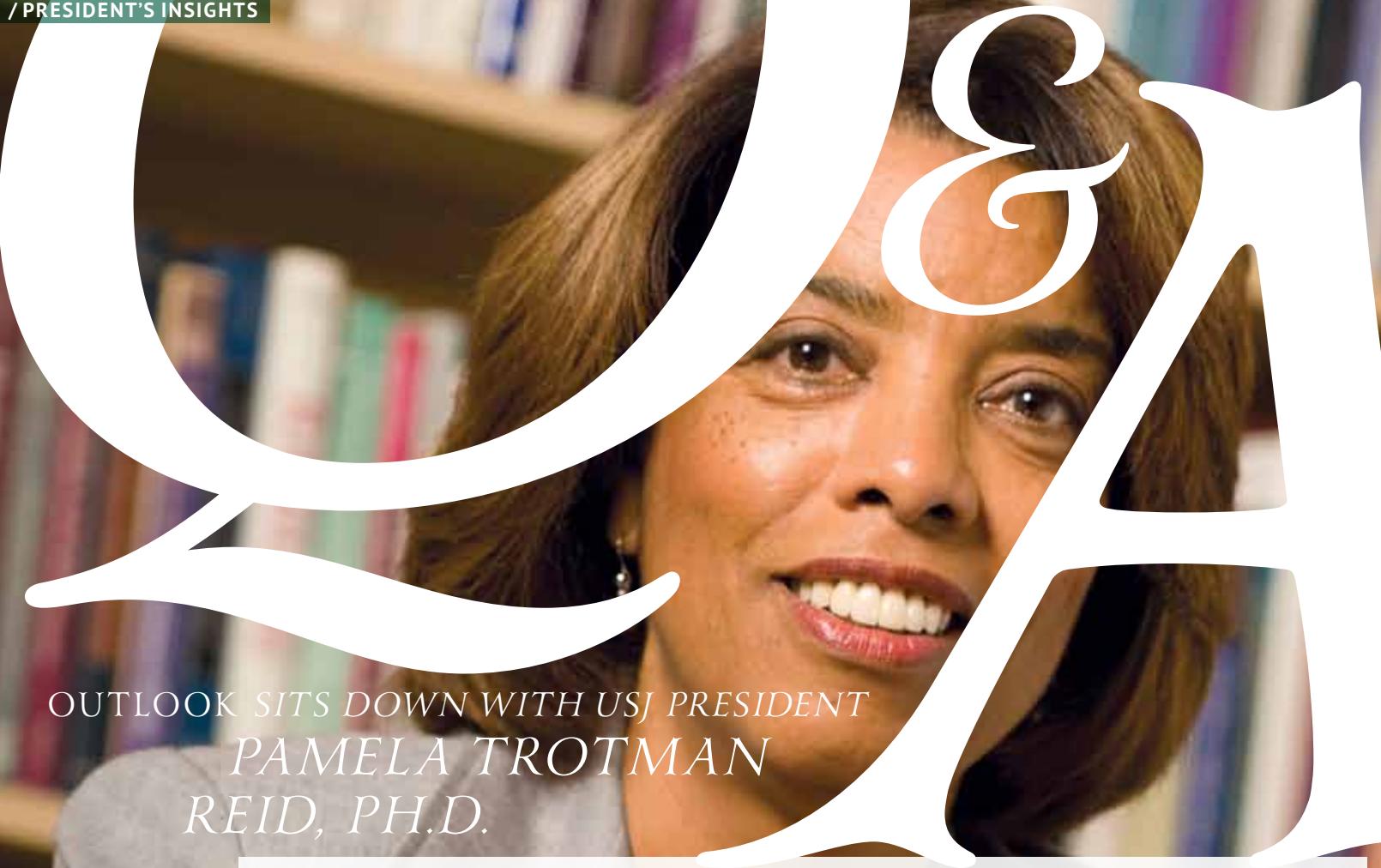
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## OUTLOOK SITS DOWN WITH USJ PRESIDENT PAMELA TROTMAN REID, PH.D.

**Q. YOU ARE COMING UP ON YOUR FIVE-YEAR MARK AS PRESIDENT. HOW DO YOU FEEL?**

REID: It's been amazing and I feel fortunate to have the support to move the University forward and create an exciting future – and by that I mean the support of the Board of Trustees, the University and the greater Hartford community.

**Q. WHAT ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR TENURE TO DATE?**

REID: Opening the School of Pharmacy is definitely one, along with expanding our campus into downtown Hartford. Also, the development of new programs like Autism that not only provide

our ability to maintain steady enrollment in the Women's College.

**Q. NOW THAT WE'VE BECOME THE UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH, WHAT'S NEXT?**

REID: Next, we need to spread the message and tell the story of USJ in order to become regionally known. I'd like to see us regularly attract students from throughout the Northeast, not just New England. It seems like wherever I go someone tells me how much the University has meant to them, or how they prefer hiring our graduates, and I feel that those are the stories we need to tell. They are stories of personal and

efforts." We need to get our message out there.

**Q. ARE THERE ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS ON THE HORIZON?**

REID: Of course there's always something! We are developing several different academic programs including doctoral programs – always with the mission in the forefront of our efforts. As far as brick-and-mortar projects, we have a master plan, which includes upgrades to our facilities as well as some new buildings like residence halls and the Learning Pavilion. The Learning Pavilion will house The Gengras Center and the Institute for Autism and Behavioral Studies. It's one example of how we've built upon an area of expertise. We are bringing together teacher education and the needs of special children, while responding to the current epidemic of Autism – and we do it through teaching, research, community service, and planning ways to better house and meet those needs.

**“SHARE YOUR STORY – TELL OTHERS WHAT SAINT JOE'S HAS MEANT TO YOU. GET INVOLVED IN OUR EFFORTS.”**

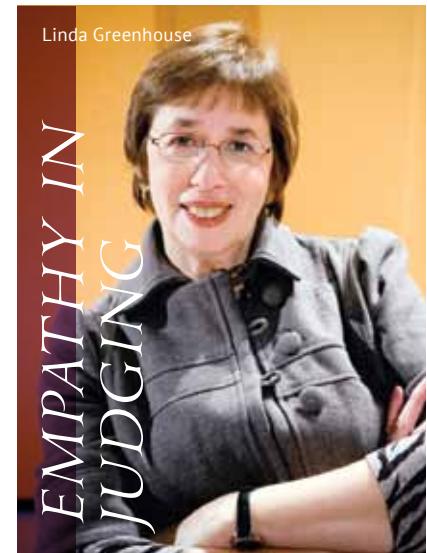
opportunities for students, but respond to needs in society, which is in keeping with the mission established by the Sisters of Mercy. I'm pleased with the growth of the graduate programs in general and

professional transformation. To our alumnae/i and readers of the magazine, I say, "Share your story – tell others what Saint Joe's has meant to you. Get involved in our

## » CAMPUS LECTURES & EVENTS

### EMPATHY IN OUR JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Linda Greenhouse delivered the 2012 McAuley lecture on March 1 when she spoke on the topic of "Empathy in Judging." A former *New York Times* reporter who covered the Supreme Court, Greenhouse analyzed empathy as a learned behavior and a contested topic in the nomination hearings for Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.



### ARE YOU YOUR IPOD?

Two visiting speakers enhanced the scholarship of students enrolled in an honors course on the Philosophy of Technology. Dr. Delia Dumitrica of the University of Calgary delivered the 2012 Munger Lecture on

"Are You Your iPod?"

Questioning the Construction of Identity through Technology." Dr. Michael Chorost, author of *World Wide Mind: The Coming Integration of Humanity, Machines, and the Internet* spoke on the integration of technology and the human body.



Top left to right: Dr. Delia Dumitrica // Michael Chorost

### FIGHTING CYBERBULLYING

The University hosted an iCitizenship Town Hall Meeting in February moderated by local news anchor Brad Drazen and broadcast live via the Internet. Focused on cyberbullying, the meeting engaged participants in an open discussion.

Dr. Marialice Curran, assistant professor of Education, reported, "We had more than 800 tweets during the event and viewers from around the world. It was an incredible opportunity to engage a live and virtual audience into this critical conversation on what it means to be an iCitizen in the 21st century."

### EMERGING WORLD CHRISTIANITY

In April, Dr. Peter C. Phan of Georgetown University delivered the annual Buckley Lecture on "Emerging World Christianity." A native of Vietnam, Phan is the Ignacio Ellacuria Chair of Catholic Social Thought at Georgetown University and a highly sought-after speaker in Catholic academic circles.

### » ACADEMIC UPDATE

#### FIRST IN CONNECTICUT: M.S. IN AUTISM AND ABA

Beginning in the fall, USJ will be the first in the state to offer a master of science degree in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). As part of the Institute for Autism and Behavioral Studies, the co-educational graduate program prepares professionals skilled in the science and practice of ABA to serve individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) across the lifespan in a variety of clinical and educational settings.

Program director Deirdre Fitzgerald, Ph.D., associate professor of Behavioral Sciences and Psychology, said, "As the population of individuals with autism grows, so does the demand for professionals, particularly those trained in Applied Behavior Analysis. Increasingly diverse employment opportunities are available for graduates of our program."

The program combines, builds, and expands on the core competencies of two current successful graduate certificates in ASD and ABA to develop a comprehensive curriculum. For more information, visit [www.usj.edu/S12a](http://www.usj.edu/S12a).

#### DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

The School of Health and Natural Sciences announced the start of a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, a terminal degree that represents the highest level of academic preparation for nursing practice. Open to registered nurses who have already earned a master of science in Nursing, the two-year program offers an online curriculum to allow flexibility for working nurses.

"The DNP is the second doctoral level program now being offered at the University, following the Pharm.D. program," said Provost Michelle M. Kalis, Ph.D. "It represents the continuous effort of this institution to meet the growing need for highly qualified health care professionals in the region." The University is recruiting now for the program's first class in January 2013. For more information, visit [www.usj.edu/S12b](http://www.usj.edu/S12b).

#### EXCELLENCE RECONFIRMED!

USJ received good news from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) on its fifth-year report. Accreditation was reaffirmed through 2016 with six areas of emphasis for the 10-year visit. NEASC also approved the University's doctorate in Nursing Practice, which will launch in January 2013.

## SYMPOSIUM CELEBRATES 10TH YEAR

More than 200 early childhood educators came to campus on March 12 for the 10th annual Keefe-Bruyette Symposium on Early Learning in Math and Science. The day-long event featured Lori Paradis Brant from the Connecticut

Forest & Park Association as keynote speaker who spoke on "Discovering the Outdoors."

Participants took part in a selection of 23 workshops led by their early educator peers.

The Keefe-Bruyette Symposium on Early Learning began in 2002

through the support of Gene H'04 and Kathleen Barry Bruyette '49, H'04, the late Harry Keefe and his wife, Anita Keefe. "Over the past 10 years, the Symposium has had an enormous impact on the quality of early childhood education in our state," said Diane Morton, director of The School for Young Children. "To date, we've had nearly 2,400 participants who took part in more than 160 workshops – all of which were designed with practicing teachers in mind. It is a wonderful climate of professional development and exchange."



Teachers participate in a workshop on outdoor learning.

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



Ada Ustjanauskas speaks to students in Global Issues and Perspectives for the 21st Century.

## WOMEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF HISTORY

Women's History Month was commemorated on campus with a variety of lectures, performances and events. On March 19, Ada Ustjanauskas visited Dr. Shyamala Raman's Global Issues and Perspectives for the 21st Century course.

A native of Lithuania and a Holocaust survivor, Ustjanauskas speaks seven languages and has assisted immigrants on three continents. She related her personal experience to current global needs. "The one constant throughout history is that nations seek to acquire wealth through aggression," she said. "The only remedy is to fight global poverty. People are people. They are entitled to the resources of their countries, to education, to a quality of life."

## IN CARE OF COMMUNITY

The department of Social Work and Latino Community Practice celebrated the 10th annual Caritas Conference on May 19, with a focus on supporting youth service work, scholarship, activism, research, and leadership development.

## » COMMUNITY NEWS

### PREZ IN THE PRESS

President Pamela Trotman Reid remains a strong presence in the academic press. She recently published an extensive article (with Ellen Cole of Alaska Pacific University and Margaret L. Kern of the University of Pennsylvania) in the *Psychology of Women Quarterly* entitled, "Wives of College and University Presidents: Identity, Privacy and Relationships." Examining a topic she knows personally and professionally, Dr. Reid and her co-authors analyzed the experiences, benefits, and challenges encountered by wives of college and university

presidents. Read an abstract of the article at: [www.usj.edu/S12c](http://www.usj.edu/S12c).

The March edition of *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* featured Reid's editorial in its Last Word column. The piece, "Women's Colleges, HBCUs Have Nurtured the Best and the Brightest," chronicles how women's and historically Black colleges promote equity and inspire leadership, although society lags in utilizing this outcome. "One of the biggest challenges facing our universities and our society," she wrote, "is how can we best capitalize on the diverse strengths that are available to us." Read the full

article at [www.usj.edu/S12d](http://www.usj.edu/S12d).

Dr. Reid also wrote a chapter in the book *Messages for Educational Leadership* entitled "What Do We Expect From Girls? Confronting the Performance Gaps in Math and Science." The book (edited by Diana Slaughter-Defoe) chronicles the Constance E. Clayton Lectures from 1998-2007, which reflect developments in urban education. The book is available at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

Be sure to read President Reid's Blog in the Huffington Post: [www.usj.edu/S12e](http://www.usj.edu/S12e).



## » COMMUNITY NEWS

### THE STRENGTH OF USJ

Congratulations to the following faculty members who were promoted:

*Kathleen Barrett, Ed.D.* promoted to associate professor of Counselor Education with tenure in the School of Graduate and Professional Studies.

*Kevin J. Callahan, Ph.D.* promoted to professor of History in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

*Diana P. Valencia, Ph.D.* promoted to professor of Spanish in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

"These accomplishments reflect the strength of the faculty and its commitment to teaching, scholarship and service," said Provost Michelle Kalis, Ph.D.

### LOVE OF LITERATURE

For the second consecutive year, USJ celebrated its love of literature with a week-long Read-A-Thon, organized by Dr. Horacio Sierra, assistant

professor of English. Each day at noon, members of the community gathered in Lynch Hall lobby to share selections of their favorite literary works. Here, members of the Edgar Allan Poe Association read from *The Fall of the House of Usher*.



From left to right are Alyssa Chmura '12, Ashley Briglia '12, Melissa Lauretti '12, and Michelle DiPinto '12.

### IN MEMORY OF DR. TERRY BOSWORTH

The University mourned the passing of Terry Bosworth, Ph.D., associate professor of Nursing, and a member of the USJ community for 22 years. Dr. Bosworth died on March 2, 2012 and was remembered in an on-campus Mass the following week.

Friends recalled her dedication to students and the nursing profession. Dr. Marylouise Welch, professor emerita of Nursing, said, "Terry was a reflective, intuitive teacher who spent time understanding the approach that each student needed. She was a champion for nursing at the University and in the larger professional community."

