



UNIVERSITY OF
SAINT JOSEPH
CONNECTICUT

Alumni Newsletter

October 2019



Michelle Cortese '97

Pamela Roca Yldefonso '85

Charlotte Russell Tucker '85

EVENTS

ATHLETICS

REUNION

DAA

GIVE

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Join Us on Monday, Oct. 7 for "If I had known..." Lessons Learned on the Job

It's not too late to sign up for the upcoming panel discussion, "If I had known..." *Lessons Learned on the Job*, taking place on **Monday, Oct. 7 in the Bruyette Athenaeum, 2nd Floor Reception Room.**

The Office of Alumni Relations and the Career Development Center invite you to join alumni and current students for a panel discussion involving **Pamela Rich Mulhearn '85**, owner of *Her Podium*; **Michelle Cutrali '97**, financial advisor for New York Life; and **Charlene Russell-Tucker '85**, Chief Operating Officer at Connecticut State Department of Education. Listen in as they share the important lessons they've learned in their varied careers.

The formal program will run from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., followed by a networking reception. See old friends, make new contacts, and bring your business cards!

[Click here to register](#) or contact **Rachel Scully** in Alumni Relations at **860.231.5447** or rscully@usj.edu.



USJ Turf Field Ribbon Cutting

Join us on **Saturday, Oct. 5** for the highly anticipated ribbon cutting for the new USJ Turf Field. Starting at **11:45 a.m.**, the ribbon cutting will take place directly before the women's soccer game. Later in the afternoon, we will also be honoring the 2019 Softball team who won the GNAC Championship during halftime at the men's soccer game, which starts at 2:30 p.m. against Norwich.

It's going to be an eventful day for USJ Athletics! We hope you will join us. Contact Rachel Scully in Alumni Relations, at rscully@usj.edu, with any questions.



Trivia Corner

The first alumnus to submit the correct answer to this month's trivia question will receive a USJ bundle and a mention in next month's alumni newsletter.

October Trivia Question

The Class of 1972 gifted a sculpture to the University, which was erected between Mercy and McDonough Halls. What is the name of that sculpture?

Email your response to alumni@usj.edu.

September's Question

The main USJ campus is composed of how many acres of land?

September's Answer

90 Acres

September's Winner

Janet B. King '05
Congratulations, Janet! Look out for your USJ bundle in the mail!



Reunion Donations That Make a Difference

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for all of the wonderful donations of paper products and cutlery from Reunion weekend. Your response was overwhelming and will save Hands on Hartford's Manna Community Meals several months of shopping! I actually took three trunk loads there and each time the response was "Wow" and "God Bless You!"

So I join in their sentiment - may God Bless each of you for your generosity and for making our core value of Compassionate Service come alive through you!

In Mercy,
Sister Beth Fischer

"For Mercy has a human heart..."
William Blake



Reminiscing About Reunion 2019

This year's Reunion was a great success! There was not a cloud in the sky as alumni of all ages gathered on the patio of the Bruyette Athenaeum to kick off a fun-filled day of activities on their old stomping grounds. President Free began with a warm welcome address followed by Mary Dillon Dickerson '89, who presided over the Alumni Association Annual Meeting. Recognizing the incredible generosity of our alumni, Dickerson presented a check in the amount of \$242,639 to President Free on behalf of all those who gave leading up to Reunion.



Upcoming Events

Pounding the Pavement for Pink 5K

Saturday, Oct. 5

8 a.m.

Seymour, Conn.

Contact [Rachel Scully](#) for details

USJ Turf Field Ribbon Cutting

Saturday, Oct. 5

11:45 a.m.

USJ Turf Field

The Ribbon Cutting will take place before the women's soccer game at noon.

"If I had known..." Lessons Learned on the Job

Monday, Oct. 7

5:30 p.m. Panel Discussion

6:30 p.m. Networking Reception

Bruyette, 2nd Floor Reception Room

Highlights of the day included a renewed tradition with the morning Mimosa Toast, the Milestone Brunch, a lecture by beloved professor Dorothy Keller, M'85, C'97, DAA'99, H'17, M.Ed., the Parade of Classes, and more. With 150 alumni in attendance, the 50th Anniversary Class of 1969 brought in the largest attendance by far. Celebrating their important milestone, the Class of '69 had big plans for their Class Brunch, including an encore performance of their Hum Night song that earned them the winning title in their sophomore year.

The beautiful day came to a close with the President's Wine and Cheese Reception held in the Bruyette lobby and outdoor patio. With special guest Joey the Blue Jay in attendance, President Free and alumni enjoyed good food, good drinks, and good company.

We hope to see everyone back on campus in the near future for an upcoming alumni event!

Next year, we'll be celebrating classes ending in 0s and 5s. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in joining your Reunion Committee, please contact **Rachel Scully** at rscully@usj.edu or 860.231.5447.



The USJ Legacy Continues On

Featured in the photo on the left is Susan Lombardi Delvecchio '69 with her grandson Benjamin Marchetti, a current student in the Class of 2023. While celebrating her 50th Reunion, Susan was surprised when Benjamin presented her with flowers following the traditional Parade of Classes.

"Who would have thought 50 years ago that he would be studying and playing soccer at USJ on the day of his grandmother's 50th Reunion? Quite a day for her. USJ has come a long way to maintain a strong reputation," writes Susan's husband, Robert Delvecchio.

