

OUTLOOK

winter
2013

UNIVERSITY

OF

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Skip Gengras

CHALLENGING, INSPIRING, AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE

At the University's Gala last spring, Trustee Clayton "Skip" Gengras, Jr., said, "I have come to the conclusion that to make a real difference in life, I believe one needs to be challenged, inspired, and pointed in the right direction."

At the time, he was talking about President Pamela Trotman Reid, whom he called "a true inspiration, a go-getter, and a futuristic thinker." Yet the same can be said of him. Skip Gengras is someone who points us all in the right direction – the direction of a better life for the children and families of the Gengras Center.

His \$3 million gift to the Center's expanded Center for Integrative Education will directly improve the lives of Gengras students by adding:

- » *Classrooms designed specifically for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder*
- » *A gym, music room, and art room*
- » *A vocational center for the development of life skills*

His generosity is unsurpassed in USJ history. His legacy will live on in ways we can only imagine.

Be challenged by Skip's generosity. Make a gift to support the growth and vitality of the University of Saint Joseph.

Contact:
Doug Nelson, Vice President
for Institutional Advancement
860.231.5397 or dnelson@usj.edu

Watch a Gengras Center family speak on how Skip Gengras's generosity has affected their lives. Watch at www.usj.edu/W13a.



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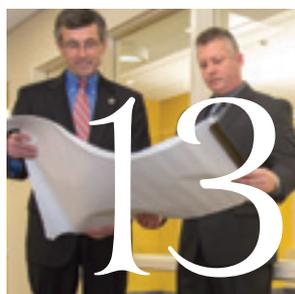
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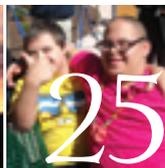
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OUTLOOK IS PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS: LAURA SHEEHAN, MANAGER OF CREATIVE SERVICES; KATHRYN GAFFNEY, MANAGER OF PUBLICATIONS AND DESIGN; KEITH KNOWLES, INTERACTIVE MARKETING MANAGER; CHERYL ROSENFIELD, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR; KATHIE KENTFIELD, WEB SITE COORDINATOR; CAITLIN FITZGERALD, COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST; CORALYS MERCADO '14, VICTORIA LAZOWSKI '13, AND VALERIE POMEROY '16, STUDENT AIDES. THE OFFICE CAN BE REACHED BY PHONE: 860.231.5334 AND E-MAIL: MARKETING@USJ.EDU.

“Explore Greatness” – that’s what our new tagline states and, indeed, it is a core element of a University of Saint Joseph education.

Over and over, students share the transformative power of their USJ experiences – students like Merancia Fils '13 (page 11), who entered college with an interest in politics and will leave with direct experience, in this case, state government internships and participation at a national convention.

Of course, it’s not just students. Countless alumni – like Sharon Palmer '65, the Commissioner of Labor for the state of Connecticut, share the same sentiment. “The training that I received as a young woman at Saint Joe’s (taught me to) spread my wings ... there were high expectations,” she says on page 37.

This issue of *OUTLOOK* magazine is focused on the many elements of “greatness” that grace our community. The story of “greatness” is one that we will continue to tell in the months and years ahead. I invite you to become part of the conversation!

–Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D.
President

It’s Not Too Early to Think About Summer

USJ Summer Sessions offer a great way to get ahead ... or caught up!



The 2013 summer schedule offers courses in a variety of formats, and you don’t need to be a USJ student. Benefits include:

- » Classes during the day and evenings
- » Formats include in class, online, or hybrid
- » Courses taught by USJ professors so you get the full benefit of a Saint Joseph education
- » Courses offered at a reduced rate
- » A wide variety of courses scheduled. Here’s a sample:
 - PHIL230 Consuming the World: Ethics of Food
 - COMP110 Intro to Computers
 - BIOL223 Human Biology w/lab
 - BIOL241 Anatomy and Physiology w/lab
 - MATH160 Precalculus

Learn more at:
registrar@usj.edu
or 860.231.5225

OPENING DAY

The academic year began on August 28 with the annual ceremony of Convocation in The Connor Chapel of Our Lady. President Pamela Trotman Reid welcomed new and returning students to the institution's first Convocation as the University of Saint Joseph. She urged them to "Explore greatness – in the classroom, the community, and in your lives."



As winner of the 2012 Reverend John J. Stack Teaching Excellence Award, Marie Kulesza, CPA, M.S., assistant professor of Business Administration, delivered the Commencement Address, "A Journey of Discovery."



Marie Kulesza delivers the Convocation Address // Students enjoy the Convocation picnic on the quad. For more photos: www.usj.edu/W13b



A student applies for a passport at USJ Passport Day.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

The USJ community celebrated its 12th annual International Education Week in November, part of a nationwide program initiated by the U.S. Departments of State and Education. The University's office of International Studies and Programs organized a full schedule of activities presented by students, faculty, and visitors.

CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE

In October, members of the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) attended the Hispanic Heritage Month reception at City Hall where they met with Hartford Mayor Pedro Segarra. Students, in turn, invited the Mayor to attend the end-of-the-year reception for students enrolled in the Institute for Latino Community Practice. Shown here, from left to right, are: Dr. Madeline Pérez, assistant professor of Social Work and director of the Institute for Latino Community Practice; Dr. Diana Valencia, professor of Spanish; Johnisha Rodriguez '14; Nichole Marie Pagan '15; Natasha Bolorin '13; Mayor Pedro Segarra; Beatrice Alicea '14, LASO president; Kayla Merced Socarras '13; Christina Raymond '15; and Dr. Horacio Sierra, assistant professor of English.



INTO THE WOODS

There's a new learning and living community on campus, one for students who love outdoor adventure and who want to develop their leadership skills. Justin McGlamery, adventure education coordinator, oversees the Sophomore Outdoor Adventure Residents (SOAR) program, a group of students who reside in Assumption Hall.

The mission of SOAR is to "provide students the opportunity for personal growth, intellectual stimulation, and leadership skills through outdoor adventure experiences." As such, they use the University's Challenge Ropes course and participate in hiking, kayaking, and rock climbing adventures.

"SOAR gives students opportunities to get involved in campus life, to learn more about themselves and others, and to experience wonderful adventures together," said Saige DuPont '13, who serves as the group's peer mentor. "It is a great group of sophomores, each with a diversity of valuable experiences and strengths."

The SOAR group also developed a new community service club, Play for Peace. Part of an international organization, the club teaches a peace curriculum, conflict mediation skills, and community activism and involvement. McGlamery, a certified trainer, is guiding SOAR students through the peace facilitation process.



SOAR students Allyson Lewis '15, Jenna Arzoumanian '15, and Christina Rivera '15 at an orienteering course in New Hampshire.

MERCY DAY DOWNTOWN

The University's annual Mercy Day of service was spent in downtown Hartford where more than 150 students, faculty, and staff participated in EnvisionFest, a celebration of the city's iQuilt Plan. Participants volunteered at a variety of locations, helping to fulfill the Plan's goal of "transforming the downtown area into a walking destination that celebrates Hartford's culture and innovation."



Students join Psychology Professor Mary Whitney, Ph.D. in Hartford for Mercy Day.

Generations of the USJ family came together on October 6 for Family Day – an annual event that features athletic competitions, food, games, and crafts. Below, students work a booth; at right, a family picnics on the quad. Family Day photos: www.usj.edu/W13c





THE ADVENT SEASON

Members of the USJ Choir perform at the Festival of Lights on December 2. An annual tradition, the Festival marks the start of the Advent Season on campus. More photos: www.usj.edu/W13d

» ACADEMIC & FUNDING NEWS

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS IN THE WORKS

The University will offer two new bachelor degree programs, pending NEASC approval, in fall 2013. The B.A. in Public Policy and Advocacy is an interdisciplinary Social Science major focusing on public and community affairs. It will appeal to a wide range of students, especially those interested in policy analysis, community advocacy, political activism, public administration, journalism, conventional and social entrepreneurship, and pre-law.

The program is comprised of two concentrations: Public Law/Conservatorship and Service and Activism. The former is designed for students interested in law school or careers as a court appointed conservator and guardian. The Service and Activism concentration appeals to majors whose future work will involve leadership in public and community affairs.

For more information about the program, contact Professor Ken Long, chair of the History and Society department at klong@usj.edu.

The B.S. in Public Health will enable students to address the health of the community through teaching, research, and community service. The curriculum is interdisciplinary and relies on the solid foundation in the liberal arts and natural sciences. Given the critical shortage in the public health workforce, the need for offering an entry-level baccalaureate degree is strongly supported by the Council on Education for Public Health. Public health professionals will continue to be in high demand and the outlook for job placement is high.

For more information, contact Dr. Anne Davis, Ph.D., R.D., interim director of Public Health, at adavis@usj.edu.

USJ RECEIVES \$300,000 GRANT FROM HARTFORD FOUNDATION

The University received a grant of \$300,000 from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to support improvements to The Pope Pius XII Library. In part, the funds were used to relocate the Center for Academic Excellence (CAE) to The Library's second floor, allowing for a more effective relationship between the CAE and The Library's reference services and materials. The renovation also provided increased space for a new program to improve the college readiness of local high school students.



Tracie Romanik '14 and Rebecca Wolfe '13 study in the CAE.

"We are most grateful for the generous support of the Hartford Foundation as we ensure that The Library continues to grow as a comprehensive learning, research and study center for faculty, staff and students, as well as for residents of Greater Hartford," said President Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D.

Originally built in 1960, The Library was last updated in 1991 when renovations to the main reference room were completed. "The scope of our current renovations will encompass improved individual and group study experiences; infrastructure updates including the installation of a new elevator; and a redesigned lobby to greet visitors and streamline circulation services," said Linda Geffner, M.L.S., associate professor and library director. "Thanks to the generous support from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, these enhancements will promote collaborative study and offer an extensive array of technology and academic services. Our goal is to welcome the greater Hartford community to the diverse resources available, which includes increasing the number of computers available for use by the public."

» VISITORS & SPEAKERS

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

USJ joined forces with the University of Hartford and Central Connecticut State University to present Social Entrepreneurship: Experiences from the Field. The free event, held October 11, featured two of the area's most innovative and respected entrepreneurs: Cary Wheaton, executive director of Billings Forge Community Works, and Michelle Cote, executive director of reSET.

HONORING WOMEN IN SERVICE

The University held a luncheon at the School of Pharmacy in August to honor Rear Admiral Sandra L. Stosz who, as superintendent of the United States Coast Guard Academy, is the first woman to command any of the nation's five military service academies. She has served in this position since June of 2011. Pictured from left to right are: Connecticut State Senator Andrea L. Stillman who represents residents of the 20th Senatorial District; Connecticut Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman; Rear Admiral Sandra L. Stosz, U.S. Coast Guard Academy Superintendent; and President Pamela Trotman Reid.



GHANAIAN VISITORS

In November, the University welcomed a group of five headmistresses representing private high schools in the Republic of Ghana. The three-day visit provided an opportunity for the representatives to meet with faculty, administrators and students in an effort to learn about the University of Saint Joseph and the surrounding community, while establishing foundations for future partnerships. Pictured from left to right are: Rosemond Bampo, headmistress at Aburi Girls Senior High School; Doris Bramson, headmistress at St. Mary's Senior High School; USJ President Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D.; Charlotte Addo, headmistress at Mfantseman Girls Senior High School; Joyce Ossei Agyekum, headmistress at Labone Senior High School; and Beatrice T. Adom, headmistress at Achimota School.



EXPANDING FACULTY SUPPORT

USJ received a two-year grant in the amount of \$147,125 to support the creation of a Center for Teaching and Learning, which will expand the professional development opportunities available to the University's full-time, part-time and adjunct faculty. The grant was awarded from the Davis Educational Foundation established by Stanton and Elisabeth Davis after Mr. Davis's retirement as chairman of Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc.

Under the leadership of Provost Michelle M. Kalis, Ph.D., the Center for Teaching and Learning will build upon the University's steadfast commitment to assist faculty in augmenting their ability to provide a value-centered education that prepares students as global citizens, lifelong learners, critical thinkers and informed decision makers.

"I look forward to the development of the Center as a resource for our faculty," Dr. Kalis said. "They are dedicated to excellence in teaching and the Center for Teaching and Learning will be an outstanding addition to our institution."

CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE ON POLITICS

A little more than a month before the presidential election, the Religious Studies department hosted a lecture by Michael J. Baxter, Ph.D., a Catholic educator and peace activist. Baxter presented "Here We Have No Abiding City: An Election Year Admonition for Both Liberal and Conservative Catholics" on October 4.

Leading with questions that flood the election season media, Baxter asked, "Who should Catholics vote for?" and "Where does the Church stand?" – questions, he asserted, that should be challenged and examined. Currently a visiting associate professor of Catholic Studies at DePaul University, Baxter led a probing critique of the ways in which partisan politics have overtaken the life and mission of the Catholic Church.

Ultimately, he asked audience members to consider an alternative political community – one that "reclaims our identities as Christians, Catholics, and resident aliens of the earthly city and modern empire we call the United States of America."

UNIVERSITY WELCOMES NEW FACULTY The University welcomed 12 new faculty members for the 2012–2013 academic year. USJ Provost Michelle M. Kalis, Ph.D. said, “Our newest faculty members bring a wealth of excellent academic and professional experiences to their positions. We are thrilled to welcome them to the growing USJ community.” Faculty appointments include:

LUCINDA CANTY, M.S.N., assistant professor of Nursing at the School of Health and Natural Science; Canty earned her B.S. from Columbia University and her M.S.N. from Yale University.



NICHOLAS FORCELLO, PHARM.D., assistant professor of Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the School of Pharmacy; Forcello received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.



JESSE LILE, PH.D., assistant professor of Counseling and Family Therapy at the School of Graduate and Professional Studies; Lile received his B.S. and M.A. from Appalachian State University and his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech.



KIRSTEN MARTIN, PH.D., assistant professor of Biology at the School of Health and Natural Sciences; Martin earned her B.S. from the University of New Hampshire, her M.S. from Southern Oregon University, and her Ph.D. from Antioch University New England.

JANINE DOUGLAS, PHARM.D., assistant professor of Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the School of Pharmacy; Douglas received her B.S. from the University of Florida and her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Howard University.



JONATHAN GOURLAY, M.A., M.F.A., English as Second Language (ESL) program director and instructor at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences; Gourlay received his B.A. from Lewis and Clark College, his M.F.A. from University of Iowa, and his M.A. in Applied Linguistics from the University of Illinois.



SUSAN LYNCH, D.N.P., M.S.N., R.N., assistant professor of Nursing at the School of Health and Natural Sciences; Lynch earned her B.A. from the University of Hartford, her R.N. from St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing, her M.S.N. from Quinnipiac University, and her D.N.P. from the University of Connecticut.



DONALD MILTON STOKES, PH.D., assistant professor of Nutrition at the School of Health and Natural Sciences; Stokes received his B.S. from Murray State University, his M.P.H. from Hunter College, and his Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut.



ANDREA DUNN, PHARM.D., assistant professor of Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the School of Pharmacy; Dunn received her B.S. from the University of Florida and her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Howard University.



STEPHANIE HATTOY, PHARM.D., assistant professor of Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the School of Pharmacy. Hattoy received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Rhode Island.



MELISSA MADAUS, PH.D., assistant visiting professor of Special Education at the School of Education; Madaus earned her B.A. from the University of New Hampshire and her Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut.