"Terry was a devoted educator who had the best interests of her students at heart," said friend and colleague Gail

***Terry was a devoted educator who had the best interests of her students at heart. -Gail Bernaiche '89, M'09***

Bernaiche '89, M'09, bursar at USJ. "There were times when she would pop into our office and check the vital signs of a co-worker, establishing her, in my opinion, as the Florence Nightingale of campus."

Dr. Bosworth served six years as chair of the Nursing department and was awarded the 2011 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing. She was pivotal in developing the University's Guyana Immersion Program.

## GUYANA

Photo: Cheryl Barnard



A vision of peace on the grounds of the Sisters of Mercy home in Georgetown.

### IMMERSED IN GUYANA

In March, Dr. Cheryl Barnard, vice president of student affairs/dean, accompanied Dr. Marylouise Welch, professor emerita of Nursing, and Sister Beth Fischer '76, director of community and civic engagement, on a trip to Guyana, site of the University's Guyana Immersion Program. While there, Welch taught a course at the Georgetown hospital and Fischer and Barnard led a leadership development workshop for nurses at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

An avid photographer, Barnard chronicled the trip with a series of photos. For more images of the beauty of Guyana, visit [www.usj.edu/SI2f](http://www.usj.edu/SI2f).



Dr. Terry Bosworth



Students "Take a Stand Against Racism" as part of an event organized by the YWCA. See more of Nicole Battistone's photos of life as a Saint Joe's student at [www.usj.edu/S12g](http://www.usj.edu/S12g).

## » STUDENT LIFE

### NURSING STUDENTS HONORED FOR SERVICE

The University was honored at the annual Hands on Hartford Volunteer Appreciation event in April, where it won the organization's School Award. In particular, Nursing students who volunteer at The Wellness Center on Church Street were commended for their work with MANNA Community Meals.

Holly Dzen '13, Michelle Merrill '13, Assistant Professor of Nursing Janet Knecht, and Director of Community and Civic Engagement Sister Beth Fischer '76 attended the ceremony. "Our students have provided services at MANNA since October 2005 and are transformed by both the experience and the people," said Fischer. "Some, like Holly and Michelle, volunteer during the summer and school vacations to ensure that the services are consistently available."

### STUDENT RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

Students presented their original research in the form of papers, posters, performances and more at Symposium Day on April 18. Below, Kimberly Buonaiuto '13 explains her study on levels of oxytocin in hospital vs. home births to Amber Jordan-Stewart '15.



## » THE ARTS



### STUDENT DIRECTORS, PERFORMERS & PLAYWRIGHTS

The Queenes Companye continued its tradition of student directed one-act plays for its spring production. *Masters and Novices II: Plays Old and New as Directed by Students* featured an ensemble of students and alumnae/i who acted in and directed the mid-April production. One script, *World War Won*, was written by student Alyssa McKeever '12.

### DANCE ON

The Dance Ensemble presented its annual spring show, *Keep Calm and Dance On*, on April 28. Eleven original dance pieces were choreographed and performed by students under the leadership of USJ Dance Instructor Susan Murphy. Above, dancers perform "Burnt to this Moment," choreographed by Zoe Allard '14.

To see more Dance Ensemble photos, visit [www.usj.edu/S12h](http://www.usj.edu/S12h).

### DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN DANCE

In May, the Connecticut Dance Alliance (CDA) announced The Carol Autorino Center as the recipient of its 2012

Award for Distinguished Achievement in Dance. The award will be presented to Dr. Robert Smith, director, at a fall ceremony.

The CDA announcement noted, "The Center's commitment to sustaining a high profile for dance in its programming and to the power of the arts to educate and transform are inspiring." Each year, The Center hosts the 5x5 Dance Festival and the summer Arts Integration and Multiple Intelligences program with the National Dance Institute.

### POLITICS THEN & NOW AT THE ART GALLERY

The Art Gallery will present *The Noise of Democracy: Thomas Nast and the Elections of 1872 & 1876* from September 21–December 2, 2012, with an opening reception on September 20. The exhibition examines Thomas Nast's political cartoons during the elections of 1872 and 1876,



Thomas Nast (1840–1902). "That Tidal Wave—We Are on the Home Stretch," from *Harper's Weekly*, October 26, 1872. Wood engraving. Gift of Judith and Norman Zlotsky, 2006.

as well as the controversial topics of the day, including monetary policy, immigration, separation of church and state, and the electoral college.



[A] SYC parent Catherine Madrak performs the cello

[B] Fay O'Brien, RSM, former director of SYC and a USJ Trustee

[C] Julie Livingstone, a parent of three SYC graduates, shares her family's 73-year connection with The School: her father attended during its first year; her grandmother, inspired by The School, enrolled in Saint Joseph College and earned a teaching degree; her mother was a SYC teacher and several of her siblings attended.

[D] President Pamela Trotman Reid welcomes participants.

[E] Mayor Scott Slifka

[F] Bella Matos '11, a teacher in training, speaks about her affiliation with SYC.

[G] Artist Virginia Lynn Anderson worked with SYC students to create "The Tree of Life," inspired by the seven indigenous trees for which each SYC classroom is named.

[A]

## *Teaching that stands the test of time: school for young children celebrates 75 years*



*"The Child, though given as much help as he needs, is encouraged to do for himself whatever he is able to accomplish, thus making possible the development of a joyous, self-reliant personality."*

—Mary de Lourdes Kenny, RSM, founding director

The School for Young Children (SYC) took center stage at The Carol Autorino Center on May 10 when it celebrated its 75th anniversary – an event commemorated with music, art, and shared connections. The program included SYC parents and staff, USJ students, and community leaders – all with strong connections to The School.

Radio host and writer Colin McEnroe – an alumnus of The School – served as emcee. West Hartford Mayor Scott Slifka – currently a parent and formerly a student – presented a proclamation from the town, and State Senator Beth Bye – a former director of SYC – presented a citation from the State of Connecticut.

"It is unique for a preschool program today to celebrate 75 years of service to the community. Preschool programs were rare 75 years ago," said Director Diane Morton. "The event was a wonderful opportunity to bring together a group of very special people with amazing stories to share."

Celebrate The School's 75th anniversary with a gift to the SYC Scholarship fund: [www.usj.edu/sycgiving](http://www.usj.edu/sycgiving).

View photos of The School for Young Children, then and now: [www.usj.edu/S12cc](http://www.usj.edu/S12cc).





# Becoming USJ

BY LAURA SHEEHAN

Just hours before filing the letter with the Secretary of the State to officially change Saint Joseph College to the University of Saint Joseph, President Pamela Trotman Reid stood before a crowd of 700 supporters. “Tonight we start a new era of growth and vitality,” she told attendees at the Sky’s the Limit Gala on June 7. “Saint Joseph’s is reaching higher and higher. We are about growth, innovation, and values!”

Indeed, spirits were high that night as the page turned to a new chapter in the institution’s life. “The College I love has become the University I love,” said Lois Nesci ’85, M’87. “The University status embodies the scope of academics offered to educate and prepare individuals for the world of work and service to the community.”

“The world is not the same today as it was when the College was founded in 1932 and it is fitting that we embrace university status and everything it has to offer,” said Rosemary Wall ’69, M’76. “I fully expect the new University of Saint Joseph to retain its eminent reputation, its unique identity, and its stellar image.”

## WORD SPREADS

In the months preceding the Gala, people heard the news in different ways. Some saw an Associated Press article that hit the media after the State Board approved the transition plan. Others read it in their Facebook news feed, and others, like Jennifer Annis Miller '06, caught it on the nightly news. "I had NBC 30 on one evening and heard that the College was going to become a university.

My first thought was, 'Saint Joe's? My Saint Joe's?'" Annis said. "Then I thought, 'Wow. This is great. This is exactly what the College needs.'"

Others were more skeptical. Heather

Elverson M'10 completed an online degree in Biology and felt closely connected to her professors. "I see the switch to University as giving Saint Joe's a lot of opportunity for growth," she said. "My only concern is that it doesn't lose the personal connection that students have with their professors."

The question on the minds of many was: will the institution grow so large that it loses the intimacy of its education? Marie Davis '96 didn't think so: "I have no worries about Saint Joe's ever losing its close-knit community. That experience hinges on the professors and how they run their classes. I have every confidence this will continue after the College becomes a University."

President Reid agreed: "What the change to University does is position the institution to move forward in a number of key areas.

It does not detract from the positive aspects of a Saint Joseph education. This institution has a great history of embracing change while keeping true to its Mercy mission."

By becoming USJ, the University can expand into international markets for recruitment, develop new academic programs (including additional doctorates), and enhance onsite research. "All of this builds upon the value of our institution," Reid said. "It shows that we are going to the next level."

In its study, the committee outlined the major benefits of becoming a university, citing enhanced academic research, doctoral programs, and international recruitment. In addition to building the University's reputation and reach, the committee considered the issue of tuition revenue.

While graduate programs have grown significantly in recent years, recruitment for the undergraduate Women's College remained the same. The final report stated,

"Forward-looking demographic data suggest that this recruitment challenge is likely to become even more demanding ... projected regional demographics show an overall decline in high school

enrollment over the next decade." Tapping into the international market has proven successful to other single-gender and/or religious institutions, so why not USJ?

"But at the end of the day, this was not about raising money," said Dr. Rick Halstead, professor of Counseling and chair of the committee. "There is a broader ideological purpose here and that is to enhance the breadth and depth of the mission by providing value-based programs to more students."

2006 graduate Jennifer Annis Miller expressed a similar sentiment: "Saint Joe's is highly respected in Connecticut, so I don't see why we can't extend that beyond our borders, even globally. It will give the College a renewed life."

*"All of this builds upon the value of our institution ... It shows that we are going to the next level."*

And while "going to the next level" – like all change – can inspire anxiety, the decision for the transition was well examined.

## A WEIGHTY DECISION

In the year preceding the announcement, an extensive study was conducted by the Institutional Name Exploration Committee, which analyzed the pros and cons of transitioning to a university model. The committee worked from May 2010 through June 2011, when they presented a white paper summarizing their findings to the Board of Trustees. The Board unanimously approved the change to University of Saint Joseph in October – and so began the transition process.

## IN GOOD COMPANY

***"Figures spanning the years 2004–2009, show that 77 colleges became universities."***

*—Survival of the Fittest, James Martin Owston, Ed.D.*

### RECENT MERCY COLLEGE TRANSITIONS:

- » GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY, 2004
- » MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY, 2010
- » MOUNT MERCY UNIVERSITY, 2012



## GOING GLOBAL

In the course of her nearly five-year tenure, President Reid has traveled to several countries to lay the groundwork for international recruitment. Trips to China, the Middle East, Oman, and Ghana have established key relationships with administrators, faculty, and students. She also visited embassies in Washington, D.C.

The results of her efforts are becoming increasingly evident. The son of a dean at Shanghai Normal University (where Reid and Professors Ken Long and Robert Madden visited in 2011) attended USJ this past academic year. Tianwei "Jason" Miao studied Accounting in the Program for Adult Learners and plans to transition into the Management master's program.

Vice President for Enrollment Management Gary Sherman also developed an Au Pair Program, which serves international au pairs. Per their Visa agreements, they must complete six academic credits per year. Twenty-four students from a variety of nations including China, Mexico, Sweden and Germany, took courses.

Also in the spring semester, the University welcomed visitors from the Saudi Arabian Cultural

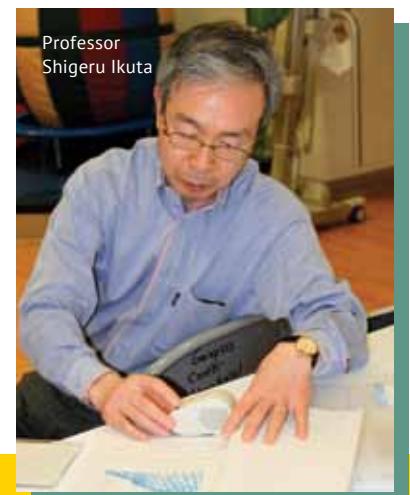
Mission, which oversees the needs of Saudis studying in the U.S., and Professor Shigeru Ikuta from Otsuma Women's University in Japan.

"Our next step is to develop agreements and to create joint programs for faculty and students," Reid said. "I see this happening soon, within the next year."

USJ already has a program with HAN University in The Netherlands. For the past two years, Dutch students have lived and studied on campus and USJ students have visited HAN as part of an embedded course.

"There are multiple benefits to expanding our international reach," said Reid. "It enriches the culture of our campus community and provides a more meaningful experience for our students.

Not everyone can afford to study abroad, but we can give all students a global experience. I've told students that I'd eventually like to see a global students club, where they buddy up and host the visiting students for holidays."



President Reid  
greets Dr. Al-Saggaf.

## THE DIFFERENCE A WORD CAN MAKE

ONE ISSUE THAT DREW ATTENTION ABROAD WAS THE TERM "COLLEGE." IN MOST COUNTRIES, IT REFERS TO A TRADE SCHOOL OR HIGH SCHOOL. IN ORDER TO REACH FOREIGN STUDENTS LOOKING FOR AN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE, THE INSTITUTION NEEDED TO CONSIDER A NAME CHANGE.

*"Since the term 'college' is used to denote secondary high schools in most of the world, the 'university' designation would be more attractive to international students."*

*-Survival of the Fittest, James Martin Owston, Ed.D.*

## A CATHOLIC-MUSLIM CONNECTION

On campus this past spring, the student organization TEAM (Teaching Everyone About Multiculturalism) hosted a panel discussion entitled "The Voices of Muslim Women." One of the panelists was Rubbab Chaudhry '13, a Psychology major with a concentration in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis. Born in Pakistan and raised in America, Chaudhry is a practicing Muslim who feels very much at home on the USJ campus.

"It might not occur to some people, but there are a lot of similarities between the Catholic religion and Islam," she said. "There are reasons why Muslim women feel comfortable here and why their families would support their coming to USJ."

***There are reasons why Muslim women feel comfortable here and why their families would support their coming to USJ. -Rubbab Chaudhry '13***



To coincide with the TEAM event, she presented a poster project at Symposium Day entitled, "The Faces of Muslim Women in America." Chaudhry said, "I wanted the public to see Muslim women as individuals, not the stereotypes portrayed in the media and in American culture." Through the art of photography, she shared the individual stories of seven Muslim friends – women of varying nationalities and professions who were either born to the religion or converted. "There is a misconception that Muslim women are forced to wear a veil, that we have no voice," she said. "The truth is, it's a personal decision. We are similar in some ways to the Catholic sisters who, not that long ago, wore long skirts and covered their heads."

Because of the similarities between the religions and their respective cultural norms, Chaudhry sees great potential in recruiting from Muslim countries. "Education is a huge part of our tradition. We are encouraged not to get married until

our education is complete, so families want their daughters to attend college."

