How Far Would You Walk to Change Your Life?
FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are all Luis Canales.

We have all come from somewhere else to gather here at Villanova and to be shaped by this community.

Luis Canales has traveled farther than many of us. As you’ll read in this issue’s cover story, Luis fled Honduras on foot—four times—as a teenager to escape gang members who had targeted him and to seek refuge in the United States. He is now a proud US citizen, a husband, a father, an advocate for the vulnerable and, as of May 19, a Villanova Law graduate.

Luis chose the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law because he was drawn to the University’s mission and to its origin story, one that we recount frequently, especially now during our 175th anniversary year. Villanova was founded by and for Irish immigrants in 1842, a time when the Irish were marginalized and often denied access to education in Philadelphia and around the country.

Today, we continue to welcome students, faculty, staff and visitors from all over the globe to our campus. They bring the world to Villanova, sharing rich cultural and religious traditions that become woven into the fabric of this community.

As an Augustinian Catholic institution, we are called to be in service to one another, embracing our differences while also celebrating our shared goals and values. So many of our students, faculty, staff and alumni are living the Augustinian mission in their research, their professional activities and their work in local communities, and we are proud to highlight many of their stories in this magazine.

It’s no wonder that Luis Canales—who has overcome enormous challenges and courageously confronted injustice throughout his life—was drawn to this community. He saw Villanova as a place where he could be welcomed, educated and nurtured to reach his full potential. He is now going into the world as a Villanova lawyer who will ignite change and be a powerful voice for those who, like him, have faced injustice.

Luis Canales is a Villanovan.

As Villanovans, we are all Luis Canales.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 CLAS
President

St. Augustine, City of God XIX, 19
MEET LUIS CANALES
A single pair of shoes carried him on a harrowing trek from Honduras. Now, his life’s journey has led him to become a Villanova lawyer.

VOICES FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
An international campus conference, research and scholarship, and a faculty member’s work at the federal level exemplify how Villanovans address issues of religious liberty.

HELPING THE CURED TO BE WHOLE
Mary Ann Cantrell, PhD, ’89 MSN dedicates her teaching and research to childhood cancer survivors.

VILLANOVA CAMPAIGN TO IGNITE CHANGE SURGES FORWARD
Alumni, parents and students keep the momentum going.

WILDCATS CONNECT
Retiring head football coach Andy Talley leaves Villanova a legacy of success and service.
The 175th Celebration Begins

The sights and sounds of Villanova’s launch of its 175th anniversary celebration transformed campus the week of Jan. 15. The kickoff to a year filled with special events included a food drive that yielded 1.75 tons, a dinner à la 1842, an anniversary Mass, a student gala and a winter festival.

NIH Immunologist Receives Mendel Medal

Members of the Villanova community gathered Nov. 10 to honor the 2016 recipient of the University’s Mendel Medal, Anthony Fauci, MD, a pioneering HIV/AIDS researcher and the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health. The next day, Dr. Fauci delivered the Mendel Medal Lecture, in which he described the extraordinary progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS, as well as the remaining challenges.

Trustees Assume New Roles

Villanova University’s newly elected Board of Trustees officers took up their posts Jan. 1. Joseph V. Topper Jr. ’77 VSB, retired president and CEO of CrossAmerica Partners LLP (on right in the picture), now serves as chairperson; Justin G. Gmelich ’90 VSB, global head of Credit Trading at the Goldman Sachs Group Inc., as vice chair; and Nance K. Dicciani, PhD, ’69 COE, co-founder and CEO of RTM Vital Signs LLC, as secretary. All three trustees have been dedicated members of the board and of the Villanova community. In addition, Kerry Kittles ’96 VSB, ’09 MBA, assistant men’s basketball coach at Princeton University and NBA veteran, was elected to the 34-member board.