The USJ soccer team won their game that day, and Benjamin reportedly scored a goal for his grandmother. A very special day for all!

RSVP to [Rachel Scully](#)

Alumni Trivia Night

Wednesday, Oct. 9

6:30 p.m.

World of Beer, West Hartford, Conn.

[Click here to register](#)

Hartford Marathon Water Station Volunteers

Saturday, Oct. 12

7:30 a.m.

Water Station #18 - Steele Rd, West Hartford, Conn.

[Click here to register](#)

Please note:

The Boston Area Alumni Luncheon, originally scheduled for Oct. 23, has been postponed to the Spring.



Volunteers needed!

Are you interested in being a career exploration volunteer? Help USJ students prepare for the workforce, build resumes, and learn networking tips. We are always looking for



volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Katie DaSilva Burke '15, M'17, at kdasilva@usj.edu or 860.231.5364.

Congratulations to This Year's Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients

On Friday, Sept. 20, the USJ community came together to honor this year's DAA recipients, **Kathleen McGrath Fitts '79** and **Maureen Gorman '86**. Kathleen was awarded the *Mary Rosa McDonough Award* and Maureen was awarded the *Business and Entrepreneurial Award*.

Surrounded by their families, friends, and past DAA recipients, Kathleen and Maureen were celebrated for their hard-earned accomplishments.

President Free spoke proudly of our two distinguished honorees, "They are role models for current students and through their work and accomplishments, they affirm the reputation of the University. They are women who have enjoyed great success and then reached back to lend a hand to the next generation of business leaders, and share their talents by building better and stronger communities."

"It is graduates like tonight's honorees that have led to USJ's designation by the most highly regarded rankings in the U.S. as one of the best universities in the nation. Often, USJ has been referred to as a 'best kept secret.' Well the secret is out, USJ is a very distinguished place and we have the graduates to prove it," said President Free.

Thank you to all those who joined us for this wonderful evening!

To view the video presentation, created by Jennifer Miceli '99, '00 and Mike Miceli of Miceli Productions, click the link below.

[Watch video](#)



USJ Athletics Home Games

Women's Tennis

Saturday, Oct. 5 vs. Regis College, noon

Women's Soccer

Saturday, Oct. 5 vs. Regis College, noon

Saturday, Oct. 19 vs. Suffolk University, noon

Wednesday, Oct. 23 vs. Emmanuel College, 4 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Saturday, Oct. 5 vs. Norwich University, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 9 vs. Anna Maria College, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 19 vs. Suffolk, 2:30 p.m.



USJ Unveils Campus-Wide Accessibility Improvements

The USJ community came together recently to celebrate the unveiling of campus-wide accessibility improvements. Initiated by a \$400,000 state grant, the multiple improvements include everything from accessible doors, ADA compliant ramps, and improved curb cuts and signage throughout the campus. Pictured at the ribbon cutting ceremony outside of Mercy Hall are, from left, Beth Bye, CT commissioner, Early Childhood Education; Trustee Patricia J. Rooney, RSM, '58, M'72, DAA'00; President Rhona Free; and students and teaching assistants from the Gengras Center School.

Women's Volleyball

Saturday, Oct. 5 vs. Saint Joseph's College of Maine, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 19 vs. Salem State University, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 23 vs. Albertus Magnus College, 7 p.m.

*For a schedule of away games, visit the USJ Athletics page [here](#).

Two Varsity Sports Added to the 2020-2021 Academic Year

USJ Athletic Director Amanda Devitt has announced the addition of women's field hockey and men's tennis, beginning in the 2020-2021 academic year. With the addition of these two programs, USJ will now sponsor 15 varsity sports with nine women's programs and six men's programs.



Back in July, Devitt announced that Karen Nell would join the USJ family as our new head women's lacross coach and inaugural head field hockey coach. "Coach Nell's experience, winning mentality, and passion for both lacross and field hockey at every level is unrivaled," said Devitt.

With regard to the new men's program, Devitt shared, "We are thrilled to announce the addition of men's tennis and to be able to provide more opportunities for student-athletes to compete. Our brand new, state-of-the-art courts will serve as the perfect home venue for the team."

To learn more about the growing athletics program at USJ, click the link below.

[Learn more](#)



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*President Rhona Free and
the Board of Trustees invite you
to join us at the groundbreaking
ceremony for the O'Connell
Athletic Center Expansion*

➔ **Thursday, Oct. 17, 2019**

➔ **5:30 p.m.**

➔ **University of Saint Joseph**

**Please meet us in the parking lot
of the O'Connell Athletic Center**

Celebratory reception immediately following

RSVP to marketing@usj.edu





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WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP
CENTER

The Women's Leadership Center Continues to Prepare Women for Success

The Women's Leadership Center at USJ continues to offer workshops, training, courses, and forums to help women succeed. Founded in 2016, the Center is committed to developing inspiring and effective leaders.

In the U.S., women make up more than half the population and obtain 62% of all undergraduate and 59% of all graduate degrees. However, marketplace statistics show that women still have a long way to go in terms of leadership roles.

"The Women's Leadership Center continues to address challenges faced by women in Connecticut and across the country," said Melanie Sinche, executive director. "As we charge forward with our mission, nothing is more important than advancing our area's women and girls so that they can have a seat at decision-making tables."

To learn more about the Women's Leadership Center 2019-2020 program, *Leading the Charge: Women Who Inspire*, click the link below.

[Read more](#)

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