On a personal level, she noted, "As a Muslim woman, I feel more comfortable in a classroom of women." What surprised her most about USJ, though, was the variety of religion courses offered.

"I like that this is a religious institution with a full curriculum. I've taken a course on Islam and another called Islamophobia," Chaudhry said. "The fact that the University offered these courses made me feel comfortable on campus. It inspired me to be active as a student. I think other Muslim women would feel the same."

## DOCTORAL PROGRAMS & EXPANDED RESEARCH

In many ways, the institution has evolved over the past several years into a functioning university. Certainly the advent of the Pharmacy program with its Pharmacy doctoral degree played a role. In addition to increasing the proportion of graduate to undergraduate students, the School attracted faculty who are integrating research, teaching, and community engagement. (Read more about Pharmacy faculty research on page 15.)

A second doctoral degree – in Nursing Practice – is under development and scheduled to begin in January 2013. The DNP's online curriculum offers the highest academic level in the field of nursing practice. Its focus is on preparing students to analyze health care policy and research as it relates to clinical practice.

Dr. Pamela Aselton, graduate program director of Nursing, noted the program's relevance to the current health care system: "The DNP was developed in response to the increasing need for nurses to further their education in order to meet the evolving demands of the nursing profession."

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As it has for 80 years, "The University will continue to develop new academic programs that both fit the needs of society and evolve from the strength of our mission," said President Reid.

"My hope," said Lia Jinks Kulla '92, "is that it continues to do all the great things it has always done: developing educated women who are lifelong learners and caring and capable members of society. I am so appreciative of the education I received there. I feel that USJ is pertinent to our world."



Watch the University of Saint Joseph video: [www.usj.edu/usjvideo](http://www.usj.edu/usjvideo).

# WHAT'S IN A NAME...CHANGE?

"That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." SHAKESPEARE



UNIVERSITY OF  
SAINT JOSEPH  
CONNECTICUT

Change is never easy, but to the members of the University's transition team (staff, faculty, and administrators across the board) that sentiment can be justifiably qualified as an understatement. Here's a look at some of our behind-the-scene changes.

## Across the Internet

### GO AHEAD, SEARCH THIS

Why did we choose the name University of Saint Joseph? The fact is, "Saint Joseph College" is a popular name, not just in the United States, but throughout the world. Many secondary schools and colleges bear the name "Saint Joseph." We settled on the University of Saint Joseph for several reasons:

- » To maintain our identity
- » To secure a web site ([www.usj.edu](http://www.usj.edu))
- » To distinguish ourselves as a Connecticut-based university, which is why the logo includes the state name

If you're curious, search "Saint Joseph" + "University" + "College" and you'll find schools in India, the Philippines, and closer to home, including the hits shown below.

A screenshot of a Google search results page. The search query in the bar is "Saint Joseph" + "University" + "College". The results list several institutions with their URLs in red: Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia (sju.edu), St. Joseph's College of Maine (sjcme.edu), Saint Joseph's College of Indiana (saintjoe.edu), St. Joseph's University Parish (stjosephbuffalo.com), St. Joseph's College NY (sjcny.edu), and St. Joseph College Seminary in Illinois (stjoseph.luc.edu).

## In Social Media

**11** Facebook Pages Updated



[www.youtube.com/user/usjct](http://www.youtube.com/user/usjct)

New Twitter Page

\*WWW\*

Join all our social media pages at: [www.usj.edu/S12i](http://www.usj.edu/S12i)  
Also, note our new url: [www.usj.edu](http://www.usj.edu) and new e-mail: [username@usj.edu](mailto:username@usj.edu)

### OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS

We contacted 180+ web sites that link to ours to ask them to connect to usj.edu, including: Google, Princeton Review, College Board, Inside Higher Ed, U.S. News & World Report, and more.



# THE BUZZ



**WHEN WORD GOT OUT** THAT SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE WAS BECOMING THE UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH, STUDENTS, ALUMNAE/I, AND EMPLOYEES FLOCKED TO THE BOOKSTORE AND SNATCHED UP NEARLY EVERYTHING WITH THE COLLEGE LOGO. THOSE WITH CLOSE TIES TO THE SCHOOL ARE EXCITED BY THE CHANGE TO A UNIVERSITY AND WHAT IT REPRESENTS. IN THE BROADER HARTFORD REGION, REACTION FALLS ALONG THE LINES OF "THAT MAKES SENSE."

"I think people are intrigued," said Judith Greiman, president of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges. "It's raising the question: 'What's the difference? ... Oh, University says Saint Joe's has a more comprehensive set of programs than we knew.' There's a buzz."

There is a direct correlation between the level of excitement over the change and the depth of one's connection to the University. NBC Connecticut News Today Co-Anchor Brad Drazen, a neighbor whose family has hosted an exchange student and is a past 'celebrity guest' and panel moderator, said that while his neighbors aren't chatting about the name change, those who are connected with the school "are unbelievably excited about it. They can't stop talking about it."

Generally speaking, the older alumnae/i wish it could stay a college, said Trustee Patricia J. Rooney, RSM, '58, M '72. "If I hear any buzz, it's 'I wish it were the way it was. Why do we have to become something else?' You won't hear that from the graduates from the '70s forward."

Some alumnae/i fear the University will lose the women's college environment that helped them develop leadership skills, said Mary Ellen Murphy, RSM, '50, Ph.D., a research scientist and professor emerita of Chemistry. Others, like Murphy, welcome the evolution.

The faculty is excited about what this means for their future and the future of the institution. At a reception with the trustees and the faculty, Rooney said she heard animated conversation and sensed an elevated level of energy. "It was a lot of fun to sit and talk with them. [The conversation] was all very forward thinking," she said. "It gives them a broader audience ... When the tide comes in, all boats rise."

While Susan Lennon, president of the Women's College Coalition said people would call the school Saint Joe's whether it was a college or a university, the movement that prompted the change – the response to market realities and demands – is sound.

"I think it's a great idea," Lennon said. "For me, it's not so much the name; it's the identity of what they're doing to meet the needs of today's students." She said the school is smart to expand in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) areas, since that's where job growth is strongest.

Several people with personal ties to the school are fond of the College and excited for its future. "I'm totally nostalgic," said State Senator Beth Bye, former director of The School for Young Children. "If I had a spare minute, I would have been at the bookstore buying a sweatshirt. As a young administrator, I learned so much there."



As co-chair of the senate's Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, she believes the change is good for the institution and the Greater Hartford region. "The mission is broader now. The name reflects that," Bye said.

**"More colleges are competing for fewer students. If they believe this will broaden their scope, that's a good thing. I think there are going to be big challenges for small private colleges in the next 10 years; I think some won't make it."**

The financial reality is that schools need to attract international students and students who can pay full tuition. As a relatively young, 80-year-old institution that traditionally educated teachers, nurses and social workers, the University, like many women's colleges, lacks a large endowment.

Regardless of the strength of the connection to the school or how much people had talked about it, the strongest reaction has been support and a sense that the name is catching up with the evolution to more graduate and doctoral programs.

**"For years, the College has been providing graduate degrees, and is expanding to offer a graduate degree in autism, more doctoral programs, and more research,"** said Hartford Archbishop Henry Mansell. "I'm pleased that there's a greater concentration on the Sisters of Mercy roots."

Several influential people said they were glad the University made an investment in Hartford by opening a much-needed pharmacy school and locating it downtown. Not only did that decision create goodwill; it showed that the school was forward thinking.

**"The pharmacy school – the fact that it's downtown at a time when downtown needs exactly that kind of investment, a brick-and-mortar investment, as well as young, purposeful people,"** sends a strong message, said WNPR radio host and *Hartford Courant* columnist Colin McEnroe. "I assume that with this move, I'm going to see more things like that."

He considers President Pamela Trotman Reid a dynamic leader. "The administration seems genuinely interested in the community and their campus being a place where things happen. I think the campus is poised to become a more and more interesting place," he said. [WNPR news director and "Where We Live" host] "John Dankosky and I have talked about doing an event there. It's a really well-placed campus. It's an attractive campus."

Referring to a recent "Where We Live" program about the state's struggle to retain young adults, McEnroe said, "The more Saint Joe's expands, the more they offer significant programs, there's a pretty good chance to capture some of these people."

University Trustee Martin J. Gavin, CEO of Connecticut Children's Medical Center, says the hospital has added 550 jobs in the past five years, and the University's decision to offer a doctoral degree in pharmacy and, soon, a doctoral degree in nursing, "is a plus to us." The demand for health care providers is increasing, he said, and it's good for the region and the University can now help meet the demand.

West Hartford Mayor Scott Slifka, an alumnus of The School for Young Children whose 3-year-old is a student there, said the growth from college to university parallels West Hartford's progression from a small town to a larger, more prominent community. "It's grown up into a university and maintained its college qualities."



BY CHERYL ROSENFIELD

*Throughout the past six months, the groundwork for faculty research has been set in place at the School of Pharmacy. The Faculty Research Laboratory was outfitted with state-of-the-art equipment, representing a significant investment in investigative primary research conducted by the University's distinguished Pharmacy faculty. The research lab is fully functional.*

According to Ivan Edafiogho, Ph.D., Pharm.D., R.Ph., chair and professor of the department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, "The scope of our research encompasses preclinical, anti-microbial, anticonvulsant, anti-inflammatory, anticancer, antitussive, anti-asthmatic, analgesic and anti-autism investigations using the laboratory's cutting-edge technology and instrumentation. Faculty members collaborate on current projects, and their expertise will inspire student involvement in this research, in the form of electives for second- and third-year pharmacy students. Building on this foundation, we look forward to establishing partnerships with area hospitals, labs and businesses in the development of innovative approaches to pharmaceutical and health care services. The advancement of faculty research and scholarship serves to positively impact the health and wellness of the people of Connecticut and extends throughout the global community. Collaboration is the key to success in research."

LEFT: Dr. Ivan Edafiogho and Dr. Ola Ghoneim work with the Microwave Synthesizer – BIOTAGE – Initiator, used in microwave-assisted organic synthesis of compounds in very short periods of time. Chemical reactions that used to take hours to complete can be conducted in seconds.

ABOVE: The UV Dissolution Apparatus provides in vitro drug release information for both quality control purposes of solid oral dosage forms and drug development, in predicting in vivo drug release profiles. Pictured (left to right) are: Dr. Rajesh Vadlapatla and students Drew Buono and Danielle Hebert.

#### Principal Investigators for 2012 Faculty Research Projects:

**Ivan Edafiogho, Ph.D., Pharm.D., R.Ph.**  
Chair and Professor,  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Richard H. Alper, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor,  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Ola Ghoneim, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Doreen Soldato, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Mark Sweezy, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Rajesh Vadlapatla, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Dora Wiskirchen, Pharm.D., R.Ph.**  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administration



# 1

## BIOCHEMISTRY

developing preventive medicine programs through basic research involving the role of DNA metabolic enzymes in genome instability and carcinogenesis. This involves the elucidation of mechanisms of action of potential anticancer drugs.



[A]



## MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY

designing, synthesizing, and testing new compounds and formulations to facilitate drug development, and ensuring that promising discoveries are carried forward and patented into new products that will improve patient health and well-being.

## FOCUS ON FOUR ASPECTS OF PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH:

# 2

## PHARMACEUTICS

delivering biologically active compounds to the body through strategies designed to elicit an optimal therapeutic response. In essence, researchers determine the best way for a patient to take the medications – tablets, capsules, inhalers, etc. An understanding of pharmaceutics allows researchers to convert a potential drug into an effective medicine that can be administered to patients in a safe and convenient manner.



# 3

## IMMUNOLOGY AND MICROBIOLOGY

developing approaches for preventing or controlling infectious diseases and immune disorders. This involves the study of microorganisms that lead to bacterial infection and viruses; as well as efficient ways of controlling inflammation and combating infections.

[A] Dr. Ola Ghoneim demonstrates the Rotary Evaporator, used to evaporate reaction mixtures and remove excess solvents so the concentrate is worked up to get a compound.

[B] Dr. Rajesh Vadlapatla works with High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) Equipment, which separates a mixture of compounds and identifies, quantifies and purifies the individual components of the mixture.

[C] Dr. Richard Alper (seated) with students Deborah Reyes and Kamal Jawad work with the Dissecting Microscope, used to observe the behavioral models of human diseases in fruit flies. Behavior is observed through a dissecting microscope and recorded on a computer for later data analysis.

[D] Dr. Mark Sweezy (center) and students Anthony Ngo and Paulina Jankowska analyze the fluorescence profile of ampicillin at the Fluorescence Spectrophotometer.



BY SUE SIMONEAU

When Hecmaly Rivera crossed the Commencement stage in May to get her bachelor's degree, she had already dreamed it a thousand times. When she was a fifth grader at Maria Sanchez School in one of Hartford's poorest neighborhoods, John Hunt, a retired insurance executive, promised to send the Sanchez kids to college if they worked hard in school.

"I'm not walking alone on that stage," at graduation, Rivera said. "I'm walking with Mr. Hunt, and every person in school and in Our Piece of the Pie (a non-profit) who supported me." John Hunt died several years ago, but his wife, Carol, has maintained a connection with the University and the scholarship students.

Rivera is the first of the Hunt Scholars to graduate from USJ. Three others are following her, as well as several at the University of Hartford and UConn. Hunt, who began tutoring Sanchez kids in math, eventually realized much more was needed to lift them from the mire of poverty.

Allyson Rodriguez, a Hunt Scholar in her junior year at USJ, remembers that Hunt bought her first pair of glasses. Every few weeks, he met the students to discuss their grades and talk about their opportunities.

Their pictures and their letters filled his briefcase. He was in the audience at their school events. Rodriguez, whose parents died before she got to Hartford High School, remembers venting her anger at Hunt as he looked at her failing grades. No way did he understand her life, she thought. "If you don't like your life," he said, "use your anger to fight for something better." "He had a way of putting you on the spot, but nicely," Rodriguez said. She remembers demanding, "What's in it for you? What do you want from me?"

And what was this scholarship, Rivera and her mom wondered? "Mr. Hunt said basically my four years of college are paid for. My mom and I realized — this is a really big thing."

In 2005, when John and Carol Hunt received the College's Heart of Life Award, he said, "We all will be blessed when some of the kids whose lives we've touched go off to college. We will be blessed again when their children and grandchildren repeat that step because their parents, our scholarship kids, took that first step."

At USJ, the Successful Beginnings Program provides extra help for first-year students who are underprepared. The support the Hunt Scholars had enjoyed since their days at Sanchez continued.

But by the end of her first year, Rivera faced academic probation. She decided to remove all distractions and try harder. She moved back home. She stayed out so late that her mother wanted to know where she had been. "The Trinity Library — they're open until 3 a.m."

With determination and strong support from her advisers, Rivera pulled up her grades. She put a picture of the Hunts in her bedroom to remind herself of their gift. But to graduate with her class, she needed more credits. So last summer, she took three short, intense courses. Then, during winter break, she took two more.