Tool Uses Civil War-Era Ads to Reconnect Families

After the Civil War, “Information Wanted” ads appeared in African-American publications around the nation as newly freed slaves tried to reunite with loved ones. A collaboration between History graduate students and their professor, Judith Giesberg, PhD, and Mother Bethel AME Church in Philadelphia is making these classified ads easily accessible to the public. “Last Seen: Finding Family After Slavery,” which was featured on the CBS Evening News, offers genealogists and researchers a new tool for telling family stories of separation and survival. The database (informationwanted.org) holds names of former slaves, owners, traders, plantation locations and missing relatives.

Top Producer of Fulbrighters

The Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announced that Villanova was a top producer of 2016-17 Fulbright U.S. Students. The Fulbright Program is the federal government’s flagship international educational exchange program. Top producers were highlighted in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

No. 4 for Online Graduate Business

The Villanova School of Business earned the No. 4 spot in U.S. News & World Report’s annual Best Online Graduate Business Programs ranking. The placement validates VSB’s ability to deliver a high-quality education, regardless of the mode. VSB was also ranked No. 3 for Student Services and Technology, and No. 4 for Student Engagement.

Science Majors to Be Beckman Scholars

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences received a Beckman Scholars Program Award. One of 11 conferred nationally for 2017 by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, the award provides $150,000 to support the science research of five undergraduate students over three years.
Groundbreaking Theologian Honored

Dominican priest Gustavo Gutiérrez, PhD, the John Cardinal O’Hara Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame, received Villanova’s Civitas Dei Medal Nov. 16 in St. Thomas of Villanova Church. A leading thinker in the development of liberation theology in Latin America, Father Gutiérrez also helped to articulate the principle of Catholic social teaching that puts the needs of the poor first. The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 CLAS, University president, along with Barbara Wall, PhD, vice president for Mission and Ministry, presented the medal.

LILLY ENDOWMENT GRANT FOR CHURCH MANAGEMENT CENTER

The Lilly Endowment awarded a $750,000 grant to the Villanova School of Business’ Center for Church Management and Business Ethics, which provides programming to help church leaders be better stewards of their resources. The funding will allow the center to work with seminaries to incorporate financial literacy into curricula.

National Kudos for Sentencing Expert

One of the nation’s foremost experts on criminal sentencing, Professor of Law Steven Chanenson received the National Association of Sentencing Commissions’ Richard P. Kern Memorial Award for his contributions to the development of sentencing policy and research. At Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, Professor Chanenson teaches courses on sentencing, criminal law and procedure, and white-collar crime.

Lecture Series Named for Nursing Dean

Thanks to the generosity of J. Brian Murphy, MD, and his wife, Maggie (left), nurses and colleagues from Main Line Health institutions and Villanova’s College of Nursing enjoyed the first Dr. Louise Fitzpatrick Lecture. Kathryn Bowles, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACC, ’90 MSN, delivered the inaugural talk Nov. 7 at Bryn Mawr Hospital. The lecture series was established to honor M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor of Nursing. Joining in the celebratory evening were Andrea Gilbert, president of Bryn Mawr Hospital; Steve Eagan, president of Patient Care Services; and Marianne Harkin, vice president of Patient Care Services.

Professor Selected as Fulbright Distinguished Chair

Moeness Amin, PhD, director of the College of Engineering’s Center for Advanced Communications, was awarded the 2017 Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Advanced Science and Technology. Fulbright Distinguished Chair Awards are among the most prestigious appointments in the Fulbright Scholar Program. Dr. Amin will travel to Australia to collaborate on new applications of radar and communications technologies.

Enhanced EMBA Experience

Beginning September 2017, the Villanova Executive MBA will be offered in 19 months, reducing the completion schedule by two months. EMBA students will stay at the Inn at Villanova University, where their classes will be held. This remodeled venue provides a modern, collaborative environment for working professionals.

Prestigious Scholarships Take Students Abroad

Pablo Guzman ’19, Abbey Smith ’18 and Fares Sukkar ’18, all in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, were awarded the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study or intern abroad during the spring semester. Administered by the Institute of International Education, the program gives scholars the opportunity to better understand other cultures, languages and economies.