ROCHELLE YOUNG, PH.D., associate professor of Business Administration at the School of Graduate and Professional Studies; Young received her B.S. from the University of Georgia, her M.S. from Colorado Technical University, and her Ph.D. from Old Dominion University.



» THE ARTS



ART GALLERY PURCHASE PARTY

Two works of art were selected for the University’s art collection at the November Purchase Party during which members of Friends of the Art Gallery chose from a group of works pre-selected by Gallery Director Ann H. Sievers.

The members’ first choice was a color woodcut by Vassily Kandinsky (1866–1944), one of the founders of the German Expressionist group Der Blaue Reiter (The Blue Rider). The second work chosen by members is an untitled color lithograph by Cuban-born Wilfredo Lam created in Paris in 1953 for an issue of the art review, *Derriere le Miroir*. It shows the abiding influences of Surrealism and Afro-Cuban culture on his work. Both works, which were purchased with funds set aside from members’ annual dues, help fill gaps in the Gallery’s collection of 20th-century art.

A third work was purchased with a combination of Art Gallery funds and gifts from individual donors. Enrique Chagoya’s “Escape from Fantasylandia: An Illegal Alien’s Survival Guide” is a codex — an accordion-folded artist’s book — made with lithography and gold metallic powder on the bark-based paper used by ancient Meso-American cultures. Embodying what the artist terms “reverse anthropology,” it re-imagines an alternative history in which the dominant culture of the 21st-century is Meso-American rather than Anglo-American.



Left: Attendees of the Purchase Party view the artwork under consideration // Top: Pictured at the CDA awards presentation are (left to right): Robert Smith, Ph.D., director; Susan Murphy, M.A., instructor of Dance; Jacques d’Amboise H’03, founder of the National Dance Institute; Robert Reader, board president of the CDA and education programs manager at Hartford Stage; and Doug Nelson, M.B.A., vice president for institutional advancement.

AUTORINO CENTER HONORED BY DANCE ALLIANCE

The Carol Autorino Center was honored on October 21 by the Connecticut Dance Alliance (CDA) with a 2012 Distinguished Achievement Award. Since its founding in 2001, The Center, under the leadership of Director Robert Smith, Ph.D., has become a major dance venue for the Greater Hartford community. More than 50 dance companies have performed at The Center and it serves as the performance home to many professional dance companies.

Over the years, The Center has established several key dance programs including the 5x5 Dance Festival, the AIMI Project (Arts Integration and Multiple Intelligences) with the National Dance Institute, and The Bruyette Athenaeum’s Performing Arts Series. The Center was honored for its “commitment to sustaining a high profile for dance in its programming and its commitment to the power of the arts to educate and transform.”

UPCOMING AT THE ART GALLERY

From January 11–March 17, 2013, the Art Gallery will present “Käthe Kollwitz — Graphics,” an exhibition featuring etchings, lithographs, and woodcuts by this important German 20th-century artist. As noted by one of her long-time dealers, while “her humanitarian sympathies placed her in the political vanguard, her style remained conservative, dependent on its resolute realism to reach a mass audience.” This exhibition, which has been funded by John Piskor in honor of his late sister, Irene Teresa Piskor-Lewis ’56, features loans from the William Benton Museum of Art at the University of Connecticut.

View the USJ Art Gallery collection: www.usj.edu/W13e



school for young children welcomes New Assistant Director

BY CAITLIN FITZGERALD

Walking through the doors of The School for Young Children on her first day as assistant director, Kimberly Perrotta '06, M'08 knew it was meant to be. "The University of Saint Joseph has always been a second home to me," she said.

"Even as a student, I dreamed of one day working for the University. When this position opened, I immediately jumped at the opportunity."

Perrotta's USJ journey started in 2002 as an undergraduate student in the Child Study program. She completed her master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education in 2008, and after graduating, worked as an early childhood special education teacher for the Connecticut Birth-to-Three system. She spent the next two years as a preschool special education teacher in Farmington.

Over the years, Perrotta checked in to see if there were any openings at the University. She initially joined the USJ workforce as an adjunct faculty member, and currently teaches two courses in the School of Education. Finally, she saw a posting for the position she knew she had to have, assistant director at The School for Young Children.

Founded in 1936, USJ's School for Young Children was established at a time when early childhood education was nearly nonexistent, and quickly established itself as a leader in the field of child development. As assistant director, Perrotta coordinates different programs for The School, such as the intergenerational literacy program. She also sits on committees that keep The School functioning seamlessly, and has myriad administrative and communications duties.

Perrotta loves what she is doing and says that from time to time, she also gets to engage with students in the classroom, the thing she loves most. "It is truly an honor to be a part of such a high quality, developmentally appropriate program for young children," she said.

Open enrollment: applications accepted all year

For more information, or to schedule a tour, call 860.231.5560 or visit www.usj.edu/syc.



The School for Young Children has been offering high-quality early childhood education since 1936.

- » *Highly trained and experienced teaching staff – all classroom teachers hold Education degrees*
- » *Child-responsive play-based curriculum – responds to the needs and interests of children*
- » *Located on an expansive 5-acre nature preserve with a nature trail*
- » *Half-day and full-day options*

SYC Receives Five-Year NAEYC Reaccreditation

BY CHERYL ROSENFELD

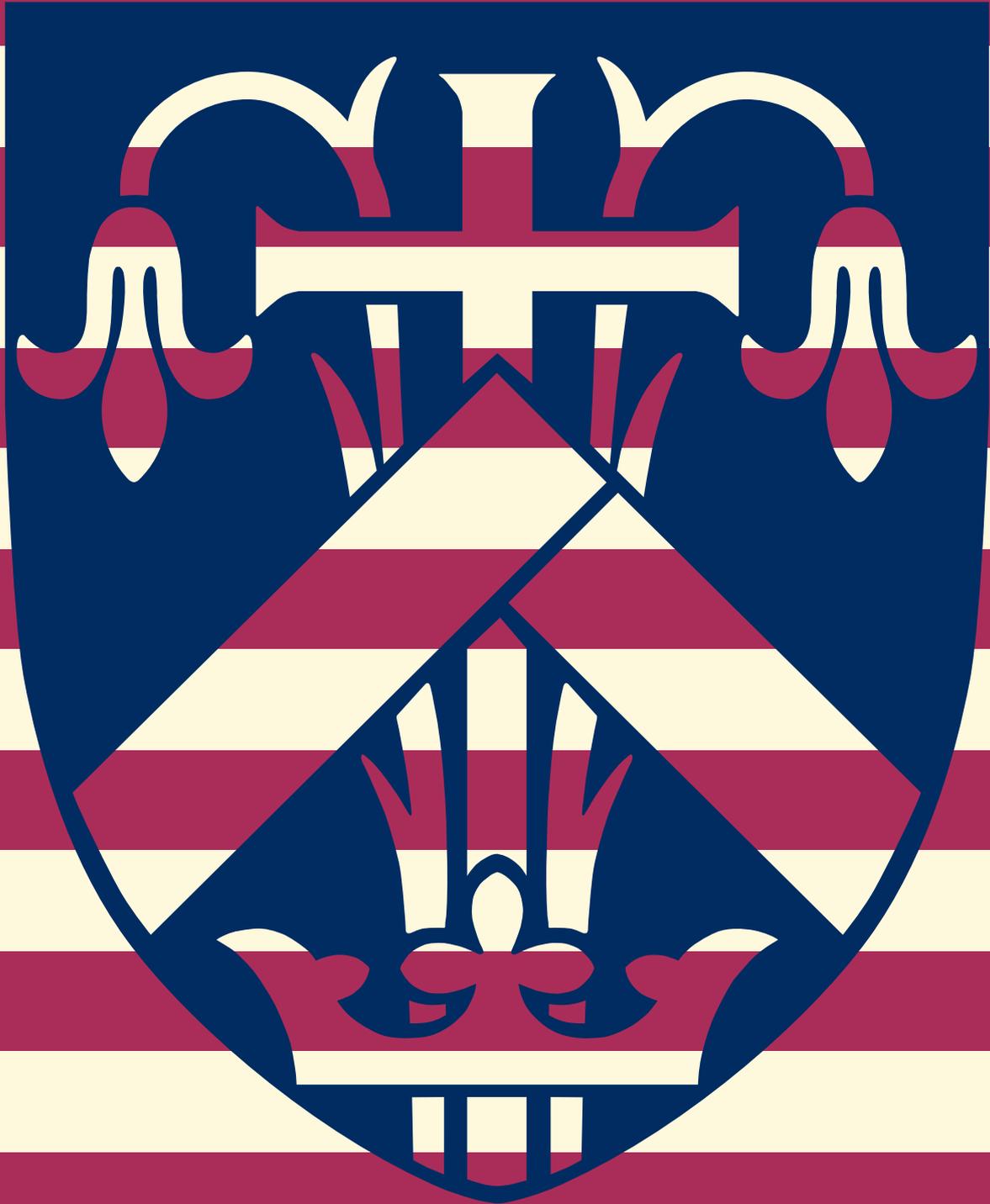


The School for Young Children received a new five-year term of accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) – the nation's leading organization of early childhood professionals. The term began on October 16, 2012 and is valid until January 1, 2018.

"We're proud to have earned the mark of quality from NAEYC, and to be recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards," said Diane Morton, director of The School for Young Children.

"NAEYC Accreditation informs families in our community that children in our program are getting the best early learning experiences possible – congratulations to the teachers and staff!"

To earn NAEYC reaccreditation, SYC went through an extensive self-study process, measuring the program and its services against the ten NAEYC standards and more than 400 related accreditation criteria. "The teachers and staff are particularly proud of earning a score of 100% in the areas of teaching, assessment, health, and leadership and management," said Morton.



BY THERESA SULLIVAN BARGER

The USJ Election Connection

The University buzzed with talk of health care, women's rights, and social justice this fall as the election season captivated the campus. Through the "Election Connection" campaign, including a voter registration drive, a Mercy Lecture roundtable, a panel discussion and presidential debate watching party, students talked politics in classrooms, the dining room, and residence halls.

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE WATCH

The University co-hosted a pre-debate panel with an AARP representative and two professors before the domestic policy presidential debate in October. It attracted some 150 students, plus faculty, AARP members, alumni, and community members. The panel, moderated by former broadcast journalist Shelly Sindland, included Kenneth J. Long, Ph. D., professor of History and Political Science, Susan Lynch, DNP, APRN, assistant professor of Nursing, and Jim O'Brien, lead advocacy volunteer for AARP of Connecticut.

As part of the AARP's "You've Earned a Say" campaign, Nora Duncan, AARP state director, invited the University to co-host an intergenerational panel and debate-viewing party. Since everyone starts paying into Social Security and Medicare when they start working, she said, anyone who has had a job has earned a say, not just retirees. AARP provided pizza and sundaes and asked attendees to answer surveys on Social Security and Medicare.

"We had input from people who were 65-plus, middle-aged, and youth," Duncan said. She was pleased with the large turnout, saying both AARP and the University heavily publicized the event. The debate-watching party and panel drew coverage from the local network affiliates and *The Hartford Courant*.

Prior to the debate, students discussed the issues with AARP members who attended the event, and the generations mingled and exchanged opinions. "The general sense I got was the students actually appreciated being asked what they thought, whether it was by us, by a reporter, or by one of our members," Duncan said.

Breana Vessichio '12, who has always been interested in politics, said she has often

tried to convince her peers that politics influences everything, from the food they eat and what they earn to their education to health care. "It was exciting to see other students and women become so politically engaged and want to hear what the candidates have to say," Vessichio said. "I think this

Long, author of the book, *The Trouble with America: Flawed Government, Failed Society*, said the audience asked why candidates use negative political ads and about the presidential candidates' laser focus on the battleground states. As a result, he said, much of what he had to say was disillusioning

"It was exciting to see other students and women become so politically engaged and want to hear what the candidates have to say."

—Breana Vessichio '12



Breana Vessichio '12 (right) and Merancia Fils '13 (left) answer reporters' questions at the Intergenerational Debate Viewing Party.

and deflating. The remaining five percent of the electorate that was undecided was the least informed, he told the audience, and negative ads – always more effective than feel-good ads – influence undecided voters.

"That can make you want to stay home

and hold your head in your lap," he said. "What I tell people is you have an obligation to speak up and try to do the right thing, not that the United States is going to change. We don't have a mechanism to turn the popular vote into policy." Becoming involved in your community is where people can have an impact, he said.

As a follow up to the election events, Long led a Mercy Lecture (formerly Lunch & Learn) January 23 on "Understanding the 2012 Elections and What Lies Ahead." USJ has another lecture planned for March 5, in partnership with AARP, on the future of Medicare and Social Security.

election, in comparison to others, really showed a difference between the candidates when it came to women's issues. They saw that this issue was going to affect them – on health care, rights, education."

Lynch explained that with more people insured under the Affordable Care Act a shortage of primary care providers is predicted. She was pleased with the level of engagement. Students peppered Long with questions about the political process and what to expect during the debate.

Organizers sought to share information on issues relevant to students, such as health care, education, social justice, and women's rights, without being partisan. "I was very pleased and very honored to be part of this panel," Lynch said. "I think it was terrific to have a health care professional who deals with patients on a day-to-day basis to give a real-life perspective."



POLITICS AND ART

The USJ Art Gallery responded to the political climate with an exhibition that looked to America's democratic past. "The Noise of Democracy: Thomas Nast and the Elections of 1872 and 1876" examined the issues and personalities that shaped the presidential elections of 1872 and 1876. Thomas Nast's cartoons in *Harper's Weekly* helped shape opinion on key issues of the day,

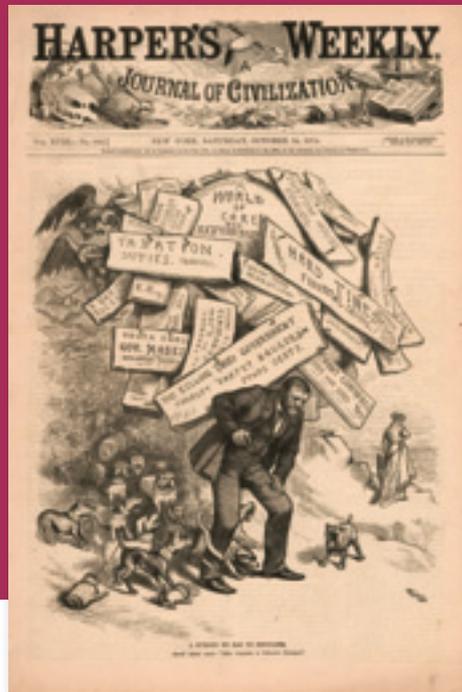
including monetary policy and the separation of church and state.

Nast combined extraordinary skill as a draughtsman with a clever use of puns and symbols both borrowed and invented. The Bible, Shakespeare, and Aesop's Fables provided inspiration, as did popular songs and colloquial expressions. Nast codified the use of Elephant and Donkey to represent the Republican and

Democratic Parties and employed the traditional personifications of the United States in witty and powerful images.

The works were drawn from the 2006 gift of Judith and Norman Zlotsky and the exhibition was organized by Ann H. Sievers, director and curator, along with Tanekwah C. Hinds, summer curatorial intern.