Now, with her college degree in hand, she remembers a day in fifth grade when a street-smart Hartford police officer said, "Some of you aren't going to make it through high school. Some of the girls are going to get pregnant. But some of you ... are going to college."

She has her diploma. "It was a lot of work, but I made it," she said. "I want my brothers, my sisters, and my cousins to know you have to work so hard to accomplish something."

When the last of the original Sanchez kids graduate, the scholarship money will go to other deserving students.

# "THE BEST SAINT JOE'S



## EVERYWHERE!"

BY LAURA SHEEHAN

## FOR THOSE WHO DON'T LIVE AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF THE MUSIC SCENE, RYAN CABRERA IS A POP ROCK MUSICIAN WITH TWO TOP-TEN HITS AND THREE ALBUMS. WHEN MELISSA LAURETTI '12 HEARD HE WAS HITTING THE CAMPUS TOUR SCENE, SHE KNEW HE'D BE A POPULAR CHOICE. AS A MEMBER OF THE STUDENT PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS COUNCIL (SPEC), SHE ATTENDED THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CAMPUS ACTIVITIES IN 2010, WHERE SHE FIRST LEARNED OF CABRERA'S AVAILABILITY.

"The problem was, he was too expensive," Lauretti said. "His fee would have used two-thirds of our total budget." So Lauretti and her colleagues let the idea drop. Two years later, now SPEC president, she saw him again at the regional conference. "I just kept thinking he would really fit with the types of activities students were looking for," she said. "We'd conducted surveys asking students what types of shows they wanted us to bring to campus. The number one answer was a pop rock musician with a recognizable name."

At right, members of the SPEC Board after the concert (left to right): Alyssa Chmura '12, vice-chair; Michelle DiPinto '12, treasurer; Ashley Briglia '12, advertising & social media; Melissa Lauretti '12, chair; Ryan Cabrera; Veronica Hills '12, events/hospitality coordinator & novelties; Kelly Balanca '12, advertising & creative media; Ali Frega '12, events/hospitality coordinator for live entertainment.

Far right: Ryan Cabrera with Melissa Lauretti '12 after the show.



The problem, of course, was money, but Lauretti was not to be deterred. She established a rapport with Cabrera's New York agent. Lauretti and SPEC treasurer Michelle DiPinto '12 drove a hard bargain. "After negotiating with his agent a few times, I eventually got Ryan for less than half of what they originally proposed," Lauretti said.

They signed the contract in November, but kept the news quiet to let a buzz build on campus. SPEC released Cabrera's name at a February bingo game, announcing him as the performer for the annual Blue Jay Fest in April. The news extended into the local media market and SPEC started planning for a significant turnout.

The April 12 performance was flawless and drew the largest crowd ever of any student-sponsored event. "We know there were at least 250 people here based on the number of t-shirts and sunglasses we gave out," Lauretti said. "But there were definitely more people who attended but didn't stop by the check-in table."

The show opened with New York musician Alexis Babini and Cabrera took the stage at 9:00 p.m. The show moved into McGovern Hall due to rain, but spirits were high. "This was the best Saint Joe's event ever," said Caitlin Kent '14. "Ryan Cabrera was popular when we were growing up – he was the heartthrob of our era, so seeing him live was incredible!"

"It was a great night," Lauretti concluded. "Ryan was excellent on stage and so accommodating after the show, signing autographs and talking to students."

With the big event behind her, Lauretti is turning her focus to the future. She will start classes at the University of Connecticut School of Law in the fall and is leaning toward a career in entertainment law. The Ryan Carera event proved to be "great training."

*See more photos of Ryan Cabrera's concert at [www.usj.edu/S12](http://www.usj.edu/S12).*

## / GREAT FACULTY:

AGNES B. CURRY, PH.D.  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
OF PHILOSOPHY



# The challenge and joy of teaching

BY BERNARD KAVALER

Agnes Curry set out to be a scientist. The daughter of an IBM computer engineer, her youth was spent attending a Florida parochial school surrounded by the children of University of Florida employees.

"It was rockin' to be a scientist," she recalled, and many of her friends – including girls – aspired to careers in science. Curry's preference was biology. Her family moved to Kansas when she began high school, and a strong interest in music accompanied her transition to the mid-West.

Opting to take the "practical" route, she enrolled at Benedictine College, located in her Kansas hometown. Their strong science program made sense. But then the predictable trajectory diverged, and her career path became less obvious.

"I wanted to choose what I wanted to learn about," she recalled, leaving science to pursue a curiosity in human nature, and a broader range of learning opportunities. "I really figured I could study what I wanted to study and I'd be okay. I had faith in the process of education."

Her attention evolved to the meaning and theory of music, and an enjoyment of composing. Along the way, Curry's interest in education

for its own sake grew. To fill out her academic schedule, she took a philosophy course, then more. Plans for an advanced degree in music theory abruptly changed. Instead, she took time off to travel and then pursued a Ph.D. in Philosophy. When an assignment involved reading philosophy by women, "the glimmer of an alternative path" took hold.

Sight unseen, she committed to Fordham University, survived some culture shock – arriving in the Bronx, she clearly was not in Kansas anymore – and joined other, equally "discombobulated" classmates. She thrived, teaching at Fordham and NYU while a graduate student, and was attracted to the USJ faculty in 2001.

Saint Joseph's commitment to teaching, to serving women, and to affording an opportunity to those who might not otherwise pursue a college degree, attracted her to the institution. She remains delighted with "the challenge and the joy of teaching here."

Readily admitting that philosophy "is some of the densest reading you'll get," the passionate educator is determined to provide students with sufficient confidence to "just keep swimming" even when challenges are deep. She also connects current trends with philosophical underpinnings, using technology such as YouTube, because visual material "can crystallize and humanize an issue."

She is a practical philosopher, a combination she does not view as an oxymoron. "Beliefs connect to decisions," in every walk of life, Curry stressed. When students understand the underpinnings of those philosophical beliefs, they can function more effectively in whatever field they choose. Students develop an intellectual and emotional maturity through exploring philosophy.

"I share with students, and I hope they develop, the sense that philosophy is all around us. Decisions are the result of a philosophical framework," she pointed out. "We just have to notice it."

Dedicated to her academic discipline and its real-world applications, Curry recognizes that "philosophy is a fairly conservative discipline" – one that has not been quick to recognize the impact of individuals of different genders, races or backgrounds. "We need to take a more nuanced look at the history of philosophy," she said.

A collaborative leader, she has directed the Honors Program since 2006, and serves on the Health Professionals Advisory Committee. She thoroughly enjoys engaging and challenging students to excel, and consider their own philosophical framework. Her current research draws connections between philosophy and popular culture – such as the connection between humor and horror – recognizing that is where "values are changed" today.

**"I believe in the relevance and connectability of philosophy,"** Curry emphasized. **"I teach to the perils and the possibilities."**

# Driven to End Disparities

BY BERNARD KAVALER

Disparities earn Meg Monaghan's indignation. A passionate educator who exemplifies dedication, she has seen disparities firsthand and the experiences have fueled her lifelong enthusiasm for education.

There was never any doubt that she would be a teacher. Her parents were educators, and conversation about teaching and learning was standard fare throughout her youth in Waterbury. During college at Villanova University, she realized that she could be a teacher anywhere, and proceeded to do just that. Philadelphia, Houston, Boston, Georgia – and even her former school in Waterbury – were more than career stops.

"Teaching in different places gave me an understanding of education on the national level," and with it a clear perspective on how to prepare teachers, and students, to thrive. Monaghan's style is hands-on, with a pervasive sense of social justice. She is captivated by the process of education, and is well regarded for high standards and high energy.

The stark differences in school systems she encountered left an indelible impression. While a city school where she taught was virtually without textbooks, and teachers "had to re-use paper," her next venue – in suburban Boston after earning her M.Ed. at Boston University – featured amenities including potter's wheels. Monaghan came away devoted to pursuing reform and reducing the achievement gap.

Monaghan was also struck by the portrayal of women in the social studies curriculum, and the disparity with how men were depicted across the historical narrative. Her dissertation at the University of Connecticut, where she earned her Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction, was on "pre-service secondary social studies perceptions of gender equity in personal and professional lives."



/ GREAT FACULTY:  
MEG M. MONAGHAN, PH.D.  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
OF EDUCATION

She has tried to "shift the lens a little" to chronicle "what women were actually doing" through history. A proponent of primary source research, she taught social studies education at the University of Georgia, and remains involved in the field in Connecticut,

Her desire to join the faculty at Saint Joseph two years ago was driven by the University's "strong conceptual framework," including work in local school districts, and she is also acutely aware that educators need to keep up with technology.

**"It's wild, it's great, it's messy, it's complicated," Monaghan said of teaching. "I love being a teacher. Education is gritty. It is fun. I can't imagine doing anything else."**

having earned Teacher Quality Partnership grants from the state in each of the past two years, leading Summer Institutes for area English and social studies teachers.

"Teaching is about trying, then reflecting, and making it better," Monaghan explained. Her varied experience provides "street cred" with students, as she combines theoretical with practical. In addition to a master's-level course, she teaches sophomores for the entire year, in foundation classes including Learning Theory and Lesson Planning. "I move them around the desk," as the year progresses, she said, "from student to teacher. I begin to treat them like colleagues."

"The brain seeks novelty. Years ago, school was novel to students," she said. "Today, they have novelty available to them everywhere. It is vastly important that schools catch up, and use technology to motivate students." Monaghan is proud that the University integrates technology into the curriculum, preparing teachers to educate and inspire a tech-savvy generation.

"It's wild, it's great, it's messy, it's complicated," Monaghan said of teaching. "I love being a teacher. Education is gritty. It is fun. I can't imagine doing anything else."

/ PHONATHON:  
FOR THE ANNUAL FUND



# WHO'S CALLING?

BY LAURA SHEEHAN

For five shifts a week, a group of USJ students meets in a computer lab in McDonough Hall after dinner and start dialing. What may be considered by some to be a thankless job – calling to solicit support for the Annual Fund – is to the members of the student phonathon team an opportunity to connect to the women who have gone before them, to bridge generations and decades through the shared experience of their education.

"I love the conversations I have with alumnae/i – it's my favorite part of the job," said Christina Rivera '15. "It doesn't matter how far apart we are in age, we all seem to appreciate the same things about our experience at Saint Joe's – the small classes, a favorite professor, and most of all, the women's environment. It's the same stuff that I talk about with my friends."

"Making connections" is a recurring theme in the phonathon room. Students work under the guidance of Courtney RamosCotto '11, coordinator of the annual fund and alumnae/i relations, who worked phonathon during her student years. "As a student caller, I loved talking to alumnae/i, especially about the ways their experiences related to my own," she said. Her passion for the University and her ability to connect with potential donors plays a key role in training the callers.

"We talk about the Annual Fund in terms of how it affects people's lives through scholarships

and the educational opportunities it provides," RamosCotto said. When the students call a potential donor, they don't just ask for money, but instead, seek to connect to the person's USJ experience.

"By having an honest conversation, students and alumnae/i are able to connect personally and the donors come to know who today's students really are," said RamosCotto. And "who they are" is strikingly familiar to those they call: "Through our conversations, I've come to realize that despite the gap in years, the core qualities of our education are the same," said Jenna Leonardi '13.

"I believe people are motivated to give once they get to know the students and realize that their gift will change a life," RamosCotto said. The phonathon students understand this firsthand: virtually all 17 receive scholarship support and/or financial aid from USJ. "I wouldn't be here without the support of a scholarship," said Leonardi. "My family doesn't have a lot of money and there's no way I could get this quality of education without help."

Likewise, Summer DiStefano '15, said, "As a scholarship recipient, I'm happy to work on behalf of the Annual Fund and help other students have the same opportunities I have here." And so they call, night after night, connecting person to person over their shared love of Saint Joe's.

## » THE BEST PART OF THE JOB

Sharing what I love about Saint Joe's.  
Talking to people about their experience here.  
The feeling when you get a donation  
– it's amazing!  
Knowing that what I am doing matters,  
that future students will benefit.  
It's helping me develop communication skills.  
I feel I can go up to anyone now and start a  
conversation.

## » THE HARDEST PART OF THE JOB

Getting yelled at.  
Being hung up on.  
When people say we're not Catholic  
enough – but so much of what  
we do comes from the Mercy values!

*"Every time I go into the Nursing Lab, I see a plaque about the donor who gave money for it and I remember that without that type of personal philanthropy, we wouldn't have some of the really important equipment that we do."*

– Michelle Sinclair '13

**THE PHONATHON TEAM RAISED  
\$100,000 OF THE ANNUAL FUND'S  
\$600,000 GOAL.**

## » WHY THE ANNUAL FUND REALLY MATTERS

It costs **\$315**  
to run USJ for **5** minutes

Tuition only covers **75%**  
of the University's  
operational cost

**95%** of USJ full-time students  
need financial assistance  
to stay in college

If every alumnae/i gave **\$25**, nearly  
**\$600,000**  
would be raised for  
the Annual Fund

PICTURED ABOVE: Members of the Phonathon team with Courtney RamosCotto '11, coordinator of the annual fund and alumnae/i relations (front row center).

# *where service runs Deep: The Gengras Center*

BY CHERYL R. LIVSEY, M.A.  
SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, GENGRAS CENTER

**“I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do.” –Edward Everett Hale**

Since its inception, the Gengras Center has been a place to educate, love, and nurture exceptional children. A Gengras student's education consists of many things – functional academics, daily living skills, social skills, and various therapies. But one theme that runs through every classroom is the value of community service. Over the past nine years, the staff at the Gengras Center (through our Ministry of Fun) donated more than \$20,000 to various charities and families in need. And that's just the staff! The amount of community service that takes place in our 12 classrooms could fill this entire publication, so instead, I will offer you a glimpse:

Each of our three units participates in one or more community service projects that operate on a weekly basis. The elementary/middle school unit features a classroom that “Cooks with Love,” preparing meals for our families in need. Students in the high school unit do yard work and “natural disaster” clean up for numerous Gengras families and some elderly West Hartford residents (one recipient is an extremely grateful former West Hartford librarian). This unit has also conducted numerous school-wide fundraisers for a student who bravely battled Hodgkin's Lymphoma over the past two years. Every week, members of the life skills unit work at local soup kitchens and churches – cleaning, restocking, and packaging food.

Beyond the individual units are even more school-wide initiatives. The Gengras Center Student Council runs various fundraisers throughout the year including (but not limited to): Hats On Day, benefitting the Foundation for Children with Cancer; Live Your Love tea sale for impoverished women and children of Sri Lanka; Halloween costume drives to raise funds for patients at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center; and numerous fundraisers for My Sister's Place, a shelter for women and children in Hartford.

