



# UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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## CONNECTICUT

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## **UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH TO HONOR SEVEN COMMUNITY LEADERS WITH DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS**

**WEST HARTFORD, CONN.** (April 30, 2016) – The University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford, Conn., will honor seven alumni with a 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award, acknowledging their professional achievements, exemplary leadership, and community service. The honorees will be recognized at an awards dinner at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Hartford on May 20, 2016. A welcome reception will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., followed by dinner and the awards program.

The honorees include:

**Laura Bailey '97.M'13** (Nursing) of Hebron, Conn., will receive the Nightingale Health Science Award for her demonstrated leadership in the field of health science. Bailey has spent most of her career at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Women and Infant Service Line. Bailey is dedicated to nursing and patient care, as well as mentoring and empowering others to succeed.

**Gene and Kathleen Bruyette '49, H'04, DAA'99** (Economics) of Stuart, Fla., philanthropists, will receive the Pamela Trotman Reid Service Award recognizing an alumni or friend who has transformed the University through financial support. The Bruyette's philanthropy has defined their relationship with the University of Saint Joseph over the last 40 years. Beneficiaries of their generous donations include the Kathleen Bruyette Natatorium, The Keefe-Bruyette Symposium, and the School of Pharmacy.

**Judith Carey, RSM, M'72, H'91, Ph.D.** (Special Education) of Hartford, Conn., will receive the Winifred E. Coleman Service Award for exemplary service and commitment to USJ. Sister Judith is an organizational consultant in the area of sponsorship education and training whose commitment to compassionate service and the values of USJ has a long history that dates back to her time as a faculty member and Director of the Gengras Center. Her belief in providing needed services for children with disabilities made her a forerunner and advocate in the field of special education. As a current member of the USJ

Board of Trustees, Sister Judith works to ensure the University's Catholic Identity and commitment to women's education set forth by the founding Sisters of Mercy is maintained.

**M. Carolyn Dodd '59, M'78** (Early Childhood Education) of West Hartford, Conn., will receive the Mary DeLourdes Kenny Award for distinction in the field of education. With a long career in teaching young children, Dodd has embodied the Mercy mission as an advocate, a leader, and an expert in her field. In her roles as teacher, advocate for Braille literacy in children, and volunteer tutor for adults learning English as a second language, Carolyn never stops giving.

**Susan Stearn Moore '65** (Mathematics) of Franconia, New Hampshire, will receive the Mary Rosa McDonough Award for outstanding service to the community and to USJ. Moore, an advocate for individuals with disabilities, provides adaptive sports and recreation opportunities for the disabled population. She is a founding member of Adaptive Sports Partners of the North Country (ASPNC), an organization committed to enhance the personal development and self-esteem of participants, and to provide an opportunity to take risks in a safe and supportive environment.

**Marcia Prenguber '75, ND** (Special Education) of Stratford, Conn., will receive the Mary Consuela Mulcahy Award for distinction in the field of science. Dr. Prenguber is Dean of the University of Bridgeport College of Naturopathic Medicine. A leader in the field of naturopathic medicine and a board certified naturopathic oncologist, Dr. Prenguber lectures nationally and internationally on a variety of topics. She focuses on prevention, diet, and optimal health as part of her effort to develop a treatment plan that empowers her patients to live healthfully.

**Maryam Wassil Wardak '03, M'08** (History and Education) of Wethersfield, Conn., will receive the Sister Fay O'Brien School of Education Award for leadership in education and commitment to USJ. Wassil-Wardak, a Social Studies teacher at William Hall High School, has established herself as an accomplished educator who brings national and international experiences and skills to the community. Wassil-Wardak was selected into the Fulbright Teaching Exchange Program in 2010 and has received several awards celebrating her unique teaching style and leadership in the field of education.

The cost to attend the Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner is \$60. To register for the event, contact the USJ Alumni Relations Office at [alumni@usj.edu](mailto:alumni@usj.edu) or 860.231.5364.

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*The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 25 majors and seven pre-professional programs, each of which provides*

*personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at [www.usj.edu](http://www.usj.edu).*

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