CPS Customizes Corporate Offerings

Villanova University College of Professional Studies is sought out for its flexible programming on campus and online. CPS also reaches out through an increasing number of corporate education engagements. Most recently, it partnered with two companies to provide on-site training in continuous improvement through the CPS Six Sigma program, which equips organizations to reduce waste and increase output. Both companies have Villanova ties: BlackTree Healthcare Consulting, whose founders include Michael Freytag ’04 VSB and Nick Seabrook ’00 VSB; and the global pharmaceutical capability-and-technology platform WuXi AppTec, where Holly Brunbeck ’06 MS, a chemical engineer and project director, spearheads the liaison.
First Environmental Science Graduate Students Welcomed

The 11 students in the new Master of Science in Environmental Science program joined in the launch festivities Jan. 26. The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 CLAS, University president, and Adele Lindenmeyr, PhD, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, shared opening remarks. Christine Knapp ’01 CLAS, director of the Office of Sustainability, City of Philadelphia (fourth from the right), delivered the keynote.

Rising Scholar Nets $1M in Grants

In the 2016-17 academic year, Jacob Elmer, PhD, assistant professor of Chemical Engineering (standing), has earned three national research awards. From the National Science Foundation, Dr. Elmer received $300,000 to streamline the production of genetically engineered T cells to treat leukemia patients, as well as the NSF’s prestigious $500,000 CAREER award. The National Institutes of Health awarded him $254,000—part of a grant with Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia—to study earthworm hemoglobin as a potential blood substitute.

Center for History in the Public Interest Opens

A center of excellence named for Albert Lepage ’69 CLAS and funded by his $10 million commitment opened in January. At the helm as director is public historian Jason Steinhauer, who has more than 15 years of experience in museums, archives, government and academia at institutions such as the Library of Congress, the Museum of Jewish Heritage and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Paul Steege, PhD, associate professor, History, is the inaugural faculty director.

Engineers Vie at International Competition

In December, students advised by Mechanical Engineering Professor C. Nataraj, PhD, and Associate Professor Garrett Clayton, PhD, traveled to Hawaii to take part in RobotX, a selective competition on autonomous surface vehicles. Villanova teamed with Florida Atlantic University for the international event.

Innovative Nursing Program Earns National Acclaim

More than five years ago, the College of Nursing introduced the Standardized Patients With Disabilities Program to give students the opportunity to interact with individuals trained to simulate the health conditions of people with disabilities and to learn about the health issues that affect them. The program has been so successful in improving students’ clinical skills and reshaping the health care landscape to be more inclusive of people with disabilities that the College received the American Association of Colleges of Nursing 2016 Innovations in Professional Nursing Education Award.

Saluting Marathon Bombing Survivors

Villanova University’s Office of Disability Services bestowed the fifth annual Father Bill Atkinson, OSA Humanitarian Award Feb. 23 on Celeste Corcoran and her daughter, Sydney, both of whom survived the Boston Marathon bombing. Celeste and Sydney (fourth and fifth from the right) also were honored at the Feb. 22 Men’s Basketball game.

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Former Governor Urges Civility in Politics

Engineering Lauds Outstanding Alumni

University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 CLAS and Drosdick Endowed Dean Gary A. Gabriele, PhD (sixth from left), join the Engineering Alumni Society’s 2016 awardees: Anne Roby, PhD, ’86; Brian Bozzo ’07; Brian Glaster ’03; Joanne Dahme ’80; Karen Damara ’11; Hassi Sudler ’92; Sachin “Dave” Duggal ’01; Alexander Myers ’08, ’10 MS; Joshua Smolinsky ’03, ’13 MS; Stephanie Danton ’16 CLAS (on behalf of the late Christos Danton ’80); and William Brown ’84, ’87 MS.

Law Students Win National Competition

Two students from Villanova Law took first place at the 2017 John J. Gibbons National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition, held March 24-25 at Seton Hall University School of Law. Sarah Burke ’18 and Kaitlyn Macauley ’18 beat out 43 teams for top honors at the competition. Previously, Burke and Macauley won Villanova Law’s 57th annual Theodore L. Reimel ’24 CLAS Moot Court Competition.