This year another Gengras Center student, Austin Lentocha, faced tragedy when his father, an East Hartford police officer, was injured in a car accident while on duty. Officer Todd Lentocha was in a critical condition coma for a month after the accident. The Gengras family jumped to action and raised more than \$700 for the East Hartford Police Officers' Association. Teachers also sent care packages home to Austin and his siblings. The ultimate reward came when Officer Lentocha and his wife, Alison, walked through the school doors a few months later to celebrate Austin's birthday.

**There is a saying that we live by at the Gengras Center: “You get back what you put into it.” Come visit Gengras and see firsthand how we live by those words and put our values into action.**



Students participate in Hats On Day to raise funds for the Foundation for Children with Cancer. From left to right are: Matthew, Josh, Tess and Cristian.

Visit the Gengras Center web site at [www.gengrascenter.org](http://www.gengrascenter.org).





[B]

# *A Commencement of Historic Proportions*

BY LAURA SHEEHAN

**It was the largest Commencement in institutional history and the last under the banner of “Saint Joseph College.”** Six hundred sixty-two students received degrees on May 13, along with honorary degree recipients Governor Dannel Malloy and Mary Ellen Murphy, RSM, '50, Ph.D. The first wave of students from the University’s off-campus Education program graduated, as did Nursing students from the Middlesex Hospital program.

President Pamela Trotman Reid welcomed graduates and guests, wishing a “Happy Mother’s Day to all of the mothers, grandmothers, and women who have nurtured and supported us.” She urged graduates to take their skills and compassion with them as they move into the world: “As our communities face intolerance, scandal, meanness, and greed we need your nobility, your strength of character, your sense of morality, the warmth of your compassion combined with your intellect and skills. Take all of these with you as you go on to your next chapter.”

[A] Marie Kulesza, CPA, M.S., assistant professor of Business Administration, received the Reverend John J. Stack Teaching Excellence Award.

[B] Reverend Joseph Cheah and Emilia Lynch '13 at Baccalaureate Mass.

[C] Sisters Marie '15, Michelle '12, and Rebecca DiPinto '14 at Baccalaureate Mass.

[D] Mary Ellen Murphy, RSM, '50, Ph.D., H'12

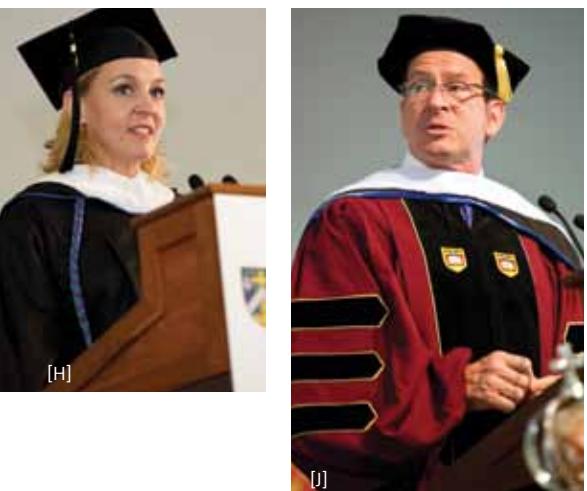


[C]



[D]

## / COMMENCEMENT



Governor Dannel Malloy, Connecticut's 88th governor, was honored for his "contributions to public policy, dedicated service ... and the inspiring example" he offers to state residents. Malloy addressed the graduates, first acknowledging the wisdom and courage of student speakers Linda Ciarleglio M'12 and Jennifer Davis-Thibeault '12 who preceded him.

To the graduates he said, "Let no day be less bright than this one ... pursuant to this institution's history, seek out ways to give back ... if you do that, you will live a great life."

Sister Mary Ellen Murphy '50, Ph.D., was commemorated as a scientist and "woman of pioneering vision, grace, integrity, exceptional talent and reputation." A highly-regarded research scientist and scholar, Sister Mary Ellen has an international reputation as an organic geochemist.

"You might ask did I experience prejudice against women in science since only about 18% of the chemists then were women," she said. "In my experience being competent was more often the criterion ... As I graduated from SJC, I was well prepared to enter professional life and so are you. May you have the confidence to meet any challenges that life may bring to you along your road."

[E] Lois Nesci '85, M'87, president of the Alumnae/i Association inducts new graduates as members.

[F] The first group of Middlesex Hospital nurses to graduate from the RN to BSN program.

[G] Provost Michelle Kalis Ph.D., welcomes the Class of 2012.

[H] Graduate student speaker Linda Ciarleglio M'12: "I know that we have all had professors here who we will remember for the rest of our lives and we have learned many lessons that we will take with us which will continue to guide us in our careers. This is true success!"

[I] Chair of the Board of Trustees Jeanne Merola: "You will find that you are moving into society with a distinct advantage – employers and colleagues hold a Saint Joseph College degree in high regard. Our reputation of academic excellence, which comes from 78 years of sustained practice, will serve you well."

[J] Governor Dannel Malloy H'12

[K] Undergraduate student speaker Jennifer Davis-Thibeault '12: "The future holds different things for each of us ... No matter where the future leads you, you will always be connected to this special place. You will always be a part of the Saint Joe's community just by simply holding true to the values we have gained here. The future starts now."

[L] President Pamela Trotman Reid

[M] Members of the USJ faculty



Want more Commencement? Watch:

Kadine on the Scene at Commencement 2012  
[www.usj.edu/S12k](http://www.usj.edu/S12k)

President Reid's Commencement Remarks  
[www.usj.edu/S12l](http://www.usj.edu/S12l)

Governor Malloy's Commencement Address  
[www.usj.edu/S12m](http://www.usj.edu/S12m)

Sister Mary Ellen Murphy's Commencement Address  
[www.usj.edu/S12n](http://www.usj.edu/S12n)

Jennifer Davis-Thibeault's Graduate's Message  
[www.usj.edu/S12o](http://www.usj.edu/S12o)

Linda Ciarleglio's Graduate's Message  
[www.usj.edu/S12p](http://www.usj.edu/S12p)

See more photos at:  
[www.usj.edu/S12q](http://www.usj.edu/S12q)

# IMAGINE . . . THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

## A GALA CELEBRATION

*When:* June 7, 2012   *Where:* The Convention Center, Hartford

*Why:* To celebrate the transition from Saint Joseph College to the University of Saint Joseph

To honor Trustee Clayton (Skip) Gengras Jr.

To commemorate the work of three esteemed alumnae/i and women in the sciences: Mary Ellen Murphy, RSM, '50, Ph.D., H'12; Elaine Pagliaro '73, M.S., J.D.; and Linda Reynolds '67, M.S.

*Who:* More than 700 guests attended – faculty, staff, alumnae/i, and friends of USJ including: Governor Dannel Malloy H'12 and First Lady Cathy Malloy; State Senator Beth Bye; Hartford Mayor Pedro Segarra; UConn Coach Geno Auriemma; and radio host Colin McEnroe.



See more Gala photos at [www.usj.edu/SI2r](http://www.usj.edu/SI2r). Watch a tribute to Skip Gengras at [www.usj.edu/skipgengras](http://www.usj.edu/skipgengras).



A. "Women in Science" Award recipients with President Reid (left to right) Mary Ellen Murphy, RSM, '50, Ph.D., H'12 (with Agnes Kiely, RSM); Elaine Pagliaro '73, M.S., J.D., and Linda Reynolds '67, M.S.

B. Trustee Patti LeShane serves as emcee

C. Coach Geno Auriemma with guest auctioneer Colin McEnroe

D. Skip Gengras (center) is congratulated by Oz Griebel and President Reid

E. Judith Carey, RSM, M'72, Senator Beth Bye, and Lorraine LaVigne, RSM, M'80

F. Former Hartford Mayor Ann Uccello '44 with current Mayor Pedro Segarra

G. USJ student volunteers

H. Governor Dannel Malloy congratulates Linda Reynolds '67

I. Broadway performer Brian Stokes Mitchell

# welcome, New Trustees



**Michael E. McDonough** is a partner in Murtha Cullina where he chairs the firm's Business and Finance Department. He is also a member of their Commercial Finance & Lending and Public Finance Groups, and Health Care, Education, Long Term Care and Energy Industry Teams. Mr. McDonough represents issuers, national and regional investment banks, non-profit institutions and trustees in bond financings; he represents banks, leasing companies and borrowers in commercial transactions; and he represents investment advisors and broker dealers with regards to 40 Act compliance and other matters. McDonough earned his B.A. (1986) and M.A. (1989) at the University of Connecticut, and his J.D. (1997, with high honors) from the University of Connecticut School of Law.



**Elaine M. Sweeney, RSM, M'85, Ph.D.**, is a clinical psychologist in private practice with a background in working with adolescents and in higher education environments. She focuses on the treatment of adolescents, couples, and children of divorce, and provides family therapy. She is a member of the American Psychological Association, New England Psychological Association, American Society of Clinical Hypnosis and the New England Society of Clinical Hypnosis. She earned her B.A. from Diocesan Teachers College (1969), her M.Ed. from Boston College (1975), her M.A. in Counseling from Saint Joseph College (1985), her CAGS from Boston College (1989), and her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Northeastern University (1995).



**James Wakim, Esq.** serves as president and chief operating officer for The Simon Konover Company, and is ultimately responsible for the operations of its five operating divisions: Konover Commercial Corporation, Konover Hotel Corporation, Konover Residential Corporation, Simon Konover Development Corporation and SIKON Construction Services, LLC. Since joining the company in 2008, Wakim has been instrumental in the strategic growth of the company's investment and management portfolio. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Connecticut in 1979 and received his Juris Doctor, with Honors, from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1982. He is a member of the national societies of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi.



**Constance K. (Connie) Weaver** joined TIAA-CREF in 2010 as executive vice president and chief marketing officer in order to help refocus the company on meeting its customers' savings needs. She works to integrate the company's marketing, brand management, advertising, customer insights, corporate communications, and digital strategy functions. Her previous experience includes serving as senior vice president in charge of marketing and communications at The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.; executive vice president and chief marketing officer at BearingPoint; and executive vice president, public relations, marketing and brand at AT&T. Weaver earned her B.S. at the University of Maryland, and has taken post-graduate financial management, marketing and strategic planning courses at The Wharton School (University of Pennsylvania), Columbia University, and Imade (Switzerland), in addition to an executive program in finance at Stanford University.



BY CHERYL ROSENFIELD

## Open Books Open Doors

### Teaching Reading To Children With Down Syndrome

The Open Books Open Doors project provides free literacy screenings for Connecticut children with Down Syndrome in pre-school through grade 3, as well as resources for parents and teachers regarding best practices in literacy instruction. Funded by the Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress (CDSC) and USJ, the project was initiated several years ago by Associate Professor of Education Kathleen M. Whitbread, Ph.D. Dr. Whitbread coordinated an event in April that offered free literacy screenings along with informational sessions for parents regarding effective early literacy strategies. For more information on Open Books Open Doors visit: [openbooksopendoors.com](http://openbooksopendoors.com).

### Dialogue 21 Educators' Technology Conference

The first annual Dialogue 21 conference, an event designed to promote effective technology integration in classrooms, was held on May 5. Following the “unconference” model utilized at EdCamp, the agenda for the day was collaboratively agreed upon during the morning of the event, capitalizing on participants’ shared desires to learn in an open environment. Dialogue 21 attracted over 100 educators and garnered outstanding evaluations thanks to the dedicated efforts of Marialice Curran, Ph.D., assistant professor of Education; Lisa Sandstrom, executive assistant; Michael Carbone ’12, graduate student; and the Student Advisory Group in Education (SAGE).

## Reorganization of the School of Education

The School of Education re-organized from one to two departments. This change, which took effect July 1, creates an organizational structure that is consistent with other USJ Schools and that supports the School’s administrative activities. The School now has two academic departments, each with a department chair: Education and Special Education. An additional associate dean has been added to focus on the assessment activities required for teacher licensure and NCATE accreditation. The School has expanded dramatically over the past several years with the addition of the off-campus master’s programs and is in the process of developing sixth-year programs.

The new\* and existing appointments are noted here:

- Dean, Kathleen A. Butler, Ph.D.
- Associate Dean and Director of Off-Campus Programs, Susan Johns, Ed.D.
- Associate Dean for Assessment and Academic Affairs, Regina Chatel, Ph.D.\*
- Department Chair for Special Education, John Molteni, Ph.D., BCBA-D\*
- Department Chair for Education, Enrique Sepúlveda III, Ph.D.\*

Front row: Dr. Whitbread and Ashley Ryan '12; back row: Mary Roto '14, Liz Plummer '14, Alexandra Chmura '14, Kristine LeBlanc '12 and Zoe Allard '14.

Left to right: Dr. John Molteni, department chair for Special Education; Dr. Kathleen Butler, dean; and Dr. Enrique Sepúlveda III, department chair for Education.



The department of Education oversees the undergraduate teacher licensure programs in elementary education and the secondary subjects, along with graduate teacher licensure programs in early childhood/special education, elementary, and secondary subjects. This department is also responsible for the master of arts in Early Childhood/Special Education and the master of arts in Education with concentrations in 1) Curriculum and Instruction, 2) Reading and Language: Elementary, 3) Reading and Language: Secondary, 4) Multiple Intelligences, 5) Research-based Learning Interventions, and 6) Technology.

The department of Special Education is responsible for the Special Education major and undergraduate teacher licensure in Special Education, as well as the master of arts degree in Special Education: 1) with teacher licensure, 2) without teacher licensure, 3) for cross-endorsement, 4) with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

“We are one School of Education that shares a deeply held belief in the values of the Conceptual Framework, one of which is collaboration,” said Dean Butler. “I am confident that distributed leadership will serve to foster this collegial spirit even further, providing faculty with the freedom to continue their outstanding work, and will ultimately make us even stronger.”



Joseph Toce Jr. speaking at the seminar on March 28.

BY CHERYL ROSENFIELD

## Financial Literacy Seminar Series

The School for Graduate and Professional Studies launched its Financial Literacy Seminar Series on March 28. Former Trustee Joseph Toce Jr. and Michael Van DeLoo of WTAS LLC presented "Tax Planning for the Rich and Famous." On April 11, Farmington Bank Financial Education Team members Chris Traczyk, Kevin Kickery, and Sarah Kazimierczak presented "Borrowing Basics."

### **The Institute of Autism and Behavioral Studies Partners with The Children's Museum**

John Molteni, Ph.D., BCBA-D, assistant professor of Education and director of the Institute for Autism and Behavioral Studies at the University of Saint Joseph collaborated with The Children's Museum on a new series of videos that enhance accessibility for all children who visit the museum. In recognition of World Autism Awareness Month, The Children's Museum has released a new series of videos that showcase "the museum experience" for children. The videos depict a number of experiences visitors may enjoy to establish a sense of comfort and reassurance about what to expect.

"The Children's Museum's willingness to make exhibits accessible to all children is a testament to their dedication to education and the needs of those with developmental disabilities, including those with an Autism Spectrum Disorder," said Dr. Molteni.