Thomas Nast (1840–1902) "A Burden He Has to Shoulder," from *Harper's Weekly*, October 24, 1874. Wood engraving. Gift of Judith and Norman Zlotsky, 2006.



Long joked that "Every four years, I get to be a celebrity, but for a very short amount of time." He fielded most of the audience questions when serving on the pre-debate panel. He also hosted an earlier campaign-related Mercy Lecture with alumni and discussed the U.S. Senate and presidential races with Shelly Sindland when she guest-hosted the Mary Jones Show on WDRC radio.

The Mercy Lecture focused on the points Long made in his book, one of which is that the American government was designed to make tyranny difficult, if not impossible, so gridlock is inevitable.

"Our politics have always been contentious. It's always hard to pass legislation," Long said. "... [Today,] we're in a more difficult economic situation, and that means that the tenor of our politics becomes more acerbic than usual."

The audience of alumni, former colleagues, staff and students asked questions relating to the prospect for change in politics and in how candidates campaign. Not a chance, he contends, unless we replace our plurality elections with a European-style system of proportional representation, a very unlikely change in an environment where even far smaller changes are impossible.

He explained that one third of the electorate votes for the Republican, one third votes for the Democrat and one third could go either way. Of that middle group, one third goes to the Republican, one third to the Democrat and the remaining third – one-ninth of the electorate – ends up deciding the election.

"Where the states were evenly divided," Long said, "they were going to decide who won the election." The crowd asked Long's prediction for the election outcome.

Media coverage made it appear the race was close, he said. "It never really was close in terms of what Gov. Mitt Romney needed to win the contest; he was behind in all the battleground states and he stayed behind."

USJ STUDENTS ATTEND NATIONAL CONVENTION

Seniors Merancia Fils and Breana Vessichio '12 volunteered with about 120 college students from across the country at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C., learning about party conventions for the first week and helping out during the convention the second week. (No students applied to the Republican convention.)

Fils, a Social Work major and Political Science minor from Brockton, Mass., plans to enter politics to work for social justice on a macro level. She intends to start graduate school and earn a master's degree in Social Work immediately after graduating in May.

Despite multiple political internships, one with the Chris Donovan campaign for the Democratic nomination for the fifth Congressional District and one with a state representative, she called the North Carolina experience "eye-opening." During the first week, students heard from politicians, including a North Carolina state representative who was one of only a few of her state's women representatives. The state representative spoke about being a woman in politics in the South.

Panelists at the debate: Jim O'Brien, lead advocacy volunteer for AARP of Connecticut, and USJ professors Kenneth J. Long, Ph. D., and Susan Lynch, DNP, APRN.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

During the 2008 presidential election, League of Women Voters members ran a voter registration drive on campus, but this year, two Resident Assistants approached Vice President and Dean of Students Cheryl A. Barnard, Ph.D. about organizing the drive themselves.

They kicked it off on September 17 to coincide with Constitution Day, holding a Constitution Fair where students could register to vote, take a trivia quiz and pick up quotes from the Constitution. All that week, a staff member dressed as the Statue of Liberty visited the cafeteria.

“During the lunch hour, we would get everybody’s attention and state one thing about the Constitution,” Barnard said. “We were trying to get students to realize what was in the Constitution and why it was important.”

They showed the HBO movie *Iron Jawed Angels*, based on a true story of the women’s suffrage movement. Several times that week, student leaders sat at the laptops set up in McGovern lounge and encouraged students to register to vote online, answering questions as needed.

“I think it has to do with the fact that they see the issues are going to affect them” while they’re students and after they graduate, Barnard said. “When you look at the issues that were highlighted in this election – health care, education – we educate nurses, educators, social workers, so that it was easier in some ways to tie this election to their futures.”



Tracy Lake, director of student involvement and orientation programs, dressed as the Statue of Liberty, urges students to register to vote, along with Kadine Carter '13.

“I’m from Boston, where a woman can do anything,” Fils said. “As a woman, especially at a women’s college, I was shocked by how different it can be from state to state.”

The highlight of the convention for Fils was hearing up-and-coming national figures. Newark Mayor Cory Booker, who announced the party platform, gave a “moving” and “powerful” speech, she said.

“After hearing them speak, seeing their ability to capture the crowd,” she said, “it was interesting to see a whole host of characters who I never really thought about.” Calling it a life-changing experience she won’t forget, she said, “I’m forever grateful to President Reid for nominating me.”

Vessichio also expressed appreciation to Reid, who nominated her, and to Professor Agnes Curry, Ph.D., associate professor of Philosophy, who told her about the program. Vessichio, who graduated in December with a degree in History and minors in Political Science and Psychology, had had an internship with the Connecticut legislature and has seen how much work gets done in back rooms. At the convention she was “able to take the concepts I had learned and apply them to the situation I was in.”

“I’m from Boston, where a woman can do anything ...I was shocked by how different it can be from state to state.”

–Merancia Fils '12

“The convention was very well planned – almost like a reality show,” said the Berlin, Conn. resident. “They have carefully planned when the person is going to speak, what the person is going to say.” Much of her time was spent answering questions from the press or taking messages. The future politician learned about working with the press, who “were definitely a different kind of animal than I was used to dealing with. They want to get their story as fast as possible and they were very pushy,” she said.

She found it frustrating: “I wanted to give them the information. I wanted to help them. They have deadlines too.” But some, she discovered, “become mean and yell at you” when you can’t answer their questions.

The highlight of the experience was sitting in the upper level of the arena and seeing Bill Clinton and actress Eva Longoria deliver their speeches, Vessichio said. Longoria surprised her with the remark that the Eva Longoria who worked flipping burgers needed a tax break but the Eva Longoria who works on movie sets does not. Referring to Clinton, she said, “He has such a magnetic and charismatic personality that draws you into the story he tells.”

Nicole Mendelson '14 and Honors Director Dr. Elizabeth Vozzola are working on a campus bike program.

Greening USJ: Energy Efficient Campus Transformation underway

BY BERNARD KAVALER

It seems there is no challenge that can't be engaged in the drive toward sustainability and energy efficiency at the University of Saint Joseph. **Technology + Transformation = Sustainability**

That's the formula behind considerable upgrades and advances, and while some initiatives are less visible than others, the combined impact is noticeable not only on campus, but on the bottom line. Efforts began with completion of a comprehensive master plan four years ago, subsequently revised by unanticipated events (including early winter storms) and adjusted by economic realities and academic opportunities. The initial focus was on constructing a School of Pharmacy in downtown Hartford – an extensive undertaking in a tough economic climate – but attention then quickly turned to the main campus.

"We look first and foremost at identifying the critical projects to meet program needs, and we make sure that everything is ready to go," said Shawn Harrington, vice president of administration and finance, responsible for coordinating and financing facilities upgrades. Harrington's attention to ensuring a high-caliber physical environment, as well as the spirits of students and staff using campus facilities, is reflected in the array of initiatives

underway as he strives to "maintain the integrity of systems and improve the campus environment."

The old adage that "there's no place like home" continues to ring true, as tradition is carefully preserved even as technology is woven into structures and practices to heighten efficiency and respond to the academic needs of today's students.

Nowhere are changes more visible than in the Center for Academic Excellence, which has been relocated to the second floor of The Pope Pius XII Library from a cramped and overflowing space in Mercy Hall. The Center, which serves as a key study resource, now offers an environment more conducive to academic progress and student success – and eliminated the past practice of gingerly stepping over students sprawled throughout a second floor Mercy hallway for lack of adequate study space.

With the Center relocated into newly rebuilt area, a failing boiler replaced and new elevator installed, attention at The Library next turns to the entry foyer, slated to be upgraded to be "more attractive and inviting" to students. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has awarded a \$300,000 grant for improvements to the building, constructed in 1960 and last updated in 1991.

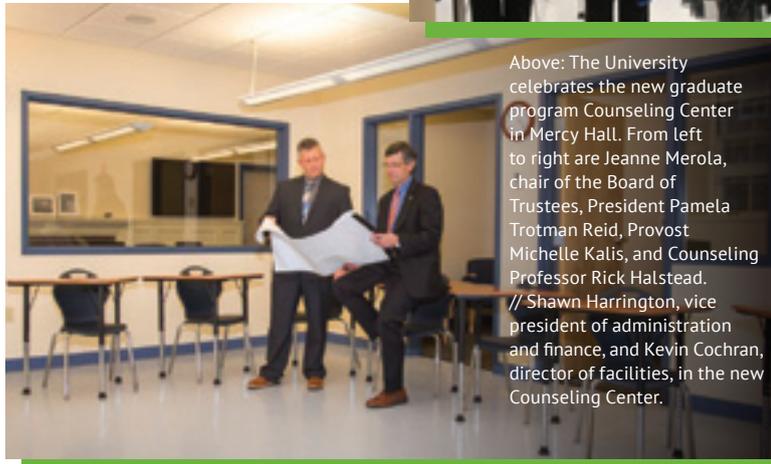
Significant and much-needed work has been undertaken at Mercy Hall, beginning with the replacement of the roof, elimination of an antiquated web of water and heating pipes, to refurbishing and realigning space to better accommodate university staff, with improved lighting, heating and cooling systems.

As work on one wing is completed, other sections of the building will be modernized, which will ultimately bring graduate program offices together, as well as opening

Perhaps the most widespread advance is a web-based building management and control system that uses “automated logic,” which allows environmental changes



Above: The University celebrates the new graduate program Counseling Center in Mercy Hall. From left to right are Jeanne Merola, chair of the Board of Trustees, President Pamela Trotman Reid, Provost Michelle Kalis, and Counseling Professor Rick Halstead. // Shawn Harrington, vice president of administration and finance, and Kevin Cochran, director of facilities, in the new Counseling Center.



up new classroom areas. Replacing the elevator – the 13th oldest in the state – is also on the agenda. The building’s lower level was renovated to create a new space for the University’s graduate Counseling program.

At every turn, Harrington has been relentless and creative in seeking financing, tapping into loan programs and working with University vendors to achieve financing that “we can put to work immediately” to respond to long-delayed campus needs. Non-interest bearing loans from Sodexo and Bon Appétit, totaling \$1 million, coupled with sizable rebates from utility company CL&P have also helped move key projects forward.

USJ was recently selected as one of five colleges for a pilot energy efficiency project through the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges and the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority. The \$1 million program is designed to promote cleaner and more reliable energy, and will enable the installation of energy-saving measures with no upfront funding, as schools repay the loans using savings generated by the efficiency projects under a five-year energy-savings agreement.

to be made from remote locations via computer or even smart phone when temperatures in classrooms need to be raised or lowered, or entire systems need to be turned on or off. Motion sensors for lighting also bring savings and greater efficiency.

“Everything is scheduled, depending upon building usage, and can be easily adjusted,” explains Kevin Cochran, director of facilities. Twenty-one campus buildings are already on the new system, with campus-wide installation to be completed soon. The system includes large screen displays which will reflect and make more transparent energy usage and efficiency metrics. The \$504,000 cost of the project was cut in half by USJ’s eligibility for CL&P rebates.

The campus data center in McDonough Hall was relocated from an occasionally leaky basement – which entailed risk from potential water damage to equipment to higher ground,

accompanied by the installation of a back-up generator and fire suppression system. The half-million-dollar project was accomplished with loans funded through CHEFA. “That was a project with real urgency,” said Harrington.

Cochran describes being at the intersection of unwavering administration commitment and vigorous student interest. He cites the recent launch of single stream recycling on campus, with student support and enthusiasm, which

has trimmed the time required by facilities staff – another example of doing what’s right for the environment while saving money. “It is amazing to be part of this,” says Cochran of the myriad of sustainability initiatives.

Another example is an effort led by Nursing student Nicole Mendelson ’14 to bring bicycling to campus in a big way. A self-described “huge health advocate,” Mendelson is seeking to put the university on the leading edge of the League of American Bicyclists “Women Bike” initiative, advancing the USJ mission that promotes the “growth of the whole person.” She is actively researching costs associated with bike racks and bike shelters (for inclement weather) and ultimately

Vozzola and Justin McGlamery, coordinator of Adventure Education.

Mendelson is also a member of the Town of West Hartford’s Bicycle Advisory Committee, which is working to fight obesity, improve the carbon footprint and lower traffic congestion in establishing safe biking routes through town. Chairman Scott Franklin said, “Nicole has embraced this concept. Her spirit is infectious and I have no doubt that she will be able to mobilize the University of Saint Joseph’s student body.”

Sustainability takes many forms, and the USJ community – from student and faculty to administrators and staff – are coming together to capitalize on the many benefits.

“Our challenge is to attract and retain students. We have a beautiful campus that is attractive to students and families when they arrive,” said Harrington. His objective, in leading the collaborative charge toward greater sustainability, is to ensure what is inside the book is as appealing, efficient and enduring as the cover.

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has awarded a \$300,000 grant for improvements to the building, constructed in 1960 and last updated in 1991.

aims for a formal bike-sharing program. Her research, shared with USJ administrators, has included best practices for a “bike-friendly” campus.

Plans are underway for a bike safety outreach day at USJ in April, and a Facebook page (USJ Blue Jay Bikes) has been launched. The response has been “amazing. There is a lot that needs to be done, but people can’t wait for it to start,” Mendelson said, acknowledging the support of honors advisor Dr. Elizabeth

Empowering women

BY LAURA SHEEHAN

In the middle of her second-to-the-last semester as a Nursing student – a notoriously stressful time with both graduation and the state nursing exam looming – Christina Weaver '13 took on an additional project. One day a week for eight consecutive weeks, she traveled to downtown Hartford where she met with a group of women in a transitional housing program and facilitated a program of her own design: the Unity for Better Understanding (UBU) Empowerment Circle.

The Empowerment Circle took center stage on October 18, when Weaver was honored by the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame with the 2012 Ella T. Grasso Leadership in Action Award. The Award honors young people for their ability "to find creative ways of addressing community issues and problems." Weaver was one of two students in the state to win.

The impetus for the program evolved from Weaver's work with Sister Beth Fischer '76, director of community and civic engagement. "Sister Beth presented a spirituality lecture in one of my classes, and that opened my eyes to the University's community service programs in Hartford," Weaver said. "From that point, I started volunteering at the Wellness Center on Church Street (a partnership between USJ and the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry) and later, at Catherine's Place (a transitional housing program for women, sponsored by Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation)."



Christina Weaver '13 and Sister Beth Fischer '76

In the course of conducting blood pressure and glucose screenings, Weaver came to know the residents of Catherine's Place. "We would talk and they would open up to me," she recalled. "Over time, I learned what worried them and from that I developed UBU."

Weaver's program offered a safe and familiar place for the women to come together and share their issues. "My objective was to facilitate an environment where the women could voice their concerns and receive positive feedback. We focused on their health and talked about different health strategies," Weaver said. From a clinical perspective, she continued to monitor glucose and blood pressure levels and made referrals to various health care providers. Pending the participants' evaluation of the program's effectiveness, Weaver hopes to offer the program again and to include more women.

Her motivation to serve comes, in part, from her background as a Catholic school student in Antigua and a member of the North United Methodist Church. "I've served in soup kitchens and shelters before," she said. "I enjoy being with the residents. I find them interesting to talk to and I like hearing their stories. It has taught me the importance of connecting to people with different backgrounds."