Symposium Focuses on Healthy Communities

Tyonne Hinson, DrPH, RN, NE-BC, ’01 MSN, director of Nursing, International Medicine and Global Health at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, keynoted the College of Nursing’s Annual Research Symposium March 28 in the Connelly Center. Dr. Hinson, a member of the College’s Board of Consultors, discussed innovative partnerships that promote healthy communities.

Healing Through Puppetry

The Center for Peace and Justice Education presented the 2016 Adela Dwyer-St. Thomas of Villanova Peace Award to No Strings International, a nonprofit led by master puppeteers from Jim Henson’s The Muppet Show, Oct. 26. The organization produces puppet-based films that help some of the world’s most vulnerable children build lifesaving skills and overcome trauma.

Refurbished Study Area Unveiled

The exquisitely upgraded Dugan Polk Family Reading Room in Falvey Memorial Library opened in October. This 24-hour study space was made possible by more than $1.5 million in gifts from Villanova parents, including a lead gift from Trisha and Michael Polk P ’16, ’19.

Career Compass Guides Engineers’ Professional Development

Introduced in fall 2016 with first-year students, the College of Engineering’s Career Compass professional development curriculum will explore dozens of topics, help with internships and connect all engineering undergraduates with mentors. The College is working with the University Career Center to facilitate the program, which is overseen by Frank Falcone ’70 CE, ’73 MS, director of Professional Development and Experiential Education.

RUSSIA EXPERT SERVES AS PANELIST

CLAS Dean Adele Lindenmeyer, PhD, a renowned expert in modern Russian history, was a panelist at an event hosted by the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars’ Kennan Institute to mark the centennial of the 1917 Russian Revolution. Chartered by Congress, the Wilson Center is the nation’s key nonpartisan policy forum for tackling global issues through independent research and open dialogue.

LAW CENTER’S NAME RECOGNIZES $5M IN GIFTS

The Center for Law, Religion and Public Policy will be named in honor of Eleanor H. McCullen, recognizing recent gifts totaling $5 million from her husband, Joseph T. McCullen Jr. ’57 CLAS. Housed in the Charles Widger School of Law, the center will offer academic programming and serve as a hub for conferences and seminars on emerging advocacy issues.

IN GRATITUDE TO CARR SOCIETY MEMBERS

Members of the Matthew Carr Society were recognized with a Mass and dinner on campus Oct. 9. Jay Wright, the William B. Finneran Endowed Athletic Fund Head Coach, was the featured speaker. The Carr Society honors benefactors who have supported Villanova with lifetime gifts of $1 million or more.
New Council Comprises Real Estate Leaders

The Villanova School of Business’ Daniel M. DiLella Center for Real Estate has created the Nova Next Council, which brings together rising leaders in the real estate industry. The members will serve as a conduit between students and professionals by shaping the center’s programming, philanthropic efforts and networking opportunities. Mark Thomson ’05 VSB, senior managing director and co-head of Philadelphia, HFF, and Ian Christ ’04 VSB, vice president, US transactions, PGIM Real Estate, are the 2016–17 co-chairs.

Alumni Challenge Bolsters Senior Class Giving

The Giunco family has partnered with the Senior Class Gift program to inspire the Class of 2017 to leave their mark on Villanova. Through the Giunco Family Match, the family will donate $100 in honor of each senior who makes a gift of any size to the University. This year’s goal is to reach 62 percent class participation by May 31.

Opening Bell for Curley Family Exchange

The newly renovated Kevin M. Curley Family Exchange in Bartley Hall—made possible by a $2.5 million commitment from Kevin M. Curley ’80 VSB, pictured here with his son, Kevin II ’09 VSB, and daughter, Kathleen—was dedicated in September. This enhanced space provides a multifunctional environment for students, faculty and staff.

Wall Street Expert Talks “Futures”

Raymond Tierney III ’81 CLAS, P ’10, former global head of Trading Solutions at Bloomberg LP and a passionate champion of Villanova, visits College of Liberal Arts and Sciences students to talk about launching their careers.