*Watch the videos at: [www.usj.edu/S12s](http://www.usj.edu/S12s).*

### **Alumna from Human Development and Family Studies Featured on CNN**

A recent CNN feature story on indoor air pollution in U.S. schools highlighted the advocacy efforts of USJ Child Study alumna Melissa Asselin '11 on behalf of her son, Matthew. Asselin said, "When CNN called to say that they were covering this issue from a national

perspective and wanted to interview me, I was somewhat hesitant. However, I agreed to be part of the story in hope of increasing awareness of this issue. I want to thank the USJ faculty for their support in bolstering my position in advocacy, education, and involvement."

*Read the story: [www.usj.edu/S12t](http://www.usj.edu/S12t).*

### **Faculty**

Lorrie Greenhouse Gardella, J.D., M.S.W., A.C.S.W., associate dean and professor of Social Work, was honored at the Association of Jewish Studies Conference (AJS Honors Its Authors) and the Massachusetts Gerontology Association Conference (2012 Featured Book) for her book *The Life and Thought of Louis Lowy: Social Work Through the Holocaust*.

Marie G. Kulesza, M.S., CPA, assistant professor of Business Administration was presented with the Best Paper Award at the Academy of Business Research Spring Conference for "Examining Incentive-Based State Tax Legislation in the Film Industry," which she coauthored. She was recognized as the 2011-2012 recipient of the Reverend John J. Stack Teaching Excellence Award, which was presented at Commencement on May 13.



## Graduate Open House on August 22

A GRADUATE OPEN HOUSE IS SCHEDULED AT USJ ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2012 FROM 4:30 TO 6:30 P.M.  
THE \$50 APPLICATION FEE IS WAIVED FOR THOSE WHO ATTEND!

The School of Graduate and Professional Studies offers graduate and undergraduate programs in:

- » Accounting
- » Gerontology
- » Management
- » Applied Behavior Analysis
- » Healthcare Systems Management
- » Marriage and Family Therapy
- » Child Study
- » Homeland Security Management
- » School Counseling
- » Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- » Juvenile Justice/Human Rights
- » Social Work
- » Family Studies
- » Latino Community Practice

The School of Graduate and Professional Studies also oversees the Program for Adult Learners and the Graduate Admissions and Academic Services Office.

Sign up today at  
[www.usj.edu/gradopenhouse](http://www.usj.edu/gradopenhouse).





BY CHERYL ROSENFIELD

## Inspiring Girls In The Sciences

Middle school girls from throughout the region spent a day on USJ's West Hartford campus entrenched in a variety of interactive workshops designed to promote an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The University joined forces with the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund to host the Girls in STEM Exhibition on May 11. The workshops, which were facilitated by USJ faculty and students, were interactive and presented concrete applications of scientific methods and technology. In addition, the middle school girls who took part in the event were introduced to role models and potential mentors, fostering a sense of participating in a peer group of future workers in STEM careers. The goal is to inspire young women's interest in science at an early age allowing them to explore the fields of biology, chemistry, environmental science, and physics in a fun-filled and relaxed environment infused with experimentation and collaboration!

### **2012 Nightingale Lecture: the Birth of American Nursing**

USJ Associate Professor of Nursing Joyce Fontana '81,



Ph.D. delivered the 2012 Nightingale Lecture on April 4, "Commissioned by God: The Birth

of American Nursing during the U.S. Civil War." She spoke about the foundations of nursing, sharing the historical perspective that Florence Nightingale was just one of many nursing heroes who exemplify the high ideals, values, and responsibilities encompassed by the profession.

According to Dr. Fontana, "The inception of Nursing as a profession in America occurred during the Civil War. Women such as Clara Barton, Mary

Ann Bickerdyke and Mother Angela Gillespie are heroes who have largely been ignored by historians and are absent from nursing textbooks. There are countless others whose names are not remembered. In spite of the absence of these records, these women of the Civil War made a significant difference in the lives of others; they advanced nursing as a profession through their resourcefulness and strong leadership."

Dr. Fontana also pointed out that the Sisters of Mercy served in the Civil War; at least 12 died in service to their country. Often in defiance of military protocol, the Sisters were among many groundbreaking women of that era who stepped forward to nurse the sick and wounded soldiers from the battlefields, which ultimately helped to save lives.

In essence, Dr. Fontana remarked, "These original American nurses who rejected convention and became nurses by necessity, under fire and unwelcome in the military, have paved a clear path for us to follow, leaving us with a very personal statement of American Nursing ... the lessons from the heroic experiences of these brave women need to be remembered and celebrated."

### **Crafting Ways to Cope**

The University of Saint Joseph, in partnership with CancerCare, sponsored a free workshop in April for young families living with cancer. CancerCare helps individuals, families, caregivers, and the bereaved to better cope with and manage the emotional and practical challenges that come about following a cancer diagnosis. "The goal of the

workshop is to help children to better understand the disease and the consequences that may follow," said Christina Alevras, M.S., instructor of Biology and coordinator of the event. "This is done in a peaceful environment and includes the crafting of a pillow and a doll." USJ students, several of whom are social work and counseling majors, participated.



Najaee Hankerson '13, Kacey James '15, and Jessica Aligata '15 volunteer with CancerCare.

# SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

/ OUR FIVE SCHOOLS

BY CHERYL ROSENFIELD



## The World in the University of Saint Joseph – 10th Anniversary

A joint collaborative project sponsored by the Office of International Studies and Programs and the department of Foreign Languages, the 10th Anniversary celebration of the University of Saint Joseph's international flavor was held on April 13 in The Bruyette Athenaeum's Winifred E. Coleman Lobby and Second Floor Reception Room. This much anticipated annual event featured dancing, information booths, lively music, and delicious food from around the world!

Shyamala Raman, Ph.D., professor of Economics and International Studies said, "The inspiration to develop this event 10 years ago was to bring the co-curricular aspect of the Internationalization Project to our students and to the entire USJ community. In essence, our goal is to promote global awareness beyond the classroom. The World in USJ has grown during its first decade and we encourage even broader student, faculty and staff participation in the future."

Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences Wayne Steely, Ph.D. remarked, "The World in USJ has always been a very well-received event, showcasing the multi-cultural personality of our campus community. Gaining an understanding and appreciation of the various traditions and backgrounds of our students, faculty and staff broadens our global perspective. In many significant ways, this event brings to life beyond the textbook an enthusiastic celebration of culture and diversity at the University of Saint Joseph!"

### Dr. Palmunen Honored for Work on Behalf of First-Year College Students

Karen Palmunen, Ph.D., associate professor of French and director of the First-Year Seminar Program, received the 2012 Outstanding First-Year Student Advocate Award presented by the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition. Dr. Palmunen was one of ten award recipients who were chosen from 140 nominations. This year's honorees were formally recognized on February 19 at the Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience in San Antonio, Texas. She also published "Attracting and Retaining First-Year Seminar Faculty" in *E-Source for College Transitions*.

10th Anniversary celebration of the World in the University of Saint Joseph, photos clockwise from top:

USJ students Jasleen Kaur '15 and Rubbab Chaudhry '13 perform // Left to right: Shyamala Raman, Ph.D., professor of Economics and International Studies; Ashlee Hamilton '12, undergraduate assistant in the Office of International Studies and Programs; and Karen Palmunen, Ph.D., associate professor of French // Handcrafted items for sale by refugees who are being supported by the Resettlement Agency, Catholic Charities Migration, Refugee and Immigration Services.

### Faculty Retirements at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences

A reception was held in early May to recognize two members of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences faculty who have retired from the University of Saint Joseph. Warm wishes are extended from the USJ community to Karen Palmunen, Ph.D., associate professor of French and Marilyn M. Denny, J.D., associate professor of Sociology.



Pictured at the reception are (left to right): Provost Michelle M. Kalis, Ph.D.; President Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D.; Dr. Karen Palmunen; and Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences Wayne Steely, Ph.D.



The White Coat  
Ceremony, 2011.

BY CHERYL ROSENFIELD

## Enrollment: Class of 2015

Excellent news: approximately 80 students will be welcomed to the USJ School of Pharmacy as the incoming class of 2015! Orientation Week is scheduled from August 13-17 and the White Coat Ceremony will be held on Friday, August 17 in The Bruyette Athenaeum's Hoffman Auditorium on the University's West Hartford campus.

## Dr. Bruce Edgren Honored as Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Fellow

Bruce Edgren, Pharm.D., R.Ph., chair of the department of Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the School of Pharmacy, has been named a 2012-2013 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Health Policy Fellow. As one of eight health professionals selected for this prestigious and competitive fellowship, Dr. Edgren will spend a year in Washington, D.C. working in congressional offices with key responsibilities for health legislation and programs.

President Pamela Trotman Reid said, "We are delighted that Dr. Edgren's talents have been recognized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. His participation in the Health Policy Fellows Program will allow the University community to build on our respected reputation for educating health care professionals, while becoming an effective participant in health care policy discussions on the national level."

USJ School of Pharmacy Dean Joseph R. Ofosu, Pharm.D., R.Ph. said, "Dr. Edgren's distinguished background in Pharmacy practice and education, along with his extensive collaborative experience in the private sector, are encompassed in this exceptional professional honor. His selection for this competitive fellowship is truly an outstanding distinction and an immense source of pride for the School of Pharmacy."



Established in 1973 at the Institute of Medicine (IOM) with a grant from RWJF, the fellowship program develops the abilities of outstanding midcareer health professionals in academic and community-based settings by providing them with the ability to work alongside those shaping U.S. health care policy. More than 200 fellows from universities, colleges, and community health organizations across the nation have participated in this program.

Dr. Edgren joined the School of Pharmacy in 2009. In his current position, he is responsible for the provision of the practice-based educational component of the Doctor of Pharmacy Program. Previously, he was associated with Maple & Main Consulting, LLC in Farmington, Conn., a private consulting firm he founded that provided expertise for the pharmaceutical industry and pharmacy benefit companies. Dr. Edgren earned his bachelor's and Pharm.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota.

*Read more on the RWJF Health Policy Fellows at:  
[www.usj.edu/S12u](http://www.usj.edu/S12u).*

### Candidate Accreditation Status

In June, the School of Pharmacy was approved for Candidate Accreditation Status by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), which is awarded to a Doctor of Pharmacy program that has students enrolled, but has not yet had a graduating class. Graduates of a class designated as having Candidate Accreditation Status have the same rights and privileges as those graduates from a fully accredited program, generally including eligibility for licensure.

### Expansion At The School Of Pharmacy

The second construction phase of the School of Pharmacy in downtown Hartford is now complete. Construction took place February-May on the third floor at 229 Trumbull Street in the XL Center where the original 35,000 square foot facility has expanded by an additional 18,000 square feet in a space adjacent to the existing quarters. Additions to the facility include a large student lounge that accommodates 100 people; a multi-purpose meeting space for events, board meetings or community outreach; a major expansion of the library and a large classroom with seating for 48 students.

In the School's newly expanded space at the XL Center in Hartford are (left to right): James G. Henkel, Ph.D., associate dean for Academic Affairs and professor, School of Pharmacy; Ola Ghoneim, Ph.D., assistant professor, department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; and Joseph R. Ofosu, Pharm.D., R.Ph., dean and professor, School of Pharmacy.





# BLUE JAY SPORTS

BY WILLIAM SCHUBERT  
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Mary Hyde '14

## Basketball's Winning Record

The basketball team finished 14-10 with no upperclassmen and posted a winning record in back-to-back seasons for the first time in 14 years. Mary Hyde '14 was named Third Team All-GNAC and led the team in scoring (14.0 points per game), rebounds (6.2 per game), assists (67) and steals (62). She was also MVP of the USJ Tip-Off Tournament, which the Blue Jays won for the third year in a row. Heather Franks '15 averaged 13.8 points, 6.2 rebounds and shot 54 percent and Devon Diliberto '14 averaged 12.8 points and made 55 three-pointers.

## Swimming & Diving Conference Success

Shannon Dunn '14 and Suki Hood '13 were named All-GNAC for winning events at the annual conference meet in December. The season also concluded strongly as the 200 medley and 200 free relay teams (Dunn, Sarah Chepeleff '12, Jessica Gale '14 and Mary Provencier '12) set school records at the New England meet. Dunn had the best individual finish there, coming in 12th in the 50-yard backstroke. Gale excelled in the spring, winning consecutive GNAC Rookie of the Week Awards in February.



## New Athletics Hall of Fame

Athletic Director Bill Cardarelli announced the formation of the Athletic Department's Hall of Fame in May. The Hall of Fame will honor past athletes, coaches, and special contributors who had an impact on the school's athletic program.

The inaugural class will be inducted at a May 11, 2013 dinner at The O'Connell Athletic Center. UConn women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma will be a guest speaker.

The dinner will come at the conclusion of the school's 20th year of intercollegiate athletics affiliated with the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association). Nominations, however, will not be limited to the past 20 years and can include those who distinguished themselves in prior intramural and club competitions.

"What a great time to focus on our history," Cardarelli said. "We have the chance to University status and we will be marking our 20th year as an NCAA member. It's the perfect time to honor those who helped build and get recognition for the programs that are flourishing today."

*Nominations can be made online at [www.usj.edu/SI2v](http://www.usj.edu/SI2v). Individuals, teams, coaches and special contributors can all be nominated. Criteria for each is available online. Nominations will be evaluated and voted on by a panel that includes athletic department and University staff and faculty. Nominations are open through November 30, 2012 and a selection announcement will be made in February.*

*For more information, contact Deb Fiske,  
[dfiske@usj.edu](mailto:dfiske@usj.edu) or 860.231.5423.*

## HONORING STUDENT ATHLETES

The University of Saint Joseph athletic community gathered April 30 to honor its student athletes from the winter and spring seasons.

### SWIMMING & DIVING

Most Valuable Swimmer:  
Mary Provencher '12, Jessica Gale '14

Most Improved: Adrianna Chorzepa '14  
Coaches' Award: Sarah Chepeleff '12

### BASKETBALL

Most Valuable Player: Mary Hyde '14  
Most Improved: Lindsay Feducia '15  
Coaches' Award: Heather Franks '15

### SOFTBALL

Most Valuable Player: Emily Hummel '13  
Most Improved: Ashley Stokes '15  
Coaches' Award: Kristina Torres '12,  
Nicole Williams '12

### LACROSSE

Most Valuable Player: Dayna Gambino '15  
Most Improved: Rachel Foster '15  
Coaches' Award: Diana Soucier '12

### SPECIAL AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Woman In Sport Award: Jessica Gildea '08  
Senior Scholar Athlete Award:  
Michelle DiPinto '12  
Blue Jay Senior Student Athlete Award:  
Diana Soucier '12  
Nancy Spada Leadership Award:  
Holly Mirabella '12



## The Blue Jay's New Look

The Athletic department unveiled its new logo in May, in conjunction with the school's transition to the University of Saint Joseph. The design was the work of Bloomfield artist Christopher Wright, of the Wright Design Group.