As she moves through her final semester and prepares for a professional career, Weaver will carry her USJ experience with her. "I can see myself still volunteering after I graduate," she said. "I've learned a lot from working with Sister Beth. She treats everyone as an equal and has real relationships with the people in the shelters. She's taught me to value others and that when we sit and talk, we're really not that far apart."

Creating Practice from Research

BY TAMI DEVINE FAGAN '97
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Jillian Barry '13 started her research trajectory with a question: "Why has no one ever taught me to read like this before?" She was sitting in Dr. Catherine Hoyser's Literary Criticism course in the fall of last year when, she said, her "mind was blown."

From her question came the idea for an Honors independent study exploring the potential role of literary criticism in the high school classroom, educators' resistance to it, and the short- and long-term benefits to students. The project culminated in a research paper and four-week unit plan introducing literary theory to tenth graders. Barry presented at Symposium Day in the spring of 2012.

An English major and preservice secondary English teacher, Barry completed her student teaching at the Sports and Medical Sciences Academy in Hartford in December. Although student teachers are discouraged from taking on too much work outside of their clinical placements, Barry was encouraged by many faculty and staff constituencies to develop a proposal for a presentation showcasing her research at the annual conference of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).

It is rare for a preservice teacher to have a proposal accepted at a national conference, but Barry was undeterred. She accepted — and met — the challenge.

When she saw the acceptance e-mail in her inbox, she shouted out, "I'm going to Vegas!" and promptly called every member of her family. "I knew I had to go as soon as I got the e-mail," she said. "And I knew I would do whatever it would take to get there."

Offices across campus came together to fund Barry's trip, and extended support to two other students in the Honors Program planning to become secondary English teachers, Leanna Verch '14 and Rebecca DiPinto '14. The Center

for Academic Excellence, the Honors Program, the office of the provost and the office of student affairs covered all of the expenses associated with the conference.

Elizabeth Vozolla, Ph.D., professor of Psychology and director of the Honors Program, did not hesitate when the students approached her for financial assistance. "I see trips such as this as important for cultivating an ethos of conference participation in our honors community."

In November, a former high school English teacher myself, I was thrilled to have the chance to head to Las Vegas with Barry, Verch, and DiPinto (who had never flown before). That first afternoon, as Barry and I sat together in a session on close reading led by Robert Probst and Kathleen Beers, after taking furious notes for ten minutes, she looked at me and said, "I just want to get back to my classroom and do this now." Verch and DiPinto were also invigorated by the interactions they had. They said they felt like they had become part of the club.

"The most important takeaway, for me, is the general sense of excitement I felt while in the presence of so many English teachers. Especially in a workshop on teaching Shakespeare, I felt exhilarated by the collective energy and excitement of teachers from all over working together," said DiPinto.

Among the students, there was an initial worry that they wouldn't fit in with the real teachers, but they were surprised to find that veteran teachers were actually drawn to them, inspired by their enthusiasm to join the ranks of the profession. "I now see myself as a member of a greater nationwide network of teachers who are dedicated to their students every single day. It was amazing to see firsthand the community I am entering into," said Verch.

On the morning Barry was to present, she got up early to prepare, setting up her professional display complete with a glossy poster, business cards, research texts, and a portfolio showcasing her work. "Presenting was an incredible experience. To have my research accepted by people who have been teaching for many years made me feel a part of the teaching community in a real way," she said.

Barry doubts she would have had an experience like this one at any other university. "From day one, I have fostered personal relationships with many mentors on campus who encouraged me throughout the research, writing, applying, and presenting process. I believe it is those relationships that got me there."

Barry's adrenaline rush was hard to deny as she skipped and danced through the bustling lobby of the MGM Grand. Of course, we joined her.



Clockwise: Rebecca DiPinto '14 (standing), Leanna Verch '14 and Jillian Barry '13 traveled to Las Vegas for the National Council of Teachers of English Conference, where Barry presented her research.

Learning & serving community

BY LAURA SHEEHAN

What started as a classroom assignment evolved into an area of professional expertise for two USJ students – one that may revolutionize the way parents of special education students participate in their child’s education. Margaret Soucy ’13 and Randy Ewart M’13 were given similar assignments in their respective undergraduate and graduate Education courses. Both were studying with Dr. Kathy Whitbread, associate professor of Special Education.

“Students in the undergraduate Coordinating Seminar and the graduate Laws in Special Education course examine the laws that protect special education students,” said Whitbread. “They analyze an actual child’s Individual Education Program (IEP) document, with the personal information redacted, to determine if it’s in compliance with the law.”

Many parents are familiar with the IEP, the legally-required document that determines a child’s academic course – and it’s not always a happy relationship. “The IEP can be extremely complicated and confusing to parents,” said Whitbread. “It often leads to more questions than answers.”

Ewart, who is finishing up a master’s degree in Special Education, knows full well the intricacies and complications of the IEP process: “My perspective is unique, because I come at the IEP as both a teacher and a parent.” A high school math teacher with a special education focus, Ewart is also the parent of a six-year-old son with autism. “Gabriel is the reason I pursued the Special Education master’s,” he said. “I came

to Saint Joe’s not for the diploma, but for the education and experience.”

Soucy comes from a business background: “I started at another college as a Business major and took some time off to work in the business world. Ultimately, I wasn’t happy and knew I wanted to be a teacher.” She transferred to USJ from Central Connecticut State University and completed her student teaching in December.

Although they didn’t know each other when they began working on Whitbread’s assignment, Ewart and Soucy soon became colleagues. Their unique blend of skills and experience led to a groundbreaking tool for parents – an IEP graphic organizer. The organizer provides a user-friendly approach to connecting the IEP’s many components, allowing parents the means of measuring the effectiveness of a child’s IEP.

In the simplest of terms, the IEP looks at a student’s present level of performance, areas of need and concern, goals and objectives, and services provided. “It’s often convoluted,” said Ewart, “and leaves gaps in critical areas,



Margaret Soucy '13 and Randy Ewart M'13 discuss the graphic organizer.

like connecting needs to goals.” The graphic organizer divides the IEP into small pieces and tracks the connections.

Soucy’s business background developed in her the skills required to analyze systems. In the course of working on a case study assigned by Whitbread, she met the parents of a special needs student and offered to analyze their daughter’s IEP. From that experience, she

started to develop the graphic organizer. “The idea for the organizer came from Randy and his understanding of what parents need,” she said.

The two collaborated to finesse the tool and, at Whitbread’s urgings, applied to several state and national conferences. They presented at the Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress in November and – in preparation for that event – offered two workshops to parents on using the tool. Ewart promoted the workshops through a listserv for parents of children with autism. Approximately 15–20 families attended each session. “The demand for this is huge,” Ewart said. “Parents are desperate to navigate the IEP and enhance their child’s progress.”

In April, Ewart and Soucy will present at the National Conference for Exceptional Children in San Antonio. Ewart will present a poster and Soucy an hour-long demonstration – a feat that’s “practically unheard of for an undergraduate student,” said Whitbread. They were also invited to present at the Angelman Syndrome Foundation Scientific Symposium in July. There’s no telling where they will go next, as each appearance leads to more invitations.

In addition to the various presentations, Soucy and Ewart are continuing with research. She received a student research grant to pilot this process on additional IEPs. Ewart is evaluating student access to the general education curriculum using IEP data. “There is very little existing research on this topic so these studies will make a significant

contribution to the field,” Whitbread said.

“I never thought it would have gone this far,” Soucy said. Ewart concurred, noting, “This is what I came to Saint Joe’s to do – to learn something and to give what I’ve learned back to the community.” While the future is unknown, there’s no doubt that the IEP graphic organizer is here to stay.



USJ REUNION 2012 Remembering the



BY LAURA SHEEHAN

More than 175 alumni returned to campus on October 6 to “remember the good times” and celebrate Reunion and Homecoming. And many did just that: Nancy Roath '72 visited with classmates at the barbecue luncheon. She especially enjoyed seeing “how ‘young’ we still are, yet what great life experiences we’ve

all been through. We had no clue what was in store for us 40 years ago, but we were well prepared for life.”

With a day-long schedule that included class gatherings, campus tours, the annual Alumni Association meeting, specialized lectures and more, participants had

no shortage of options. Michelle O’Connell ‘04 attended several events, but her favorite part of the entire day was “seeing old friends and making new connections with alumni from earlier years.” Likewise, Regina Robbins Wohlke '72 appreciated “the camaraderie. Saint

Joseph’s is a very special place and I’d do it all over again!”

Some alumni attended with spouses and children, taking advantage of Family Day at The O’Connell Athletic Center. “Family Day offers several family-friendly options like crafts, bounce houses, and Blue Jay athletics,”

said Steve Kumnick, manager of annual giving and alumni relations.

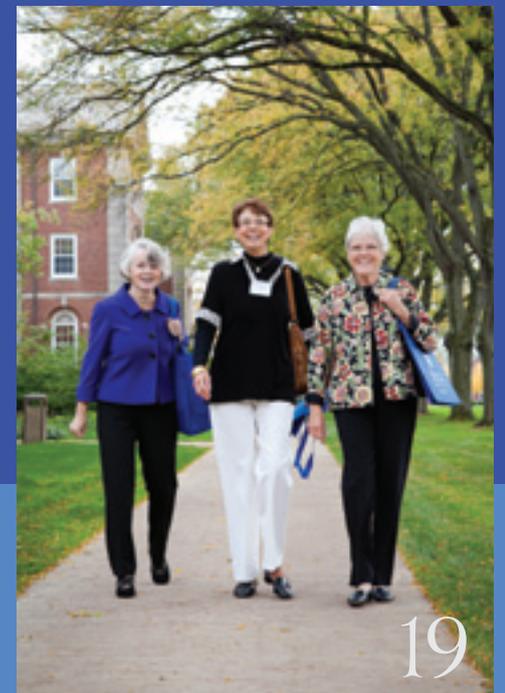
“We want to make sure that alumni with small children can come back to campus for their Reunion and make their children part of the USJ community.”

“It’s like they say in the commercial: food, friends, and fun!” –Linda Kautz Macy ’72

Good Times



“What I love best about Reunion is that the class of ’72 agreed to create an endowed scholarship so in five years we’ll have a full, endowed scholarship for some lovely young lady.” –Nancy Roath ’72



Watch USJ's Reunion Recap video with Kadine Carter '13 at www.usj.edu/W13f.



*Putting
the puzzle
Together:
steven w. Goldstein, Ph.D.*

“It all began with a high school chemistry teacher in upstate New York who inspired me,” recalled Dr. Steve Goldstein. “As a teenager, I was a challenging student; she was the only teacher who not only put up with all the grief I gave her, but helped me see that I could understand and excel at chemistry. I learned from her that it is critical for every teacher to encourage students to reach higher than they think they can.”



Watch the USJ video
on Steven Goldstein at
www.usj.edu/W13g.

BY CHERYL ROSENFELD

Goldstein earned his B.S. at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) where he first engaged in scientific research: “Now I wasn’t just reading about what others had learned. Instead, I was the first one experimenting with a certain reaction or discovering new things. That’s the fun stuff!” His discipline is organic chemistry – the study of molecules with carbon as the backbone: “It’s about taking smaller, simple molecules and making more complicated larger molecules. This is done in the pharmaceutical industry when you explore what sorts of chemicals it takes to evoke or stop a biological response.” Goldstein went on to graduate school at the University of California, Irvine, where he created one of the toxins produced by poison dart frogs for his Ph.D. dissertation. He said, “In Central America, natives rub their blowgun darts on the skin of this frog when hunting for food. I learned the science to create the chemical in the lab that mimics this natural toxin.”

Following a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Rochester, Goldstein joined Pfizer, Inc., where he was employed for 23 years as a chemist. “I worked in a variety of therapeutic areas trying to develop medications to treat diabetes, atherosclerosis, obesity, and diabetic complications,” he said. “Later on, I had a revelation that what I really liked to do was the very, very earliest research, which led me to join a group that invented new ways to discover drugs. I did that for about a dozen years, serving in a variety of scientific and managerial roles. The early aspects of drug discovery are centered on taking an idea, working around the challenges, and developing it into something eventually that can actually be used by humans.”

In the summer of 2009, after leaving Pfizer, Goldstein participated in Connecticut’s Alternate Route to Certification Program – an intensive nine-week course which certified him to teach high school chemistry. However, due to the downturn in the economy, teachers were not retiring so he worked for a year at EASTCONN in Willimantic as a scientific specialist. He designed lessons and facilitated state-sponsored inter-district grants to foster diversity awareness through content knowledge.

Since becoming a faculty member at the University of Saint Joseph in 2010, Goldstein is happy to focus his energies on teaching organic chemistry. He has always been uneasy about the bad rap garnered by this discipline. “Organic chemistry is unquestionably challenging and is often viewed as the course that decides who goes on to medical school,” he said. “In reality, organic chemistry centers on putting the pieces of the puzzle together and using your brain, which involves critical thinking rather than memorization.”

His USJ collaborations include participation as a faculty facilitator in the annual Girls in STEM Exhibition for middle school girls interested in science, technology, engineering and math, which is organized by Christopher Zito, Ph.D., assistant professor of Biology. Additionally, Goldstein has come full circle thanks to a project he is working on through the School of Pharmacy with Ola Ghoneim, Ph.D., assistant professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. He said,

“One of my undergraduate students will conduct research this winter on compounds that will fit into Dr. Ghoneim’s Autism Spectrum Disorder research, specifically medications to fight autism.”

When he is away from the research lab, Dr. Goldstein enjoys traveling, cycling, kayaking, fishing and spending time with his family. Both of his children are scientists – his son, also an alumnus of RPI, is a graduate student in Physics at Brandeis University; his daughter recently defended her thesis in Chemistry at Boston College.

Goldstein’s priority is helping students learn: “I want students to have the opportunity to explore and perhaps speak a little bit of the new language of organic chemistry because in my mind, it’s all about tapping into that thought process on how to solve problems.”

In Honor of Those Lost in Newtown

The University of Saint Joseph community came together in prayer at a special Mass of Remembrance on December 18 to honor those lost in the Newtown tragedy. In particular, they held in their hearts Rachel D'Avino C'14, a graduate student in the Applied Behavior Analysis graduate certificate program and daughter of Mary D'Avino M'82, and Ana Marquez-Greene, daughter of alumna Nelba Marquez-Greene.

"My prayer today is that these children and teachers will have eternal peace, that their families and friends will have solace, and that we as a community will work to make the changes we need for our society to become more loving of people and less loving of guns."

—PRESIDENT REID, AT THE MASS OF REMEMBRANCE



Rachel D'Avino C'14

Sadly, D'Avino had just completed her coursework and was preparing for the next step in her professional development as an applied behavior analyst. At the Mass, President Pamela Trotman Reid said, "Rachel was a one-on-one instructor for a child with special needs at Sandy Hook Elementary School. She was committed to serving children with autism and was building a life that melded professional expertise with a commitment to serve others, especially children. Our hearts break for her family, friends, students, and future students — those whose lives would have been bettered had she lived to fulfill her dreams. At the time of her death, Rachel was a loving daughter, a girlfriend, and a student in Dr. Deirdre Fitzgerald's class."

Fitzgerald, who worked closely with D'Avino, said, "Rachel D'Avino was remarkable, energetic, and engaging. She was a leading force in the group. She just sparkled with ideas and potential. Rachel was a stunning young professional. We, and the world, will feel her loss."