Ward Lecture Reinforces Professional Ethics

Nicholas Dahichilo, PE, FASCE, NAC, president and CEO of Mott MacDonald, delivered the 2017 Patrick J. Cunningham, Jr. and Susan Ward ’98 CLAS, Endowed Lecture in Engineering. His talk was titled “Business and Professional Ethics—Managing With Integrity.”

Finishing With National Title

In his final race as a Wildcat, senior Patrick Tiernan, a Mathematics major, became the second men’s runner in school history to win a national championship in cross country. He finished first at the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind. In addition, Tiernan became the first four-time cross country All-American from the Wildcats Men’s program, as well as the first male or female athlete in conference history to win the Big East cross country title four times.

Varsity Club’s 2016 Class

Nine former Villanova student-athletes, along with the Jake Hievin Special Recognition Award winner, were saluted at the 41st annual Hall of Fame Dinner Jan. 28 in the Connelly Center. The 2016 Hall of Fame Class comprises the following inductees: Brian Westbrook ’01 VSB, Football; Jackie Pasquerella ’01 CLAS, Softball; Meghan Sarban’s ’99 CLAS, Rowing; Carie Telefsen ’99 CLAS, Women’s Track and Field; Matt Longo ’01 VSB, Baseball; Jill Basile ’97 CLAS, Field Hockey; Mike Schwartz ’96 COE, Men’s Swimming; Mary Anne Gabouzda, longtime Athletics staff member (Nevin Award); Steve Lappas, former head coach, Men’s Basketball; Jenn Basile ’98 CLAS, Women’s Basketball.

GLORY DAY FOR REVERED COACH

Marty Stern was inducted into the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Coaches Hall of Fame Dec. 14, his 80th birthday. Stern (pictured here with two-time Olympian Vicki Huber Rudawsky ’99 CLAS) led the Wildcats Women’s Cross Country and Track and Field programs 1984–94. During his tenure, the Cross Country program won five consecutive national titles.

POOLING THEIR TALENTS

The Villanova Women’s Swimming and Diving team won its fourth consecutive Big East title Feb. 25 at the Nassau County Aquatic Center. Darby Goodwin was named the Big East Women’s Most Outstanding Swimmer for the second year in a row. Head Coach Rick Simpson earned Big East Women’s Coach of the Year honors, and Todd Michael was named the Women’s Co-Diving Coach of the Year.

MEN’S SOCCER STRIKES BIG

Capping a successful season, the Villanova Men’s Soccer team, led by Tom Carlín, head coach, qualified in November for the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history. Villanova also notched the fifth season with at least 10 victories.
WHAT LIES AHEAD

A relocated and revamped main entrance to the Finneran Pavilion will provide a gathering space for the Villanova community.

THE PAVILION IS best known as the place where the Nova Nation—in all its loyal, boisterous glory—has united for more than 30 years to cheer the Men’s and Women’s Basketball teams to victory over and over again.

It’s also where prospective students have been introduced to Villanova and inspired to find their place here. It is where new students and their families have been welcomed into the Villanova community during Orientation. It is where volunteers have gathered before being dispatched to serve during the Special Olympics Fall Festival and the St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service. It is where graduates have come together for Commencement to celebrate all they have achieved.

As a place for community and competition, celebration and commemoration, the Pavilion has been well-loved, and the wear and tear shows. Now, a massive renovation project is getting under way to ensure that the energy of the facility itself matches the energy of the people and events it hosts.

A relocated and revamped main entrance to the Finneran Pavilion will provide a gathering space for the Villanova community.

Home-Court Advantage
It’s game time for an impressive transformation of the Pavilion

By Marian Butcher

A LANDMARK MAKEOVER

When it reopens, the Pavilion will have more amenities, expanded gathering spaces, new seating, enhanced technology and a revamped main entrance that will serve as the front doorstep for Villanova’s basketball programs and signature events.

It will also have a new name—Finneran Pavilion, in honor of William B. Finneran ’63 VSB, whose $22.6 million leadership gift in spring 2016 was the largest ever to Villanova Athletics and kicked off a fundraising effort to raise a total of $60 million for the project.