"We feel our new logo represents our new identity very well," said Will Schubert, sports information director. "The animated feel of our mascot is very contemporary and gives us an updated look as we move forward. We looked at a veritable flock of designs over the past six months and feel we've got a winner."

Students were informally surveyed throughout the process and Athletic Director Bill Cardarelli said, "What I heard several times about the final design was that it looked like a mascot. Athletics can be a high-visibility platform at any University and we feel this will go a long way toward helping establish our new brand."

Basketball Award Recipients from left to right:  
Lindsay Feducia '15, Heather Franks '15,  
and Mary Hyde '14.

The USJ community honors Michelle DiPinto '12, winner of the Senior Scholar Athlete Award. From left to right are Athletic Director Bill Cardarelli, President Pamela Trotman Reid, Michelle DiPinto '12, and Swimming & Diving Coach Kieran Osgood.



## Lacrosse Players Set Records

The lacrosse team finished 3-11, but had numerous record-setting performances. Dayna Gambino '15 had a single-season record with 40 goals and Rachel Foster '15 had a record 10 assists. Foster also had a single-game record when she scored seven goals in a 17-14 win over Anna Maria and the team set a single-game record with 20 goals in a 20-13 victory over Becker. Senior Diana Soucier finished with career records of 78 goals and 11 assists.

## Softball Team's Post-Season Run

The softball team finished 20-23, but had an outstanding post-season run and was one of the final four teams left in the GNAC Tournament after finishing eighth in the regular season. Kristina Torres '12 was named Second Team All-GNAC and Emily Hummel '13 was chosen Third Team. Torres and Ashley Gall '14 were named All-Tournament. Torres finished with a school record 1.76 ERA and Gall has hit a record nine home runs through two seasons.



Diana Soucier '12



Emily Hummel '13

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## ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COUNCIL MEMBERS, 2010-2011

**PRESIDENT:** Lois Nesci '85, M'87

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Sarah Ellsworth Gutierrez '06

**SECRETARY:** Judy Potter Lee '84

**CHAIR, Recent Graduate Committee:**  
Christina Cellucci '06

**CHAIR, Graduate Alumnae/i Committee:**  
Cherie Bourcier Trice '95

**CHAIR, Annual Fund Committee:** Denise Bagg '68

**CHAIR, Public Relations and Outlook Advisory:**  
Michelle Turley Confessore '86

**CHAIR, Distinguished Alumnae/i Award Committee:**  
Sarah Ellsworth Gutierrez '06

**CHAIR, Nominating Committee:**  
Jennifer Wetzel Vigue '01

## CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

Alumnae/i Club of Bristol, Maria Calabro '91

Alumnae/i Club of Fairfield, Susan Conti Root '68

Alumnae/i Club of Hartford, Lynn DeNino-Fahey '97, M'00

# ALUMNAE/I

## Dinner Honored USJ's Distinguished Alumnae/i

In April, the USJ community honored five alumnae/i for their outstanding service and professional accomplishments at the 2012 Distinguished Alumnae/i Award Dinner. Honored this year were Mary Mitchell '90, M'94; M. Jane Ryan '54; Patricia Rehmer M'88; Dr. George G. Ducharme M'69; and Pamela Atwood M'01.

### Pamela Atwood M'01

#### *Mary Rosa McDonough Award*

Pamela Atwood works in the forefront of the aging field in Connecticut via personal and professional involvement, teaching, public speaking, and writing. She also served as an adjunct faculty member at the University and has been a guest speaker at many area schools.



Pamela Atwood M'01, DAA '12 (bottom row, second from right) with family and friends, including Dr. Mary Alice Wolf, at her left.

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# NEWS /Events:

## George Ducharme, Ph.D., M'69 *Sister Fay O'Brien Award*

George Ducharme has been instrumental in raising awareness about individuals with disabilities. He is the director of the Institute on Disability and Community Inclusion at Manchester Community College, where he launched an associate's degree program to train disability specialists and speech-language pathology assistants. He is also an adjunct professor of Disability Issues and Native American Studies at MCC.



Sister Fay O'Brien with  
George Ducharme M'69, DAA '12

## Mary Mitchell '90, M'94 *Mary Rosa McDonough Award*

Mary Mitchell is living proof that you are never too old to attain your dreams. At the age of 50, she started her B.A., while working, volunteering, and maintaining contact with her three children and growing group of grandchildren. After 14 years she completed her degree and started her master's. She is well-known across the state for her expertise in helping older adults develop their life histories.



Mary Mitchell '90, M'94, DAA '12 (center) with her family

## Patricia Rehmer M'88 *Mary Rosa McDonough Award*

Patricia Rehmer, state commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, has served as commissioner for two governors and is responsible for providing behavioral health services to 90,000 residents. She spent 17 years at the Institute of Living, where she was clinical director, responsible for child, adolescent, adult, and geriatric clinical services. She also headed the regional mental health agency before coming to the state agency.



Patricia Rehmer M'88, DAA '12 (second from right) with (from left to right) Lori Johnson, Annetta Caplinger M'89, State Rep. Peter Tercyak, and Karen Hoke '95.

## M. Jane Ryan '54 *Mary de Lourdes Kenney Award*

M. Jane Ryan demonstrated leadership and dedication throughout her career in education. As a kindergarten teacher for 43 years, she employed her knowledge of child development, which she learned at USJ. She was the youngest member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Iota Chapter, an honor society for key women educators, and served as the organization's president for two terms. Ryan serves on the Danbury Promise for Children Partnership and has participated in the University's Fairfield Club.



Diane Burgess, M. Jane Ryan '54, DAA '12, and Marita Ryan '50, DAA '84

To read more about the 2012 Distinguished Alumnae/i Dinner or to nominate a classmate for a 2013 Distinguished Alumnae/i Award go to [www.usj/S12w](http://www.usj/S12w).



Watch the DAA recipients' acceptance speeches at [www.usj.edu/S12x](http://www.usj.edu/S12x).

## /Lunching & Learning

The Alumnae/i Relations Office kicked off the new Lunch & Learn Series this spring, bringing members of the USJ community together for interactive discussions on a variety of topics.

In March, Elly Vozzola, Ph.D., professor of Psychology discussed "This is Your Brain on Politics: New Trends in Morality Research." Twenty alumnae/i, faculty, staff, and friends of the University joined the discussion on how psychologists have moved beyond studying what people say about their opinions and attitudes to specific mappings of activated neural structures.



Natalie Dearing, Pharm.D., R.P.H.

### Upcoming Lunch & Learn sessions include:

"Why is American Government in Such a Terrible Mess?"

..... **SEPTEMBER 4, 2012**

Kenneth J. Long, Ph.D., professor of History & Political Science

"Teaching a Bully Respect"

..... **OCTOBER 23, 2012**

Kathleen Barrett, Ed.D., assistant professor of Counseling Education

Vivian J. Carlson, Ph.D., associate professor of Human Development and Family Studies

"Script Your Future: Medication Adherence"

..... **DECEMBER 4, 2012**

Maria A. Summa, Pharm.D., B.C.P.S., associate professor of Pharmacy Practice and Administration

"The Heart of Hartford! Combating Health Disparities Surrounding Cardiovascular Disease in Women"

..... **JANUARY 15, 2013**

Natalie Dearing, Pharm.D., R.P.H., assistant professor of Pharmacy

For more information about the Lunch & Learn Series, go to [www.usj.edu/S12y](http://www.usj.edu/S12y). To register or to suggest a future Lunch & Learn program, contact Steve Kumnick, manager of annual giving and alumnae/i relations, at [skumnick@usj.edu](mailto:skumnick@usj.edu) or 860.231.5323.

## /Reunion & Homecoming 2012 Saturday, October 6, 2012

Mark your calendar and prepare to come back to campus for Reunion & Homecoming 2012, on Saturday, October 6. Planning is underway for all alumnae/i to celebrate a memorable day at the University of Saint Joseph. There are special events for classes ending in 2s and 7s, as well as events for all alumnae/i, family, and friends.

Do you have pictures from your time at USJ? Submit them at [alumnae@usj.edu](mailto:alumnae@usj.edu) or post them on the Alumnae/i Facebook page at [www.usj.edu/S12z](http://www.usj.edu/S12z).

For more information about Reunion & Homecoming 2012, visit the Reunion page at [www.usj.edu/S12aa](http://www.usj.edu/S12aa). Be sure to check your mail for the official Reunion & Homecoming invitation in August!

## /In Gratitude of Donors

On March 27, President Pamela Trotman Reid hosted a reception for donors to honor their ongoing investment in the University's future. The event was held at the residence of Governor Dannel Malloy in Hartford. First Lady Cathy Malloy addressed the attendees, as did President Reid.



## Alumnae/i Club of Fairfield

In April, members of the Alumnae/i Club of Fairfield hosted a brunch at The Red Barn in Westport, followed by a chapter meeting at the home of Carol Papagno McClatchie '60. Provost Michelle Kalis, Ph.D. and 14 alumnae/i discussed USJ news and events. The Fairfield Club looks forward to another gathering in late summer and again in the fall!

## Springfield Area Alumnae/i Gathering

In March, members of the Alumnae/i Council hosted a gathering at Max's Tavern at the Basketball Hall of Fame. Eighteen USJ alumnae/i attended. Springfield area alumnae/i look forward to hosting a similar event next spring!

To see photos of the event, visit the USJ Alumnae/i Facebook page at [www.usj.edu/S12bb](http://www.usj.edu/S12bb).



## / News: The USJ Connection

The Alumnae/i Relations Office has taken to the road and hosted alumnae/i gatherings around the state at organizations where USJ alumnae/i are employed.

In November, Lois Nesci '85, M'87 hosted 17 alumnae/i, parents and friends for the first USJ Connection at Catholic Charities in Hartford, and in March, Sister Judy Carey M'72 hosted a session at Saint Francis Hospital. Representatives from the University were on hand to discuss all the new programs and initiatives going on at the University, as well as ways for alumnae/i, families, and friends to get involved with the University.

Does your place of business have other USJ alumnae/i working there? We'd love to come visit you! To bring the USJ Connection to your office, contact Steve Kunnick, manager of annual giving and alumnae/i relations, at [skumnick@usj.edu](mailto:skumnick@usj.edu) or 860.231.5323.

## / New Faculty Emeriti Association

The University recently created a Faculty Emeriti Association whose members are faculty and presidents emeriti. The association provides its members the opportunity to stay personally and professionally connected to USJ. "Many of our faculty emeriti are active in their disciplines and looking for ways to share their expertise with the University community," said Karen Hoke '95, major gifts officer. The group is creating a web page and plans to announce its activities via social media and the Internet.



Faculty emeriti at Commencement, from left to right, Dr. Mary Alice Wolf, Dr. Barbara Lacey, Dr. Ron DeGray, and Dr. Betty Markham.

## / Class Agents: Calling All Alumnae/i!

Class agents are the University's alumnae/i who give their time, effort, and resources to ensure that USJ continues to make an impact on current students and the greater community. Simply put: Class agents are very important alumnae/i volunteers!

Each class agent has a special reason for volunteering. Some want to give back to the University that gave so much to them. Some want to help current students attain the same great education. Some like to stay in touch with classmates. There are probably as many reasons to volunteer as there are alumnae/i of University of Saint Joseph!

Whatever your reason, you are the key to the continued success of the University. The outstanding faculty, dedicated student body, beautiful campus – all benefit by the generous support of our alumnae/i volunteers and donors.

## / USJ Diplomas

Alumnae/i may exchange their SJC diplomas for one with the University name. The cost for a new diploma is \$55. For more information, contact Steve Kunnick, manager of annual giving and alumnae/i relations, at [skumnick@usj.edu](mailto:skumnick@usj.edu) or 860.231.5323.

### Responsibilities:

#### 1. Connect alumnae/i friends and classmates back to the University of Saint Joseph.

Get classmates excited about establishing or renewing USJ ties. Contact at least five alumnae/i per year with news about the University, upcoming alumnae/i events, Reunion & Homecoming information, and funding opportunities.

The Alumnae/i Relations Office will provide you with a list of classmates.

Work with the Alumnae/i Relations Office to collect important classmate information.

Update e-mail addresses so classmates can receive monthly e-news.

Class Notes – births, marriages, career highlights, awards, etc.

Serve as Reunion & Homecoming committee member.

Identify and recruit fellow class agents and Reunion Committee members.

Identify class scholarship leaders.

### Commitment:

#### 1. Participate in class agent discussions

Most communications are done via bi-weekly e-mail updates and discussions.

When possible, attend periodic class agent meetings on campus.

#### 2. Volunteer and/or attend USJ alumnae/i-related events and initiatives.

Attend at least two alumnae/i events a year.

Contact classmates to attend events.

Help to revise one or two class scholarship solicitation letters.

#### 3. Your role as a class agent will last through at least two academic years.

Although we hope you will stay involved longer!

### Yes, I want to be a Class Agent!

Contact Steve Kunnick, manager of annual giving & alumnae/i relations, at [skumnick@usj.edu](mailto:skumnick@usj.edu) or 860.231.5323

# / Honoring the Sisters Through a Scholarship Fund

The University announced a new initiative to honor the Sisters of Mercy: the Sisters of Mercy Scholarship will benefit students who have graduated from a Mercy High School or who have been recognized for exceptional academic achievement and community service.

The scholarship was launched in May with a special reception that honored the Sisters. "The Mercy charism that the Sisters infused into Saint Joseph when it was founded is at the heart of the mission and core values that we live today," said President Reid. "What better way to honor them than to help make a University of Saint Joseph education available to a deserving student who understands and lives those values?"



President Reid with the Sisters of Mercy at the scholarship reception in May.

To support the Sisters of Mercy Scholarship, contact Mary Farley Murphy at [mfmurphy@usj.edu](mailto:mfmurphy@usj.edu) or 860.231.5355.

# / How a Gift Grows

BY LAURA SHEEHAN

Helen Lynch '41 loved her alma mater and made sure she supported its efforts throughout her life and in her final estate plans. Over the years, she consistently donated to the Annual Fund, established scholarships, and even named Lynch Hall in honor of her beloved parents. At the time of her death in 2009, Lynch left a portion of her estate to Saint Joseph.

As it does each year, the Frank T. Lynch Family Endowed scholarship — named for Helen's father — supports the education of a worthy student. This year the funds went to Holly Mirabella '12, a soccer player and Dean's list Accounting student. Holly expressed her gratitude in a letter that went to Tim Grace, Lynch's financial advisor.

"My experience at Saint Joseph throughout the past four years has been life-changing to say the least," she wrote. "As it is for most individuals, college has been a rather difficult time for me." Mirabella wrote about her close relationship with her grandparents and the void that their deaths left in her life.

"I do not wish to tell you this story to gain your sympathy; I do so to show you that the University of Saint Joseph means more to my family and me than a degree, a GPA, or an item on my resume. The University of Saint Joseph has taught me how to face the challenges of life and to overcome obstacles with a positive attitude."