Ana Marquez-Greene

Ana Marquez-Greene was the daughter of Nelba Marquez-Greene, a graduate of the Marriage and Family Therapy program. "I actually met Ana briefly this summer when her father, Jimmy Greene, received an award at the Hartford Envisionfest," Reid said. "Ana and her older brother came with their dad to the awards ceremony and she was lovely, polite and clearly adored her father — a beautiful little girl who charmed those around her."

MAKE A GIFT: THE RACHEL D'AVINO MEMORIAL FUND

The University established a fund in Rachel's honor: The Rachel D'Avino Memorial Fund will support the academic scholarship of students studying Applied Behavior Analysis and Autism Spectrum Disorders.

*To make a contribution, contact:
Doug Nelson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement
at 860.231.5397 or dnelson@usj.edu*

*Leave a Memory:
USJ created an online memorial for Rachel. Please leave
a memory, prayer, or condolence at: www.usj.edu/WI3h.*

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VOLUME CLXXVI NUMBER 268

THE GENGRAS CENTER AT UNIVERSITY OF ST. JOSEPH

\$3M Gift Primes Fundraising

Samit, who has autism and is a senior at The Gengras Center, a laboratory school for children with intellectual and other disabilities, reads the question aloud: "What country must you be a citizen in and what state must you be a resident in?"

For more than 45 years, The Gengras Center has been serving students like Samit with special needs while also giving St. Joe's students a chance to put their own classroom learning into practice. But with cramped quarters for the 120 students at the laboratory school, St.

GENGRAS, A4

Need Grows To Serve Students With Autism

USJ's New Center for Integrative Education



The front page of *The Hartford Courant* on September 24 told part of the story: USJ had received its

largest single gift to date, \$3 million from Trustee Clayton "Skip" Gengras to fund a substantial expansion to the Gengras Center, the private, special-education facility that serves students from throughout the state.

continued...

Skip Gengras with President Reid



Above: Gengras student Michael Gargano during gym class in the yurt. // Below: John Molteni, Ph.D., director, Autism Spectrum Disorders Initiative, leads graduate students in a discussion.



The other part of the story is evident within the walls of the Center, where teachers, assistants, students, and staff negotiate increasingly tight quarters to serve the Center's evolving population. "The bottom line is we need more space," said Gengras Director Bernard Lindauer, Ed.D. "The building is 47 years old. Don't get me wrong – we've thrived here – but our student population has changed."

In recent years, the Gengras Center has seen a dramatic rise in the number of students it serves with multiple disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Lindauer gave the statistics: "In 2000 when I started at Gengras, we had eight students with an ASD. Now we have 60 – half of the students enrolled. Many of our students have multiple disabilities, which means they need equipment – walkers, wheelchairs, standers – to move in and around the classrooms and hallways."

On any given day, the Center has an extensive row of personalized equipment neatly lined up. "Some students have four or five each," Lindauer

said. In a classroom, there might be several wheelchairs or walkers, a large physical therapy table, a therapy bike, and an arrangement of tables and chairs. "It gets pretty difficult to navigate. The staff is always moving pieces and re-adjusting the space to better serve the students," he said.

Additionally, the staff has increased 30% in three years (due to the need for specialized experts and one-on-one instruction) and there is a shortage of mixed-use space. "We have no gym, so students have gym class in the yurt, The O'Connell Center, outdoors, or in the lobby," Lindauer said. "The art room is part

"The need is enormous. The latest statistics from the Center for Disease Control show that one in 88 children is diagnosed with an ASD. The need for services will only increase."

–Doug Nelson Vice President of Institutional Advancement

of the cafeteria, so we can't schedule art class when it's lunchtime. The music room is crowded and has no windows."

Skip Gengras's gift launched a \$10 million campaign that may be the answer to the Gengras Center's need. The goal is to build a 20,000 square foot expansion – phase one of the Center for Integrative Education (CIE) – that will give the Gengras Center a new gym, art room, music room, vocational room, and two specialized classrooms for students with an ASD. The subsequent phase two will bring a new 45,000 square foot Gengras Center facility that will connect to the phase one expansion.

Ultimately, the CIE will not only enhance the services of the Gengras Center, but will build upon the University's growing expertise in Autism Spectrum Disorders and Applied Behavior Analysis. USJ is the only university in Connecticut to offer a master's degree in the field. The CIE will provide expanded services to students with an ASD who are currently being placed out of state or in psychiatric facilities. The University will take its place as a leader in training educators to work with autistic students.

"The need is enormous," said Doug Nelson, vice president of institutional advancement. "The latest statistics from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention show that one in 88 children is diagnosed with an ASD. The need for services will only increase."

The phase one expansion will also allow the Gengras Center to serve more families. Currently, it has 120 students from 53 communities. "At any given time we have a waiting list," Lindauer said. "With the new expansion, we will enroll 24 more students – 12 with an ASD and 12 with multiple disabilities."

Another benefit will be the University's ability to accept more students in the master's degree program. To date, 33 are enrolled and there is a waiting list of 20. The master's in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis, along with a graduate certificate of the same name, will train much-needed practitioners.

To Skip Gengras, whose family founded the Center 47 years ago, the decision to support the Center for Integrative Education was simple: "If you walk through the Gengras Center you'll see. The kids are saints, the institution is sainted, the teachers, the (University) students who help there – they are all saints."

SUPPORT USJ AND THE CENTER FOR INTEGRATIVE EDUCATION

Contact:
Doug Nelson, Vice President
for Institutional Advancement

860.231.5397 or dnelson@usj.edu

Uricchio Family supports Outdoor Area

BY CAITLIN FITZGERALD



Ally Uricchio

Gengras student Ally Uricchio loves nature — so much so that it inspired her parents, John and Gina Uricchio, to collaborate with the Gengras Center and a local business to create a place where students, staff, and guests could enjoy the outdoors.

The Gengras Center Outdoor Community Area opened with a ribbon cutting on September 12, after two years of planning. Key to the project was the support of John Uricchio's employer, ING Investment Management, and their matching donor program, which assisted in getting the project off the ground.

Paul LoVoi, assistant director, spoke on the collaboration: "The completion of the Gengras Center Outdoor Community Area is a testament to the Uricchio family's ongoing and unconditional support of our program. Through their generosity and collaboration, this spectacular community area now serves as an outdoor venue where our teachers can help facilitate academic and social growth in all Gengras students."

The Uricchio family, the Gengras Center, and USJ facilities department all participated in the design of the outdoor area. The project was spearheaded by Zysk Bros., Inc., a company that specializes in landscaping and masonry. The outdoor space consists of a patio area comprised of five metal park tables surrounded by landscaped grounds.

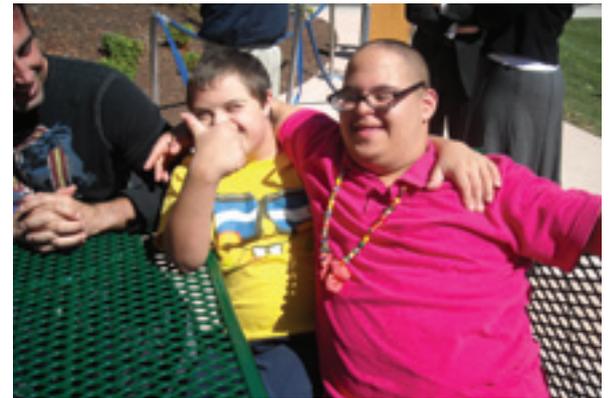
Beyond the physical benefits of outdoor play, the space is used by educators for socialization purposes and outdoor classes. Gina Uricchio wanted to create an additional place where students could be outdoors and acquire an appreciation for the natural environment.

"The Outdoor Community Area is the perfect space," Uricchio said. "It's a place at the Gengras Center for children to learn and socialize, as well as for staff to enjoy."

LoVoi concluded, "We are truly appreciative of the Uricchio family's overwhelming generosity and their desire to make a difference in the lives of our students."

Gengras students and staff enjoy the Outdoor Community Area.

Clockwise from right: Alex Orłowski and Richard Matos // Krysta Stone // Morgan Campbell and Veronica Harper





A Hero in our midst: sister Beth Fischer '76

Beth Fischer, RSM, '76, director of community and civic engagement, received a prestigious Health Care Hero Award from the *Hartford Business Journal*, one of only seven awarded. In particular, she won the Corporate Achievement/Innovation Award for her years of dedicated service to The Wellness Center on Church Street – a partnership between the University and the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry. Sister Beth was instrumental in establishing the program seven years ago, and has broadened its reach since then, serving countless underserved citizens of Hartford.

She arranges for students studying Nursing, Nutrition, Counseling and Social Work to serve as volunteers in the Wellness Center's outreach programs which include Catherine's Place, Manna Community Meals, and the Sandwich Ministry. The students – who participate for internships, clinical experiences, and as volunteers – provide health screenings, education, and referrals to guests.

"For the students, the program is a transformational experience," she said in a *Hartford Business Journal* article. "When you meet somebody face to face, heart to heart, you find what you are not going to get out of a textbook or lecture."

Students like Christina Weaver '13, a Nursing major, agree: "I've learned so much from my experiences at The Wellness Center that I will apply to my nursing career." Equally important, she said, she learned from

"For the students, the program is a transformational experience. When you meet somebody face to face, heart to heart, you find what you are not going to get out of a text book or lecture."

–Sister Beth Fischer '76 Health Care Hero honoree

Sister Beth's example:

"She values everyone and treats them with respect."

She was also honored for her work with the Guyana Immersion Experience, bringing students for two weeks each year to study and serve in the South American nation.

Read more on Sister Beth's Health Care Hero Award at www.usj.edu/W13i

president Named Higher Education person of the year

Read all the recent faculty and staff achievements at www.usj.edu/achievements

When the Northeastern Economic Developers Association (NEDA) established a new award to honor a higher education professional, one name rose to the surface: President Pamela Trotman Reid.

As the winner of NEDA's inaugural Higher Education Person of the Year Award, Reid was honored at the Association's annual conference on October 29 at the Marriott Downtown in Hartford, CT.

"I am honored to receive this award from such an important regional organization," said Reid. "The University of Saint Joseph and the Northeastern Developers Association share a common vision – the revitalization of our communities through education, innovation, and visionary thinking."

The award recognizes a professional educator who has made significant contributions to the local economy as an educational leader. Reid proved an apt choice and was cited for her exceptional leadership and success in building partnerships between educators and the community, most notably, the development of the School of Pharmacy in downtown Hartford and its contributions to the revitalization of the capital city.

BY CHERYL ROSENFELD

A Future With Exponential Impact

When Michael Carbone was a teenager, he had a buddy who always repeated the saying, “Those who can’t do, teach.” Carbone, who comes from a family of teachers, internalized this message for many years. After earning his master’s degree in Education at USJ this past December, his game-changing response is: “Those who can’t do, never had me as a teacher!”

A Florida native, Carbone earned his B.S. in Biology from the University of South Florida in 2010. “I was always interested in science and considered pursuing a medical degree,” he said. “But after working for a group of physicians, I realized that medicine was not what I wanted. For me, it’s all about a career with exponential impact in helping people and education was it!” Carbone sought recommendations from professionals on the best master’s programs; the school that rose to the top was the University of Saint Joseph.

Upon his arrival, Carbone committed to becoming actively involved in the USJ community. He expressed an interest in taking on leadership responsibilities to Dean Kathleen Butler, Ph.D. who asked him to run the Student Advisory Group in Education (SAGE) – a representative student ‘voice’ fostering professional development which is comprised of graduate students and alumni. Carbone invited other students to participate and ultimately, this collaborative learning network hosted two major events in 2012. The iCitizenship Town Hall Meeting brought together students, parents, administrators and policy makers in a conversation addressing bullying and cyberbullying. In May, he organized USJ’s first annual Dialogue 21 – an innovative teacher-led conference designed to promote effective technology integration in the classroom.

Carbone has been teaching sixth grade science at the McDonough Expeditionary Learning School in



Michael C. Carbone M'12

Hartford for just over a year. He said, “As a science teacher, I have an hour every day with every student, which is quite rare at the middle school level. This is not a magnet but a neighborhood school ... unquestionably located in one of the toughest neighborhoods in the state.” According to Marialice Curran, Ph.D., assistant professor of Education, “As a new educator, Michael Carbone absolutely ‘walks the walk.’ His level of dedication to his students and the teaching profession is remarkable along with his deeply-rooted compassion for social justice, which instills every fiber of his being. I credit Michael’s family for the depth of character and humanity he possesses.”

Within the next few years, Carbone plans to pursue his doctorate. Just on the horizon, he looks forward to USJ’s 2013 Commencement: “Earning this master’s degree is my proudest achievement; I want to share this with my family and express my appreciation for their support. In particular, my grandfather, who was a school principal in Berlin, Conn., has inspired me as an educator and I am most grateful. In terms of doing things for others, there is no more pure soul on the planet!”

Overall, Carbone’s experience has been transformative: “When I began my graduate coursework at USJ, I had no idea how much more beneficial it would be to attend a smaller school. Professors know you by your first name; Dean Butler, whom I consider to be a visionary leader, meets with you in person. My professors care as much about my success as an educator as they do about the University’s success. It’s a distinct gift to have the support of faculty who are always on your side. You come out of here with an arsenal – not just a conceptual framework – an arsenal of experiences, connections, and friendships that when woven together, truly make you an authentic educator.”

New Clinical Experience Opportunities Piloted

The School piloted new clinical experience opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students in South Windsor and Bloomfield. “One of the benefits of forming a clinical experience partnership with a school is that teacher candidates are able to blend practitioner knowledge with academic knowledge as they learn by working with children and observing master teachers in action,” said Assistant Professor Kimberly Richard, Ph.D., who taught the undergraduate course.

Likewise, Dr. Jule McCombes-Tolis, associate professor of Education, found her course’s on-site experience very beneficial for her graduate students, who with the assistance of Dr. Ellen Stoltz, chief academic officer in Bloomfield, will also continue to translate theory into practice.

BY CHERYL ROSENFELD

Introducing Guyana

Vivian J. Carlson, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of Human Development and Family Studies, traveled to Guyana to introduce the School of Pharmacy to the University's Guyana Immersion program. She traveled with Sukhvir Kaur, Pharm.D., assistant professor of Pharmacy Practice and Administration, providing health care to patients at various sites. Dr. Kaur is developing an elective course: "The Guyana Pharmaceutical Care Experience," an outreach program for interested students at the School of Pharmacy which will offer a unique opportunity to gain firsthand experience on the realities of pharmaceutical practice in the developing world that is consistent with the mission of the University of Saint Joseph.



Dr. Sukhvir Kaur provides health care to patients at the Surama Village Medical Center on a recent visit to Guyana. Medical donations were provided by the Walgreens pharmacy corporation, team members, and friends in the U.S.

New Institute For Latino Community Practice (LCP)

USJ's Institute for Latino Community Practice was launched in May with Dr. Madeline Pérez, assistant professor of Social Work and Latino Community Practice, as its founding director. The Institute is committed to preparing undergraduate and graduate students for culturally and linguistically competent leadership in their professions and creating a community of learners dedicated to advancement of knowledge and best practices to serve the Latino population. This mission will be promoted with a three-pronged approach: Teaching and Learning; Scholarship and Research; and Community Building and Partnerships.