“As Villanova’s national prominence continues to rise, it is time for the Pavilion to undergo a significant renovation that, when finished, will more closely represent the tradition of excellence of Villanova Athletics and the high caliber of the University as a whole,” says the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ‘75 CLAS, Villanova’s president. “It is perfectly fitting for the Pavilion to bear Bill’s name since he was integral to making its transformation possible.”

Construction is scheduled to begin this spring and be completed in fall 2018. During the 2017-18 basketball season, the Men’s Basketball team will play its home games on campus in Jake Nevin Field House.

The Pavilion opened in 1986, one year after Villanova’s first-ever NCAA Men’s Basketball national championship, and it will close for a complete overhaul one year after the team hoisted its second national championship trophy. Over the decades, more than 2.2 million fans attended Men’s Basketball games in the arena, and they watched Villanova win nearly 300 times. The Women’s Basketball team won 262 games on the storied court.

In the renovated Finneran Pavilion, the fan experience will be paramount. A concourse will wrap around the arena, offering concessions and merchandise stands, and a new Hall of Fame exhibit will connect modern-day fans to the long, proud history of Villanova Athletics. A new hospitality area, the Court One Club, will allow fans to literally walk where Villanova basketball stars have trod, as it will feature the actual hardwood court from the 2016 Men’s Basketball national championship game in Houston.

Although the seating capacity will not be increased, the seating areas will be made more comfortable. And the student section—the heart of game-day excitement—will be situated along both baselines and shifted closer to the court.

“The new Finneran Pavilion will provide an even stronger homecourt advantage, enhance our ability to recruit and train the nation’s best and brightest student-athletes, help support all of our 24 varsity programs, and deliver a first-class, game-day atmosphere for the best fans in college sports,” says Director of Athletics Mark Jackson.

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CROWD-PLEASING UPGRADES

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The team added to the program’s legacy with a 32-4 record, a No. 1 national ranking for eight weeks, and Big East regular season and tournament championships.

Exceptional team play has always defined the Wildcats’ greatness, and this year’s seniors continued that tradition. Josh Hart, Kris Jenkins and Darryl Reynolds will graduate as the winningest class in Villanova Basketball history.

Throughout four seasons with the program, the teams to which this trio belonged notched 129 victories and never lost two games in a row. The Wildcats also stood tall in individual recognition. Hart was named Big East Player of the Year, won the Julius Irving Award as the nation’s top small forward and was a finalist for other national player-of-the-year awards. Sophomore Mikal Bridges and Hart shared Big East Defensive Player of the Year honors. Sophomore Jalen Brunson and Hart were also first team all-Big East selections.

There were many moments to celebrate throughout the season: Head Coach Jay Wright’s 500th career win, the final game played in the Pavilion before its full-scale renovation, and the remarkable achievements and winning records of graduating senior players. Wright, his returning players and fans around the country are already looking ahead to building on the program’s incredible momentum in seasons to come.

This is truly a community effort that will benefit generations of Villanova fans,” says Jay Wright, William B. Finneran Endowed Athletic Fund Head Coach for Men’s Basketball. “These facilities are a great representation of our proud tradition.”

The Pavilion project is just one piece of a large-scale construction plan that will bring impressive changes to Villanova’s campus in the coming years. The transformation of the University’s main parking lots on Lancaster Avenue is well under way. New surface parking and a multi-story parking garage were completed last year, and crews have begun work on an expansive complex of six residence halls, a fitness center and a retail space on the south side of Lancaster Avenue. The first residents will move into their rooms in the complex in fall 2019.

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The Wildcats took men’s basketball fans on a thrilling ride in 2016-17, following up their 2016 national championship season with another year of impressive victories and memorable moments.

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“This is truly a community effort that will benefit generations of Villanova fans.”

The Men’s Basketball team will continue to play certain home games at the Wells Fargo Center, even after the renovation is completed. The University is in the unique position of being able to give fans the experience of watching games in an elite, professional sports venue, as well as in a more intimate, on-campus arena, where they can be closer to the on-court action.