At the time he received the letter, Grace realized the estate was about to be closed. He was thrilled to learn from the final accounting that funds remained that were earmarked for the scholarship fund. "Nothing pleased Helen more than being able to help young women anxious to earn a degree, particularly when those young women enjoyed fewer advantages growing up than she enjoyed," Grace said.

"Helen directed her estate to help USJ in any way possible and the scholarship fund was her favorite beneficiary."



Holly Mirabella '12

# / A Shared Legacy

BY SUE SIMONEAU

Shortly before she died at 92 last year, Kay Grimes '40 received an invitation to meet the USJ student who had been awarded the scholarship Kay endowed. Her daughter, Susan, with whom she was living, quickly called back, "I'm afraid she's not coming."

But on the appointed day, Kay haltingly walked into the event. She had prevailed over her daughter to return once more to the University, where she had been in the first class to attend the "new" two-building college in the late 1930s.

Another daughter, Mary Grimes Parent '71, said her mother felt fortunate to attend Saint Joseph during the Depression. "There was always a feeling from her that it was a fabulous experience that opened the door — the opportunities she had and where she took it." Kay's father firmly believed his only child needed to go to college. "She credited him with having a vision," Mary Parent recalled.

Kay went on to become director of dietetics at St. Francis Hospital, retiring in 1986. When she died in November 2011, her family was comforted by the outpouring at the wake. Mary remembers what people said about her mother: "She hired me for my first job." "She mentored me." "She gave me a scholarship."

That scholarship began after Kay's retirement, when she was paid a small stipend to help young mothers at St. Agnes Home learn about nutrition for themselves and their newborns. "She began adding to it," said Karen Hoke '95, major gifts officer in Institutional Advancement, "sometimes \$25, sometimes \$300. She built it up bit by bit." Soon, the Catherine M. Grimes '40 Scholarship began helping students in Dietetics and Nutrition.

Kay's daughter, Mary, followed her mother to USJ in the tumultuous late '60s and early '70s. Saint Joe's wasn't forced on her, Mary said, but it was a good fit for her to study

home economics. She and her siblings had come here often as children. "It was such a part of her life, it was a part of ours, too."

Mary's college years, like her mother's, drew her to a core group of friends she still sees today. Looking back, she laughs about the ways her class pushed the rules and challenged the existing order: "Maybe it was the demeanor of the times."

Later, Mary and her mother would agree the Sisters of Mercy were "really amazing. The nuns were very enlightened." Mary said they enjoyed being part of the USJ community — "a passionate core of people who are proud to be associated with it." Yet Mary says she also appreciates how the original vision of the Sisters led to the opening of a School of Pharmacy in downtown Hartford and to online programs. "It is a very alive entity in 2012," she said.

Her own career took her into teaching and work as a paraprofessional. She's now working in a program she helped design, which prepares special education students to go to vocational high school.

Her mother's legacy at USJ lives on. Every year the student who receives the scholarship writes a thank-you letter. This year, Mary heard from a student who wants to get a master's degree, then work to improve nutrition in the developing world. "I think my mother would have been thrilled," Mary said.



Kay Grimes '40 with her daughter, Mary Grimes Parent '71.

# *why Your Gift Matters*

2,188 INDIVIDUALS HAVE DONATED TO USJ  
THEIR GENEROSITY BENEFITED HUNDREDS OF USJ STUDENTS.

Your support to the Annual Fund gives students like Nancy, Na-tasha, and Johnisha the education they deserve. Make a difference in the lives of USJ students by going to [www.usj.edu/give](http://www.usj.edu/give), contacting the Annual Giving & Alumnae/i Relations Office at 860.231.5364 or by sending a check to:

University of Saint Joseph Annual Fund  
1678 Asylum Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06117

## HOW DID INDIVIDUALS GIVE?

During 2012, students working in USJ's call center had telephone conversations resulting in 67% of donations made through Phonathon.

We also had 31% of people give in response to letters requesting donations.

And usj.edu/give is always on. 2% of alumnae, employees, and friends donated online to USJ.

## WHO GAVE TO USJ IN 2012?



## THANK YOU!

**588** New donors

**984** Donors who gave consecutively over the past three years

**311** Donors who increased their gift from FY11 to FY12

"Without the scholarship I received I would not have been the first in my family to graduate from a University, and I would not be the leading example for the young children within my family. Thank you for making my University of Saint Joseph education possible." - NANCY JUCA '12

"Receiving a scholarship has allowed me to continue my education at USJ. Without a scholarship, I would have spent the academic year in a stressed mindset, not knowing if I could pay the tuition bill each month. Instead, I can focus on maintaining my 3.60 GPA and work study." - NA-TASHA BRYAN '13

"Due to my financial situation, I realized that my family struggles to give me the education they feel I deserve. They have sacrificed, in many ways, for my education. With my scholarship, I feel it is a reward to not only myself, but my family as well. I am able to receive an amazing education with the financial help I need and for this I am truly thankful. There are no words fit to describe how much I appreciate Annual Giving contributions." - JOHNISHA RODRIGUEZ '14

*www.usj.edu/give*

Keep the University of Saint Joseph community informed on your career news, family news, education updates, promotions and awards. Send your information for the next edition of *Outlook* magazine's Class Notes to Laura Sheehan at [lsheehan@usj.edu](mailto:lsheehan@usj.edu). Digital photos are welcome and published on a space available basis. Please note that your submission to Class Notes may be edited for publication purposes.

## 1944



Antonina Uccello was honored on May 19, her 90th birthday, by the City of Hartford. Mayor Pedro Segarra presented her with keys to the City and acknowledged her tenure as Hartford's first female mayor. *The Hartford Courant* published an editorial, "A Daughter of the City," which honored Uccello's commitment to Hartford and more. She was the first woman in the country to serve as mayor of a capital city (1967–1971) and she later served in the Department of Transportation during the Nixon Administration.

## 1946



Ann-Margaret Anselmo received the Wisdom Award from Central Connecticut Senior Health Services in recognition of her outstanding service to her community and for serving as a model of graceful aging. She also reports that her dog, Molly, was one of two Connecticut pets given a national award by the Planetree Organization for therapy activity at a local nursing facility, Jerome Home in New Britain, Conn.

## 1962



Joanne Sullivan participated in Commencement as a member of the 50th anniversary class.

## 1963

Anna-May Sieniawski joined the board of directors at the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, which is a member of the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association.

## 1971



Marilyn Burlenski was elected chair of the board of directors for CareSource Inc., a provider of homemakers, companions, and live-in aides. She is president of Burlenski Consulting Associates, as well as president and chief executive officer of the Connecticut Alliance for Long Term Care. Burlenski has worked in clinical management roles and as an associate clinical professor at Yale University's School of Nursing. A resident of Cheshire, Conn., Burlenski is active in the New Haven community. She holds leadership positions on the board of directors for the Boys & Girls Club of New Haven and the Graduate Club. She has been a consultant to the long-term care industry for more than 20 years.

## 1976

Cheryl Kloczko (M) was named superintendent of Torrington Public Schools in March. She previously served as acting superintendent. Kloczko lives in Harwinton and has worked with the district since 2006 when she became principal of East Elementary School.

## 1985

Dawn Archambault Mapp graduated with an M.S.N. from the University of Hartford in May. She is a nurse educator at Lincoln Technical Institute in New Britain, Conn.

## 1986

Michelle R. Bettigole is executive director of The Watermark, a retirement community in Southbury, Conn. She also teaches Human Resources Management in the master's degree Nursing program at Yale.

## 2003

Jennifer Ann Albert, a physician, and her husband, Adam Christopher Joseph, an orthopedic physician liaison, reside in Georgia.

## 2004

Janet Stolfi Alfano was recently named executive director of the Diaper Bank in New Haven, Conn., after serving as acting director since October. She was interviewed in the *New Haven Register* on the state and federal cuts that affected the organization.

## 2001

Melissa Schober was named director of Medicaid Policy for the Mental Hygiene Administration. In March, she skyped to a USJ class to talk about the Women's Studies major and its potential in the job market.

## 2005

Jim Caldwell (M) is a marriage and family therapist working with combat veterans who have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Caldwell lives in Knoxville, Tenn., and is a team leader for the Knoxville Vet Center run by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

He also does couples work and is a working supervisor. Caldwell is licensed as a marriage and family therapist in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Alabama and Tennessee. He started the Supervisor in Training program, coordinated by the American Academy of Marriage and Family Therapists.

Lynn Olson-Douglas M'08 joined The Travelers Inc., as a human resources manager. She also serves on the board of directors of the Prudence Crandall Center, which serves victims of domestic violence. Olson-Douglas is co-chair of the Center's human resources committee.

## 2011

Melissa Asselin was featured on CNN for her advocacy work regarding the removal of mold and toxins from school buildings. Asselin said, "I want to thank you all for all that you have done to bolster my position in advocacy, education, and involvement. I truly do not know if I would have done this had I not been a student of USJ."

Mireille Blache M'12, R.D., C.D.-N., published her first in a series of monthly columns in OKRA magazine: [southernfood.org](http://southernfood.org)



# Congratulations

## Engagements and Marriages

Jenna Labbie '03 married Kyle Mackey on October 15, 2011, in Southington, Conn.



Samantha Cahill '06 and Kenneth Slade were married November 12, 2011 at Wadsworth Mansion in Middletown, Conn. The bride is the assistant director of Alumni Relations at the University of Hartford in West Hartford, Conn. The groom is an assistant manager at Infra-Metals in Wallingford, Conn. Shown with the bride are Amanda Evans '06, (left) and Lara Skirvan '06, M'08 (right).



## Births and Adoptions

Kristen Campbell-Wilder '94, M'97, and her husband, Larry, welcomed Anderson Richard Wilder on February 1, 2012. Big brother Tilden is so excited!



Jessica Banks DiBona '06, and husband, Stephen, welcomed Ella Jean-Marie on November 16, 2011. She joins big brother, Myles.



# In Memoriam

Josephine E. Verrengia '37  
February 6, 2012

Claire Madigan Haverty '38  
November 9, 2011

Catherine O'Brien Grimes '40, P'71  
November 26, 2011

Georgina Buonocore Hoben '40, P'63  
April 23, 2012

Arlene Colturi Tonino C'40  
March 22, 2012

Dorothy Johnson Pease '43  
November 9, 2011

Jean Lowry Walsh '43  
December 15, 2011

Mary Macchi Brockman '44  
February 26, 2012

Jean Donahue Anderson '46  
December 26, 2011

B. Catherine Lumpkin Noble '47,  
DAA'75  
April 1, 2012

Florence Maski '48  
March 1, 2012

Kathleen Kiely Bansemer '49  
January 1, 2012

Anne Clark McGuinness '49,  
DAA'90  
April 6, 2012

Cecilia Welna '49, DAA'79  
March 8, 2012

Rita Burns Thiery '55, P'80  
March 18, 2012

Salvatrice D. Italia '56, DAA'91  
February 12, 2012

Frances M. Giunta '60  
February 5, 2012

The following list includes USJ alumnae/i who will be remembered at the Chapel Bells Mass on November 14, 2012 at 12:05 p.m. in The Connor Chapel of Our Lady.

Nancy L. Hennessey '62  
April 25, 2012

John B. Walsh M'65  
December 6, 2011

Carol Ottaviano Cassarino '68  
December 14, 2011

Elizabeth M. Tyler '69, M'84  
March 26, 2012

Leonard A. Zapatka M'74  
March 14, 2012

Frances Juracka, RSM '75  
(Sister Mary Angelita)  
February 13, 2012

Jean Newton Sirois '80  
February 24, 2012

Mona E. Branchini '82  
January 7, 2012

Brother James M. Kelly, CFX, M'82  
December 3, 2011

Valerie A. O'Krent M'96  
January 31, 2012

Traci-Ann Noble Lauer '01  
December 18, 2011

Elizabeth Marshall Miller '01  
March 18, 2012

Caroline Flannery-Okrant '07  
December 15, 2011

Marie Goretti Hinds-James '11  
February 14, 2012

## Correction:

Sara E. Forte '60 was incorrectly reported as deceased in the last edition of OUTLOOK.



See photos and read reflections from students on the Alternative Break Spring Trip: [www.usj.edu/S12dd](http://www.usj.edu/S12dd).

LEFT: Allison Sprafke.  
BELOW: Allison (center) with Katelyn Kujawski at the worksite.

## *the journey of a lifetime*

*My name is Allison sprafke and i'm a junior nursing major. I've always done service work within my community. As a college student, I wanted to give back as much possible.*

BY ALLISON SPRAFKE '14

That's why I joined a group of 11 other women to spend Spring Break at a Habitat for Humanity site in Exmore, Virginia.

The morning of the trip we gathered for our last goodbyes, bagels, and pictures.

Some of the students had already been on an Alternative Spring Break trip, but for some like me, this was the first time. We drove eight hours in a van to Virginia, making only a couple of pit stops. We arrived that night at a church near the site where we slept in the Sunday school rooms.

The first day at the worksite we were excited to begin. The concrete base of the house was complete, along with half the floor. Our job was to build the frame. At the site were three men, one port-a-potty, a shed full of supplies, and a team of 12 women – this was all we needed!

Overall the project consisted of: sawing, measuring and gluing wood for the floor and siding, and hammering nails into every foot of the house. We used tools we never knew existed. Every hit of the wood with the sledgehammer was another step towards completing our goal.

We worked five long, hot, sweaty days. Each day we fought our individual battles. There were times when I missed almost every nail, and other times when I could forcefully hammer 10 nails in less than two minutes and measure and cut 20 pieces of wood in no time. I learned that my attitude changes everything. Staying positive and knowing I had a whole team behind me encouraged me to keep going. I stepped on to the worksite every morning with a smile on my face and a goal for each day.

Being the crazy women we are, we still had fun. Throughout the week we celebrated



birthdays, played games, joined a bonfire, and visited Virginia Beach. Each evening, we gathered for reflections and shared our day's experiences. We usually went right to bed so we'd be rested for the next day.

I remember talking to Walt, one of the site supervisors one morning, and telling him to give me an individual project. We looked over the floor plan and he pointed to a section of the house. I said, "Bring it!" I was determined to finish my own project. I delegated some tasks to my team and we ended up finishing the headers for all the windows.

These small projects are only part of what we accomplished as a team. Putting up the first and last walls of the framing was one of the best feelings of the week. It's amazing how well we all worked together.

As the week went on we saw the house come together. On the last day we stayed on the worksite a little longer than usual. We celebrated our accomplishments with a fashion show walk down the soon-to-be hallway of this new home. I will never forget the moment when Walt hugged me and said, "Thank you for all the hard work you have done this week. You really made a change."

# GET A NEW LOOK WITH USJ APPAREL



Kadine Carter '13 (left)  
and Caitlin Kent '14 (right)

Available at the USJ Bookstore or online at [www.usj.edu/S12ee](http://www.usj.edu/S12ee). Photos by Rubbab Chaudhry '13; [www.rubbab.com](http://www.rubbab.com)