For more information, visit:
www.usj.edu/ilcp

First Students Enrolled In M.S. In Autism/ABA Degree

The master of science program in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis at USJ enrolled 33 students in its first class for the fall 2012 semester. A very competitive cohort of students from a range of backgrounds is enrolled with full or part-time programs. This program is now featured in the directory of graduate training programs with the Association for Behavior Analysis International as an approved university provider with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

For more information, visit:
www.usj.edu/iabs

Graduate Open Houses Scheduled

JOIN US FROM 4:30 TO 6:30 P.M. ON: **THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013** OR **THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013**
THE \$50 APPLICATION FEE IS WAIVED FOR THOSE WHO ATTEND! WWW.USJ.EDU/GRADOPENHOUSE

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

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

SGPS also oversees the Program for Adult Learners and the Graduate Admissions and Academic Services Office.





Pictured with SNAP-Education information are (left to right): Amy Rapone '11, preschool program coordinator; Meg Gaughan, Ph.D., R.D., associate professor of Nutrition; Debbie Brinckman M'12, R.D., CD-N, nutrition educator; and Teresa Martin Dotson '88, M'14, R.D., CD-N, SNAP-Education nutrition program coordinator. // Below, the SNAP-Education plate

BY CHERYL ROSENFELD

USJ Awarded \$599k USDA Grant for Nutrition Education

Due to the foresight and diligence of Margaret Gaughan, Ph.D., R.D., associate professor of Nutrition, the University received a \$599,133 three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education. Known as SNAP-Education, the program provides education to individuals on a limited income, assisting them in making healthy choices to maximize food dollars, as well as choosing physically active lifestyles. SNAP is the largest of the federal nutritional assistance programs, ensuring that people have access to healthy and nutritious foods.

Gaughan, who wrote the grant in 2009 and serves as director of the SNAP-Education Project at USJ, said, "Since the fall of 2009, more than 80 students have received training through this project, which offers an excellent opportunity for didactic students to participate in experimental learning earlier in their education."

The funds are administered through the state's Department of Public Health. The University's Nutrition Education Team is a contractor of the CT-DPH; this collaboration benefits the state by greatly extending their nutrition education staff and eligibility for USDA funding. In turn, USJ benefits by implementing the funding to involve students in community nutrition education using state-of-the-art materials and nationally tested models.

"In our model, students are initially trained in a workshop setting; they are then paired with registered dietitians or experienced bilingual nutrition educators to present healthy eating messages using interactive display boards, food demonstrations, and tastings targeted to adults ages 18-65," said Gaughan. "Recipe cards, handouts, and incentive items are also offered to engage clients and tie into the educational activity. The current grant contract expanded this year to include a portion of the preschool education project which will provide SNAP-Education for parents of preschoolers enrolled in Head Start and School Readiness Programs."

Service standards specified by the grant, also known as deliverables, are determined by the State of Connecticut. Gaughan commented, "From January 1-September 30, 2012, the overall goal set by the state was for 960 people to have face-to-face nutrition education with a member of the USJ team. I am thrilled to report that USJ's nutrition educators surpassed this goal by 442%, meeting face-to-face with 4,243 people during that time period, due in large part to student involvement."

The Project also paved the way in offering new avenues for student research and scholarship. According to Debbie Brinckman M'12, R.D., CD-N, "As a SNAP-Education nutrition

educator, I had the opportunity at some locations to provide a tasting of a healthy recipe that supported the intended nutritional messages. I noticed that when clients were able to taste the recipe, they eagerly took the recipe card and said they wanted to make it for their families. As part of my master's thesis at USJ, I quantified and determined that healthy recipe tastings increase the likelihood of the client preparing the recipe." USJ's Nutrition Education Team presented on how the SNAP-Education Project is uniquely integrated into the curriculum at October's Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo in Philadelphia.

Another tangible outcome of this funding is job creation. Gaughan said, "After being exposed to the SNAP-Education Project in their courses, many USJ Nutrition students have worked as paid educators. Providing a good paying summer job in the field of dietetics before graduation is a highly significant part of what this project allows us to do for our students, ultimately creating a cohort of highly trained community nutrition educators."

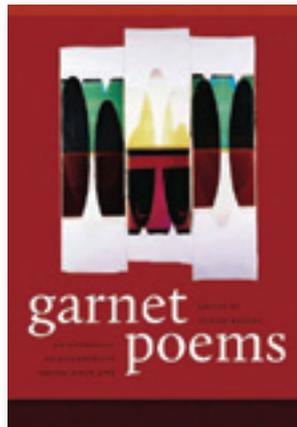
President Reid said, "This significant grant funding advances USJ's commitment to supporting public health initiatives throughout Connecticut. By partnering with Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Programs; Mobile Foodshare; community health centers; food pantries; farmers' markets; and other agencies, we are continuing to address the critical health issues, such as balanced nutrition and physical activity that will result in long-term benefits for our local communities."

Read more at:

The Hartford Courant
"Connecticut Poets Tap State's
Heart, Vitality" by Dennis Barone
www.usj.edu/W13j

The Hartford Advocate
"New Anthology Celebrates Two
Centuries of Connecticut Poetry"
by Alan Bisbort
www.usj.edu/W13k

View this title on the Wesleyan
University Press website:
www.usj.edu/W13l



Dennis Barone, Ph.D.

BY CHERYL ROSENFELD

Garnet Poems

Garnering Attention

University of Saint Joseph Professor of English and American Studies Dennis Barone, Ph.D., has edited a new poetry collection entitled *Garnet Poems, An Anthology of Connecticut Poetry Since 1776*. A prolific writer with 18 titles of fiction and poetry to his name, Dr. Barone's latest book has been garnering attention since its release last September. In addition to an editorial piece published in *The Hartford Courant* on October 24, Barone's work has been featured in *The Hartford Advocate*, *The Waterbury Republican*, the *Courant's* Sunday Arts section and its weekly book feature.

Published by Wesleyan University Press, *Garnet Poems* features poets whose work has a strong connection to Connecticut, including Wallace Stevens, Lydia Sigourney, Mark Van Doren, Richard Wilbur, Susan Howe, Elizabeth Alexander,

and others. It is the first major anthology of Connecticut poetry to appear since the mid-nineteenth century.

Dr. Barone said, "Preparing an anthology such as *Garnet Poems* straddles a boundary between scholarship and art. Although I am in my 27th year of residence in Connecticut, longer than anywhere else I have resided, I still see myself as tied somehow to the state of my birth: New Jersey, and therefore I did not include myself as one of the 42 poets in the volume. I am present, though, in the selection and editorial commentary; the latter evokes the scholar; the former, the artist." Throughout the fall, Dr. Barone made several appearances across the state, including one where he was joined by poets Dick Allen, Sophie Cabot Black, Marilyn Nelson, and Lewis Turco.

NEH Grant Supports Program for the 2012-2013 Academic Year

A yearlong series of events funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant is currently under way: "Mapping Identities in the 21st Century" offers a diverse program covering the topics of women, religion and immigration. Coordinated by Horacio Sierra, Ph.D., assistant professor of English, and Diana P. Valencia, Ph.D., professor of Spanish, "Mapping Identities" kicked off in early fall. A political roundtable event targeted for USJ students on September 11 featured (see photo – left to right) Scott Deshefy of the Connecticut Green Party who was their



endorsed candidate for the U.S. Congress in 2010; Elizabeth Henry of the Yale College Republicans; and Taylor Leake, communications director of the Connecticut Working Families Party.

A Foreign Language Film Series, the second Annual Noche Latina, and a talk delivered by author Jennine Capó Crucet on

her book, *How To Leave Hialeah* which was the first-year common reading selection for 2012, rounded out the fall semester.

More innovative programming is in the works. During the spring 2013 semester, a professor-led field trip to New York City has been scheduled where students will participate in one or two cultural events.

Also planned: USJ's Third Annual Read-A-Thon which celebrates books and authors; "Being a Catholic Woman in the 21st Century" coordinated with Benjamin Peters, Ph.D., assistant professor of Religious Studies; and a presentation on "Women in College Sports: 40 Years of Title IX" which will include the USJ Athletics staff and Catherine Hoyser, Ph.D., professor of English and director of Women's Studies.



From left to right: Hartford Mayor Pedro Segarra; President Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D.; Joseph R. Ofosu, Pharm.D., R.Ph., professor and dean; and Jeanne Merola, board of trustees chair and senior vice president at Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company.

/ OUR FIVE SCHOOLS

BY CHERYL ROSENFELD

School Celebrates Expansion

The USJ School of Pharmacy marked its new expansion in downtown Hartford with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in October. Construction was completed in late spring on the third floor at 229 Trumbull Street in the XL Center where the original 35,000 square foot facility was expanded by an additional 18,000 square feet. Additions include a large classroom with seating for 48 students; a major expansion of the library; a multi-purpose meeting space for events, board meetings or community outreach; and a spacious student lounge that accommodates 100 people.

2012 Preceptors of the Year

The 2012 Preceptors of the Year were honored during an event in October sponsored by the School of Pharmacy. As experiential education professionals, pharmacist preceptors teach students practice-related skills necessary to provide quality pharmacist care. In addition to serving as teachers, pharmacist preceptors mentor student pharmacists, promoting personal and professional growth.

Pictured in the photo from left to right: Joseph R. Ofosu, Pharm.D., R.Ph., professor and dean; 2012 Community Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year Award Winner Leslie Hosking Sexton,

Pharm.D., R.Ph., of Price Chopper Pharmacy, Windsor, Conn.; 2012 Institutional Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year Award Winner Ted Gorham, R.Ph., M.B.A., of Windham Hospital, Willimantic, Conn.; and John Parisi, R.Ph., director of Experiential Education.



Archbishop Mansell Visits School Of Pharmacy

The Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell, D.D., Archbishop of Hartford, visited the USJ School of Pharmacy last fall. Following a tour of the facility, the School hosted a luncheon providing an opportunity for the Archbishop to speak informally with administrators, faculty and students.

New Scholarship

A new scholarship fund was established at USJ in memory of Marguerite Miceli, a first-year student at the School of Pharmacy from Cromwell, Conn. who passed away in September 2012. Marguerite earned her B.S. in Allied Health from the University of Connecticut. The scholarship will assist talented and deserving students at the School who are working hard to pursue their dreams and transform their lives – just as Marguerite did. It also enables faculty to continue their scholarship and expand the scope of their teaching.

To donate use the online form: www.usj.edu/onlinegivingform

Or contact Doug Nelson, vice president for institutional advancement, at 860.231.5397 or dnelson@usj.edu.

Spring 2013 Info Sessions

Learn more about our three-calendar year Doctor of Pharmacy program and visit our new state-of-the-art facility:

Tuesday, February 26, 2013
 Tuesday, April 2, 2013
 Wednesday, May 22, 2013

All information sessions are held at the School of Pharmacy, 229 Trumbull Street, Hartford from 5:00–7:00 p.m. Information presentation begins at 5:30 p.m. To register online, view: www.usj.edu/W13p

For more information, contact Bertram A. Nicholas Jr., R.Ph., Ed.D., assistant dean for admissions and student affairs, at 860.231.5869 or bnicholas@usj.edu.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY





The USJ soccer team hung a banner in The O'Connell Athletic Center after an amazing season. Accolades and awards fell upon the team with the fury of the November snow that covered them in a late-season playoff game. Still, Coach Chris LeGates, himself named Great Northeast Athletic Conference Coach of the Year for the fifth time, said there is much more to accomplish in the future.



Tiana Saraceno '14 jumps for the ball in a game against Saint Joseph's of Maine.

BLUE JAY CHAMPS

Keep up with the USJ Blue Jays at www.usjbluejays.com

BY WILLIAM SCHUBERT
SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR



The team celebrates at Sports Awards Night.

Blue Jays Soccer: A Season of Firsts

The team had a multitude of firsts: The Blue Jays went 16-3-2 overall, setting a single-season school record for wins in a season; they won the regular-season championship in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC); and the team reached the championship game of the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) tournament.

Individually, seven team members were named All-GNAC: Kristin Whitman '12, Patricia Nolan '13 and Melissa Dodge '16 were named First Team; Nicole Mendelson '14, Katie Mirabella '15 and Sara Barnick '16 were named Second Team; and Lindsey Cifaldi '16 was chosen Third Team. Whitman was chosen as team MVP for the second time in three years and was a key component to a defense that allowed 10 goals all season.

Dodge became USJ's first player ever named First Team All-New England when she was named to the 14-player ECAC team in December. Both she and Nolan were named Second Team All-New England by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA).

Nolan, who was the leading scorer with 14 goals and nine assists, became the school's career scoring leader (45 goals, 105 points) in mid-season and has another year to add to those figures. Dodge finished second

in the country among Division-III goalkeepers with a .927 save percentage, stopping 114 of the 123 shots on goal she faced. She was named GNAC Defensive Player of the Year. Barnick, who had nine goals and four assists was named GNAC Rookie of the Year.

"When you have a little bit of time to get away from it, you realize how special it is and what a special group of young women it is," LeGates said. "I think they're the epitome of what a team is supposed to be and that they represent all that's good about college athletics."

The season began with a 1-0 loss to Manhattanville and ended with a 2-0 loss to Endicott in the ECAC final, but in between USJ won 16 of 19 games with two ties. The Blue Jays were unbeaten for seven weeks from Sept. 1-Oct. 19, going 12-0-1 in that span. Wins over regional power Eastern Connecticut State University and eventual GNAC champion Lasell College were among the highlights.

"From day one of pre-season, Assistant Coach Jess Gildea and I knew the chemistry of the group was very, very good," LeGates said. "I think the more we raised the bar, the more they answered the call. We never had

to tone things down."

Saint Joseph reached the semifinals of the GNAC tournament for the fifth consecutive season, but was bitterly eliminated from the tournament in a penalty kick shootout after a scoreless game against Simmons.

"Until we put up a GNAC Tournament banner in the gym and until we play an NCAA tournament game,

"When you have a little bit of time to get away from it, you realize how special it is and what a special group of young women it is ..."

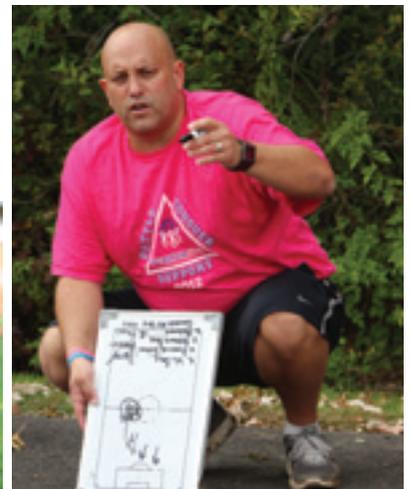
—Coach Chris LeGates GNAC Coach of the Year

I will always feel like we haven't quite done enough," LeGates said. "I'm proud of what we accomplished. We did some things that have never been done. At the same time, there's still more to do."

BREAKING RECORDS!

- » 16-3-2 season record — most wins in a single season in USJ history
- » Won first-ever regular-season GNAC title
- » 13-game unbeaten streak
- » Received its highest ranking (No. 10) in National Soccer Coaches Association of America New England Regional poll
- » Coach Chris LeGates named GNAC Coach of the Year for the fifth time, a first in GNAC history. Read a profile in The Day at www.usj.edu/W13m.
- » Melissa Dodge '16, the first USJ player named to First Team All-New England
- » Patricia Nolan '13 (leading scorer) broke USJ record for career scoring: 105 points
- » Seven players named All-GNAC

Clockwise from left: Patricia Nolan '13 scored a record-breaking 105 points in her USJ tenure. // Coach Chris LeGates was named GNAC Coach of the Year for an unprecedented fifth time. // Loyal fans showing their support. // The team takes on Regis College in less than perfect conditions. USJ won, 3-0.



NICOLE BATTISTONE '15

Fall Sports Wrap Up



Volleyball

Ciara Perez '15, foreground, jumps to make contact.

The team finished with an 8-22 record, matching the win total from 2011. Ciara Perez '15 led the Blue Jays with 320 kills while Emily Vigue '16 had 172 and a team-best 70 aces. Elizabeth Tuazon keyed the defense with 354 digs and Megan Williams had 609 assists. USJ did best when pushed to five sets, winning four of nine matches that went the distance. The team showed improvement throughout the season and finished on a strong note, winning three of four matches from Oct. 20-25.



Tennis

Serena Sundara '16

The tennis team finished with a 2-11 record this season, but did so without any seniors, leading to hopes of improvement in the future. Serena Sundara '16 won a team-high four singles matches during the season and Lisa Wawrzynowski '15, Emily Chenard '15 and Amanda Willhoft '15 earned three apiece. Wawrzynowski was part of a team-best five doubles victories. The overall record was deceiving and could have been much better as the Blue Jays lost three times by a 5-4 score.



Cross Country

Clockwise from top: Cross Country team members Kristin Burke '14, Angela Shabazian '13, Assistant Coach Taryn Avery '11, Bridget Saur '16, Ashley Figueroa '16, Amie Ouellette '15, Liz Calderon '16, and Serena Cochran '14 prepare for the USJ Blue Jay Invitational.

The Blue Jays had another young squad that made strides as the season went on. USJ was 11th of 13 teams in the annual GNAC meet. Anne Pitoniak '14 and Kristin Burke '14 were each the top finishing Saint Joseph runner in three of the team's seven meets this year, while Amie Ouellette '15 was the first USJ runner across the line in the annual Blue Jay Invitational.



DEB FISKE: VOICE OF THE HUSKIES

You can catch Associate Athletic Director Deb Fiske on the radio serving as a basketball analyst for WTIC's broadcasts of UConn women's basketball.

A former UConn Husky, Fiske started as a guard on UConn's first Final Four team. Throughout her career she played in 125 games and led the team with 151 assists during her senior year.

In her 20 years at USJ, Fiske has served as the head tennis coach and basketball coach. She is now the senior women's administrator and director of campus fitness, recreation, and intramurals. Listen at WTIC 1080.

HONORING STUDENT ATHLETES

The University of Saint Joseph athletic community gathered November 12 to honor its student athletes from the fall season.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Runner of the Year: Kristin Burke '14
Most Improved Runner: Anne Pitoniak '14
Coaches' Award: Serena Cochran '14

SOCCER

Most Valuable Player: Kristin Whitman '13
Most Improved Player: Sarah Domschine '16
Coaches' Award: Abby Montambault '12

VOLLEYBALL

Most Valuable Player: Ciara Perez '15
Most Improved Player: Roselande Muscade '16
Coaches' Award: Marie DiPinto '15

TENNIS

Most Valuable Player: Lisa Wawrzynowski '15
Most Improved Player: Angela Zaffetti '14
Coaches' Award: April Loteczka '15

Volleyball Awards

Ciara Perez '15, Roselande Muscade '16, and Marie DiPinto '15 with Assistant Coaches Jeffrey Liu (left), Samantha Maness, and Head Coach Dejshona George '05.



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COUNCIL MEMBERS, 2012-2013

PRESIDENT: Lois Nesci '85, M'87

VICE PRESIDENT: Jenn Vigue '01

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Christina Cellucci '06

CHAIR, Graduate Alumni Committee:
Position Vacant

CHAIR, Annual Fund Committee:
Alisa Dzananovic '05

CHAIR, Public Relations and Outlook Advisory:
Michelle Turley Confessore '86, M'93

CHAIR, Distinguished Alumni Award Committee:
Michelle O'Connell '04

CHAIR, Nominating Committee:
Theresa Cirillo '99, M'03

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

Alumni Club of Fairfield, Susan Conti Root '68

ALUMNI

/ Welcome, USJ Ambassadors

The office of institutional advancement has created a group of Ambassadors to serve as advocates for the University throughout the region. "The University has always been blessed by its affiliation with members of the greater community who have the talents, resources, and connections to help us advance our mission," said Doug Nelson, vice president of institutional advancement. "Our goal is to harness their goodwill for the University and to share it with those they encounter in their personal and professional lives."

Members include: Ronald Angelo, Connecticut Department of Economic Development; Larry Brown, Horton International LLC; Melanie Cecarelli '78, Women's Leadership Group, United Way; Molly Rees Gavin '71, Connecticut Community Care; Carol Guardo '61, former interim president of USJ; Antoinette Iadarola '62, Lauralton Hall; William Johnson, New England Financial Group; Rob King, ESPN; Robert Mooney, DNA Hoofprints; and Scott Slifka, West Hartford Mayor.



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NEWS

/Alumni Profile: Commissioner Sharon Palmer

BY SUE SIMONEAU

Connecticut's new labor commissioner, Sharon M. Palmer '65, wanted to clear the air at a conservative business group's meeting. "You all know I came out of the AFT-CT," she said frankly, referring to her long service with the American Federation of Teachers, the tougher of the state's teacher unions. Union vs. management wasn't going to fix the economy, she explained. "If the lights go out on the shop floor, they go out for everyone." When you talk with Palmer, as the business executives learned, you get honesty, a willingness to listen, and quick humor.

A Chemistry major at Saint Joseph, she spent about 20 years teaching science in Waterford, Conn., where she lives. Asked recently about her personality, she offered this: "I'm a procrastinator. I do my best work under pressure. I guess I can say this now" – pause – "in college I did all my papers the night before!"

She remembers how USJ shaped her:

"The training that I received as a young woman ... to spread my wings ... there were high expectations."

Her views on social justice, formed at home and at church, really solidified in college. "It has brought me into my work as president of the AFT and will continue with me in this job," she said.



Sharon Palmer '65, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Labor

While teaching, she decided that she didn't want to be an administrator. But the teachers union seemed to be a way to work for change. "I saw the union as another way to affect educational policy," she said.

Eventually, her work there led her to the state union's presidency in 2003 and into wider involvement with the AFL-CIO and the Democratic party. Last summer, Palmer was a major force opposing Governor Dannel Malloy's plan to eliminate teacher tenure. Malloy said, when he appointed her to the Labor Department in August, "One of the strongest advocates in the effort to fix what's broken in our public schools was Sharon Palmer. While we may not have agreed on every aspect of the proposal, we always agreed that change was not just inevitable but necessary." The talks sometimes stretched to 4:00 a.m. "It's the nature of the work. You have to put the time in. I'm not afraid of putting in long hours," Palmer said.

As head of the Labor Department, she sees her mission as "trying to put people back to work." She brings this approach: "In the Department of Labor, there needs to be a balance between business and labor, with the idea of fairness, equity, respect on both sides ... it levels the playing field for everyone."

Palmer describes herself as a "coalition builder and a collaborator." But she also disarms people with her humor. Case in point, a story about meeting a former student. Sharon remembers her general science classroom as a mildly noisy room where kids worked in groups, weren't always sitting in their seats, and were really engaged. Down the hall was a social studies teacher who demanded detailed outlines of every chapter – and corrected them.

The student said, "I really learned a lot from him when he made us outline all those chapters. Every time I read a contract, I think of how the details matter."

Her memories of Palmer's class? "I really don't remember much ... the guinea pig had babies."

"What you think is great, somebody else just doesn't see in the same way," Palmer said with a laugh.

Which could explain why her husband George, who is retired, is still waiting for his wife to stop working. "My husband thinks I'm nuts taking this job, but it sounded so interesting ..."

» KEEP IN TOUCH:

Be sure to stay in touch with USJ. Keep us apprised of your current e-mail address in order to receive the monthly *Alumni E-Newsletter*.



Like us on Facebook and stay connected to all things USJ. Search University of Saint Joseph, CT Alumni.

/Building a Lasting and Secure Gift

Dr. Ann-Margaret Anselmo's life has been intrinsically tied to the University of Saint Joseph. A graduate of the class of 1946, she also served the USJ community as a professor of English, department chair, and academic dean. Dr. Anselmo retired in 1990 and is a professor emeritus.

"Saint Joe's has been such an important part of my life," she said. "It was a wonderful place to be for so many years." Dr. Anselmo regularly supported the University, making generous donations to various scholarships, projects, and programs. In recent years, she established several significant and lasting gifts – two charitable gift annuities and a bequest, which support student scholarships.

"I am passionate about helping students who don't have the financial resources to attend college," Dr. Anselmo said.

"My parents were so supportive and encouraging of my education, and I see this as an opportunity to honor their memory while helping students in need."

The bequest and the charitable gift annuities give Dr. Anselmo financial security, while investing in a cause she holds close to her heart. "Once (Major Gifts Officer) Diane Burgess outlined the possibilities, I knew I wanted to make the investment. The annuities actually generate income and the way I see it is: the more income I have, the more I can give to scholarships."



Ann-Margaret Anselmo '46 and her Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Molly, one of two Connecticut pets to win the Planetree award for pet therapy.



Meghan McLaughlin Bove and Tom Anderson

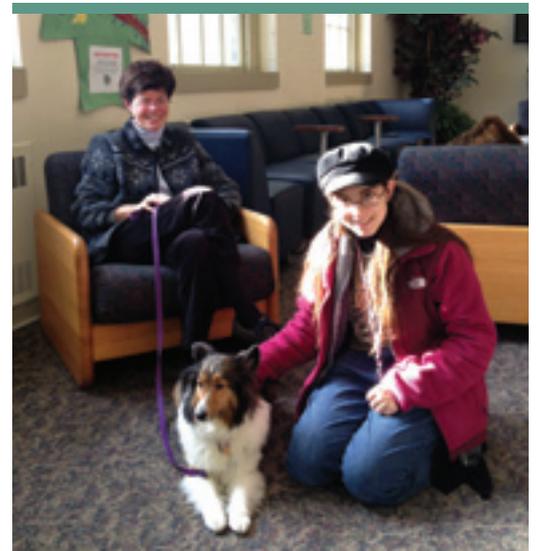
/Golden Dome Member Rebecca Caldwell: "Why I Support USJ"

"It wasn't in the script. While working as the director of Human Resources at what was then Saint Joseph College, a ruptured brain aneurysm changed the course of my life. I spent time at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center and Mt. Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital. My doctors, nurses, therapists, and the staff were my angels. They taught me firsthand about Mercy charism; they are the reason I am alive; their caring, determination, and skills gave me a solid foundation for recovery.

"Though he passed away more than a year ago, my husband Brian is still my hero. His support and encouragement contributed immensely to my determination to improve. Now it's up to me.

"Today, I participate in hospital-sponsored recreational therapy programs. Whether visiting patients at Mt. Sinai with my dog, rowing on the Connecticut River, or participating in a therapeutic horseback riding program, I am improving and having fun.

"I joined the University of Saint Joseph because I believed strongly in education, especially women's education. Now I have experienced the power and caring of Mercy. That's why, as I rewrote my will, it was important to me to include a gift to the University. I hope others will do the same."



Becky Caldwell and her certified pet therapy dog, Lilly, Michele Chenard '14, a Nutrition major, was happy to get a few minutes of stress relief as exam time approached.

/Second Generation Connections

Meghan McLaughlin Bove, daughter of the late Jeannette Keller McLaughlin '46, and Tom Anderson, son of the late Jean Donahue Anderson '46, met after Chapel Bells Mass in November and discovered their mothers were classmates and friends.



In the second row, Jeannette Keller McLaughlin '46 is fourth from the right and Jean Donahue Anderson '46 is fifth from the right.

Following the Mass, they traded stories they'd heard from their mothers, forming yet another generation of USJ bonds. Bove found the 1946 class photo showing their mothers standing next to each other on the steps of McDonough.

/Reunion & Homecoming 2013

Saturday
September 21, 2013

- » Seeking volunteers for classes ending in 3s and 8s
- » Alumni athletics games are planned for the day, seeking volunteers to help out
- » Committees look to start getting together/communicating after the new year

Contact the office of annual giving & alumni relations today at alumni@usj.edu or 860.231.5323 and get involved!

/Get Involved in USJ – Volunteer Opportunities: Become a Class Agent!

Class agents are the University's alumni who give their time, efforts, 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 alumni 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 a great University of Saint Joseph education. Some like to stay in touch with classmates. There are probably as many reasons to volunteer as there are alumni of the 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 alumni volunteers and donors.

Responsibilities:

1. Connect alumni friends and classmates back to University of Saint Joseph
2. Be a spokesperson for University of Saint Joseph
3. Lead by example

Commitment:

1. Participate in class agent discussions
2. Volunteer and/or attend USJ alumni-related events and initiatives
3. Your role as a class agent will last through at least two academic years
(Although we hope you will stay involved longer!)

Want to learn more about the class agent program?

Go to www.usj.edu/W13n

/Fall Alumni Events

Fairfield Friends: Members of the Fairfield Club gathered for dinner and conversation on October 17 at the Fairfield Wheeler Golf Course. Interim Director of Marketing and Communications Laura Sheehan spoke to the group on “Staying Connected to USJ.”

Hartford Club members met for an evening of alumni fun at City Steam in Hartford on October 24. Here, Steve Kumnick, manager of annual giving and alumni relations, (right) catches up with Michelle O’Connell ’04.



Fairfield and Hartford Clubs

/Get Your USJ Diploma!

Make a Change, Make a Difference: Alumni can order a commemorative University of Saint Joseph diploma and make a contribution to the annual fund at the same time! The framed diploma – with your name, class year, and degree – is available for \$150, a portion of which will serve the University's annual fund. To order, please contact Steve Kumnick, manager of annual giving and alumni relations, at skumnick@usj.edu or 860.231.5323.

/Mercy Lecture Series

The alumni office hosted several Lunch and Learn events (now known as Mercy Lectures) this past year.

Presentations included: "This is Your Brain on Politics" by Elizabeth Vozzola, Ph.D., professor of Psychology; "Why is American Government in Such a Terrible Mess?" by Ken Long, Ph.D., professor of History & Political Science; and "Teaching a Bully Respect" by Dr. Kathleen Barrett, assistant professor of Counseling and Vivian Carlson, Ph.D., associate professor of Human Development and Family Studies.



Lunch and Learn: Dr. Kathleen Barrett speaks on bullying.

/Upcoming Events

Mercy Lecture Series
 "Understanding the 2012 Elections and What Lies Ahead"
 Presented by Ken Long, Ph.D., Professor of History & Political Science
JANUARY 23, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

Mercy Lecture Series
 "The Real World of Forensic Science"
 Presented by Elaine Pagliaro '73, DAA '93, forensic consultant & director, Grants & Research for the Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science
FEBRUARY 5, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

Dinner with Strangers
FEBRUARY 28, 2013
Restaurant Bricco
 78 Lasalle Road
 West Hartford, CT 06107

Mercy Lecture Series
 "You've Earned a Say on the Future of Medicare & Social Security"
 Presented by the AARP CT
MARCH 5, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

Springfield Area Alumni Gathering
MARCH 7, 2013
Max's Tavern at the Basketball Hall of Fame

Mercy Lecture Series
 "Script Your Future: Medication Adherence"
 Presented by Maria Summa, Pharm D., Associate Professor of Pharmacy
MARCH 14, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

Honors Alumni Networking Reception
MARCH 19, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

Dinner with Strangers
MARCH 28, 2013
Rizzuto's Wood-Fired Kitchen & Bar
 111 Memorial Road
 West Hartford, CT 06107

Alumni Club of Fairfield Spring Gathering
APRIL 2013
Specific date and location TBD

Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner
APRIL 19, 2013
The Hartford Marriott Downtown Hartford, Conn.

Dinner with Strangers
APRIL 25, 2013
Besito
 46 South Main Street
 West Hartford, CT 06107

Mercy Lecture Series
 "Tune Up Your Nutrition for the 21st Century"
 Presented by Anne Davis, Ph.D., R.D.: Assistant Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics
MAY 7, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

Athletics Hall of Fame
MAY 11, 2013
O'Connell Athletic Center

Commencement 2013
MAY 12, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

USJ at the New Britain Rock Cats
JUNE 2, 2013
Rock Cats Stadium
 230 John Karbonic Way
 New Britain, CT 06051

Mercy Lecture Series
 "Building Bridges Between the Past and Present"
 Presented by Mary Mitchell '90, M'94, DAA '12: Gerontologist Mary-Jane Eisen, Ed.D.: Assistant Professor, Psychology Department
University of Saint Joseph

Recent Alumni Gathering
JUNE 7, 2013
University of Saint Joseph

USJ Gala
JUNE 14, 2013
Connecticut Convention Center
 100 Columbus Boulevard #400
 Hartford, CT 06103

To learn more about any alumni events, contact the office of annual giving & alumni relations at alumni@usj.edu or 860.231.5323.

/Thank You, Donors ...

For supporting the University of Saint Joseph! To celebrate and share its appreciation of your goodwill, the University has posted its Roll Call of Donors on the USJ web site at www.usj.edu/donorlist.

"We cannot do great things on this Earth, only small things with great love." – Mother Teresa

Keep the USJ 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. 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.

1946

Ann-Margaret Anselmo retired in 1990 after 25 years as a faculty member in the English department at the University of Notre Dame.

1952

Joan Maciora Plocharczyk retired in 1991 from a very successful and enjoyable teaching career in New Britain. She was a mentor teacher at the Holmes School, a CCSU training teacher, and a recipient of the Celebration of Excellence in Teaching Award in Conn. She wrote a children's story, *Somewhere Out There*, which was self-published and distributed throughout the New Britain schools upon her retirement. Her years at Saint Joe's were filled with many wonderful classmates and memories. "There seems to be an intangible something, a spiritual strength, that helped me work through so many impossible tasks which tested me physically, mentally and creatively, to a successful end," she wrote. "That work ethic and spiritual strength has

led to an amazing life full of seemingly impossible tasks, taken on with courage and the 'can do' attitude of a Saint Joseph graduate."

1955

Elizabeth Brophy Gilmore has been teaching math for more than 40 years. She retired from full-time teaching in 1997, but was recruited to teach part-time in an ABE program.

1968

Jeanne Tesik Avicolli and her husband, Richard, traveled to Naples, Sorrento, and Rome in November 2011 to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary.

Deanna (Dee) Cote Thibodeau is happily married to Ron Thibodeau. They celebrated their first anniversary on September 4, 2012.

1970

Geraldine Natwin remembers living in Madonna Hall first floor during her first year. She and her classmates pulled pranks including removing Sr. Kathleen Mary's bed, filling her room with paper, and giving her a hammock to sleep in.

1975

Katherine Miller Chimini is a proud grandmother to two.

1976

Marian T. Humphrey was ordained as a priest at the Washington National Cathedral in January 2012. She is serving the Church of the Good Shepherd in Bruke, Va. as an assistant rector.

1983

Patricia Russek Ritchie reached her goal of visiting all seven continents.

Sue Smolski continues to be active in clinical practice. She is a great aunt to four.

1991

Karla Westerman Kleinsmidt is happily retired with time for grandchildren Hannah and Noah.

1995

Peggy Ann Loos Dragon is enjoying her grandson, Elliott Bernard.

1997

Miri S. Daly received a Doctor in Nursing Practice (DNP) degree from UMass Amherst in May 2012.

Elizabeth Rafalowsky was named Teacher of the Year for South Windsor Public Schools and was selected as a semi-finalist for the Connecticut Teacher of the Year. She began her special education teaching career at South Windsor High School in 1997, serving in the role of resource teacher for seven years and as special education transition coordinator since 2005. Her teaching style is reflective of her philosophy that public education for students needs to be both inclusive and personalized, and that by creating real-world experiences, students can not only set long- and short-term goals, but also build bridges between school and the greater community.



1998

Laura Bailey was promoted to executive director of the Women and Infants Service Line at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.



1999

Erica-Hope Scott and her family have enjoyed keeping up with fellow alumni via daily Skype and/or Facebook meetings. She reports that, "From parenting advice to work transitions to babies and toddlers 'gooing and gaaing' at each other, these online sites have proven to be a rewarding way to keep in contact. Not to mention viewing the beautiful story of life playing out in pictures, from engagements to births." She also keeps in contact with her former colleagues at the Gengras Center and classmates from both her USJ undergraduate and graduate experiences.

2001

Teresa DiNardi became a partner with Ruane Attorneys at Law, LLC, Connecticut's largest criminal defense firm. She joined the firm in 2006 after graduating from Western New England College of Law. Over the years, she developed a reputation for handling DUI cases and has been profiled in the *New York Times* as well as local media. DiNardi was selected as one of the Connecticut Law Tribune's top 50 women attorneys in 2010. She is co-owner of the Spicy Green Bean Restaurant in Glastonbury, Conn., with her wife, Katherine Denisiewicz.



Melissa Schober is on leave from her job as director of Medicaid Policy for the Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration. She returned to school at the University of Maryland College Park where she is enrolled in the mid-career master's of Public Management in Health Policy Program. She expects to complete her MPM in December 2013, just after her daughter, Ruth, begins kindergarten.

2004

Sara Bisi started a new job at the Harvard Art Museum in the department of Collections Management. She also opened a private practice in paper and photograph conservation in the Boston area, PaperCare Conservation Services, LLC. In September, she returned to campus to speak to Professor Dorothy Keller's Egyptian Art class about art conservation and a recent project she completed for papyrus Book of the Dead fragments.

Rebecca Melancon McElwee earned a master's degree in Creative Writing from Southern Connecticut State University.

2005 2007

Alisa Dzananovic, senior communication specialist at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, was named one of *Hartford Business Journal's* 40 Under 40.

Kelley Marie McCarthy earned a master's of science degree in College Student Affairs with a concentration in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from Nova Southeastern University in June. In July, she joined the Residence Life team at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind., as a hall director.



Congratulations

Births and Adoptions

Rebecca Melancon McElwee '04 welcomed a baby in July 2011.

Sarah Zubrowski Hollenbeck '99, M'07 welcomed Benjamin Peter Hollenbeck on April 21, 2012.



Graziella Molluzzo Loesche '02 and her husband, Christopher, are enjoying life with their three children: Juliana, Nathaniel, and Christian (pictured).



Engagements and Marriages

Daysha Haxton '02 married Ronald Linstruth on October 21, 2012.

In Memoriam

The following list includes USJ alumni who will be remembered at the Chapel Bells Mass in November.

Kathryn L. Glynn '44, M'64
June 7, 2012

Eleanor Hollman Mayr '46
November 13, 2012

Jeannette Keller McLaughlin '46
September 8, 2012

Jean Larson Wigren '46
November 8, 2012

Eleanor Waters Czarnowski '47
June 12, 2012

Bernice Deady Moore '47, P'84
June 10, 2012

Jean McEvoy O'Brien '47
June 2011

Marjorie A. Kane '50
October 2, 2012

Jean Manion Leahy '50
October 6, 2012

Barbara White Murphy '50
February 20, 2012

Jean Renehan St. Peter '50
September 2, 2012

Kathleen Bilger Braheney '51
July 27, 2012

Anna Correia Brinley '51
October 9, 2012

Margaret Mulligan Cayer '51
June 23, 2012

Marion Brynga Smith '52
June 30, 2012

Judith Cavalier Quinn '53
October 27, 2012

Kathryn F. Pease '55
July 14, 2012

Davetta McComb Curtiss '58
September 2, 2012

Irene McVeigh Lowndes '58, M'77
November 26, 2011

Denise Phaneuf Bagg '68
July 22, 2012

Mary Scollard Shanahan '69
June 26, 2012

Gabrielle Freeman Bartlett M'74
September 9, 2012

Victoria Ross Cosgrove '82
March 27, 2012

Jettabee C. Edman M'89
August 29, 2012

Jules E. Van Schelt Jr. M'89
May 10, 2012

Judy M. Blatt M'94
October 25, 2012

Catherine (Mary Isaac) Colby, OP, M'94
December 2, 2011

Joy Davidson Mason '05
November 3, 2012

In Memory of Mike Gessford

Local author and Adventure Educator Rick Keegan donated the proceeds from his book, *Global Games for Diversity Education*, to the University's Mike Gessford Scholarship Fund. The fund was established in 2011 following the sudden death of Mike Gessford, a beloved staff member who worked as an adventure education coordinator at USJ and a physical education teacher at the Gengras Center.

In a letter to President Reid with a \$1,300 donation, Keegan wrote, "Mike was a close friend and mentor for the writing of this book ... I am proud that the proceeds from the sales of the book support your Adventure Education program."

Global Games for Diversity Education, which was published by Wood 'N' Barnes, is dedicated to Mike Gessford.

To make a gift to the Mike Gessford Scholarship Fund, contact the office of institutional advancement at 860.231.5462 or www.usj.edu/giving.



Mike Gessford working the USJ ropes course with Suki Hood '13.

"When I first came to the University of Saint Joseph, I had no idea that I would be doing so much on campus. So many doors have opened for me and, as a result, I've made great connections and explored lots of different things."

Exploring Greatness

MEET NICOLE BATTISTONE '15

- Psychology major
- Student blogger & photographer: www.usj.edu/WI3o
- Student Ambassador
- Member of Women of Wellness



NICOLE BATTISTONE '15

WOW: The Women of Wellness, a student group, prepare for the Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk.

"At USJ, I am part of a small community with big resources – more than I thought. There are so many people here who help and support me. I love how the faculty, staff, and my friends show their support."



NICOLE BATTISTONE '15

Students prepare to cheer on the Blue Jays soccer team in its record-breaking season (read more on page 33).

"The best part? Knowing that I am only a sophomore and there is so much more for me to explore – new ideas and different opportunities that will help me discover who I truly am and how I can contribute to the world."



Nicole and Cathy Nesci '15 prepare to give campus tours at an Open House.



Dr. Pam Aselton

The New DNP in the New Age of Nursing

This spring, the department of Nursing will admit the first cohort of students in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, the university's second doctoral program.

BY PAMELA ASELTON, MPH, MSN, PH.D.
GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, NURSING

Faculty members are excited to welcome this group of students, many of whom are graduates of our master's degree program. In some sense, it is a natural extension of the current graduate program. Compared with the traditional Ph.D. degree in Nursing, which focuses on research techniques and the creation of new knowledge for nursing practice, the DNP will provide an evidence-based practice and translational research. It is recommended by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) for Advanced Practice

Registered Nurses (APRNs) in order to provide the highest level quality education for advanced practitioners, and to address the acute need for more primary care providers which is expected to increase nationwide.

DNP graduates are working in all areas of nursing including clinical practice, academic settings, community, and non-profit agencies, as well as private industry. They are trained to take on leadership roles in all these settings. Having a long history of working with other health professionals as well as with nurses, DNP

graduates are advocates for interprofessional collaboration to provide optimal patient care. Nurse practitioners have been important providers of primary care in this country for several decades now, and with the advent of health care reform, more individuals have insurance coverage and will need primary and mental health care. The DNP graduates will meet the needs of health care facilities and community agencies. The level of education required for the advanced practice role is increasingly complex in the information age. Like other health professions (such as pharmacy), the nursing profession is advancing to the doctoral level as the required preparation of APRNs.

The University's DNP students will complete their clinical hours in health care agencies and community settings in Connecticut, concentrating on the needs of specific populations. Their clinical dissertations will focus on challenges in today's health care arena and they will use evidence-based research guidelines to improve quality of care.

The DNP has truly become the new doctorate degree in Nursing and reflects the more complex roles in today's advanced nursing practice. The incoming students have varied clinical interests and backgrounds. Some DNP students in the inaugural class

have taught Nursing; others have worked in the psychiatric mental health field for years. Our incoming students are experienced Registered Nurses, Family Nurse Practitioners or Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners who have been through our program and want to come back to expand their knowledge. Each student will be paired with an advisor who will assist them in developing their clinical dissertation topic. Although the coursework is online, there will be specialty seminars on campus and frequent meetings with advisors on campus to keep in touch. The Nursing department is looking forward to these collaborations.

USJ 2013 ANNUAL FUND SUPPORT STUDENTS

SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

Help support student scholarships today. Use the envelope, call 860.231.5364, or visit www.usj.edu/give to make your gift.

My name is Na-Tasha Bryan. I am a senior in the Social Work program with a concentration in Criminal Justice and a minor in Political Science.

The generosity of donors has played a huge part in my being able to attend college and work toward my goals of becoming a social worker and lawyer. This is especially crucial for me because my mother is disabled and cannot work and my father is deceased.

As a result, I rely on scholarship aid, federal funding, student loans and money earned from my on-campus jobs to help finance my education. Without scholarship support, I would have spent the last three years worrying about paying my student bill every month and would not have been able to focus on getting good grades. Thus far, I have maintained a 3.7 GPA.

USJ means everything to me. It has transformed me into the woman I am today. It has made me a more determined person and a wiser woman. My USJ experience reinforced my belief that I can do anything I set my mind to. It empowered me to move beyond my comfort zone and to challenge myself in unimaginable ways – both in and out of the academic arena.

Scholarship support has been a blessing. I believe that education is power and without the altruism and charity of donors, my success would not have been possible. Scholarship donors don't just give money, they give opportunity: opportunity for those of us who receive their gifts to make the world a better place and to pay it forward in the future. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to support student scholarships today!



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Winter/Spring 2013

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DanceWorks Chicago

Friday, February 8
7:30 p.m.



Duquesne University Tamburitzans

Saturday, February 23
2:30 p.m.



Gospel Festival of New England

Friday, February 15
7:00 p.m.



Jimmy Webb in Concert

Friday, February 22
7:30 p.m.

Navarasa Dance Theatre

Wednesday, February 27
7:30 p.m.



Silents are Golden: A Celebration of Silent Cinema

Wednesday, March 6
7:30 p.m.



The Sing-a-Long Sound of Music!

Saturday, March 9
1:30 p.m.



Ringrose, Freeman & Friends

Sunday, March 10
2:30 p.m.

Jamaica, Farewell

Saturday, March 23
7:30 p.m.



HartFolk Festival presents Kate Callahan

Friday, April 5
7:30 p.m.



HartFolk Festival presents The Sea

Saturday, April 6
7:30 p.m.

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