“The combination of the renovated Pavilion, the Wells Fargo Center and the Davis Center gives Villanova Basketball a unique advantage for training, recruitment and competition,” says Jay Wright, William B. Finneran Endowed Athletic Fund Head Coach for Men’s Basketball. “These facilities are a great representation of our proud tradition.”

The Pavilion project is just one piece of a large-scale construction plan that will bring impressive changes to Villanova’s campus in the coming years. The transformation of the University’s main parking lots on Lancaster Avenue is well under way. New surface parking and a multi-story parking garage were completed last year, and crews have begun work on an expansive complex of six residence halls, a fitness center and a retail space on the south side of Lancaster Avenue. The first residents will move into their rooms in the complex in fall 2019.

Also currently under construction is a pedestrian walkway that will span Lancaster Avenue in front of St. Thomas of Villanova Church, providing a safe crossing for students, faculty, staff, church parishioners and campus visitors. A state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center will rise along Lancaster Avenue as the final phase of the project, providing space for the University’s music, dance and drama programs.

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The injustice incensed young Canales. He voiced his opposition in school, where gangs recruited new members. Word rippled back to the gang leadership.

“I was voicing defiance, and they took it personally,” Canales says. Gang members waited for Canales outside of school and tried to cajole him into joining. He refused. Canales continued speaking out, this time to the municipal government. He did not realize that his words were carried over the radio to homes across his area.

As soon as they heard him, the gang members decided they would kill Canales.

At school, the gang members brandished knives. They attacked him when he left for home. Canales avoided them on backstreets or ran toward the police station to scare them away.

One morning, Canales encountered a gang member, who gave chase. Speeding on their bikes, the boys neared where the road divided. The gang member stopped, aimed a homemade gun and fired a bullet. Canales fell from his bike and crashed to the gravel road, where he lay unconscious.

Both the assailant and the target thought Canales had been killed. Fifteen minutes later, Canales woke up to find people surrounding him. He was bloody, and his head throbbed from the impact. He had not been shot, but rocks from the road had ripped his shirt, chin and shoulder, and punctured his right elbow and left knee. The injuries would take more than a month to heal. The scars—physical and emotional—remain to this day.

“When gang members target someone, they attack everyone with the person,” Canales says.

Honduras had long been beset by violent street gangs who extorted from citizens and businesses. However, Canales only realized the full extent of their violence when he began interning on a news show at a local radio station.

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FLIGHT FROM DANGER
Canales had saved 2,000 lempiras—about 50 to 75 American dollars—at the time—and he traveled by bus from Honduras to Guatemala to Mexico, avoiding the border guards who would have detained him as a minor and sent him back.

At one point, Mexican police removed Canales from a small bus and threatened to send him home if he did not give them his money and belongings. He handed over all that he had. Starving and penniless, he was held for three months. He knew of no relatives in the United States, where American immigration officials apprehended him and sent him to a shelter for three months. He knew of no relatives in the United States, where American immigration officials apprehended him and sent him to a shelter for three months. He knew of no relatives in the United States, where American immigration officials apprehended him and sent him to a shelter for three months.

“FLIGHT FROM DANGER”

In Tapachula, Mexico, like so many destitute immigrants, he lived in a box car, traveling long distances to get closer to the border. He used his belt to secure himself between the train cars or to the roof, to prevent himself from falling. On two occasions, he saw others lose their balance and end up underneath the train, killed by the metal wheels.

FAITH REWARDED
The asylum case was active in the courts for five-and-a-half years, with Canales unable to start a life while he was in limbo. He learned English by translating immigration documents and newspaper articles. It was a time thick with hope and despair. One day, Canales wandered into the National Shrine of St. John Neumann in Philadelphia, and he prayed. “I promised God and St. John Neumann that if I was able to get to safety, I would help other people like me. All of those things came true. Not right away, but they did happen,” he says.

“Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.”
—ST. AUGUSTINE

“My sole purpose in getting an education is to give back in a better way, and see how far I get.”
—LUIS CANALES ’17 CWSL

Early on, Canales sought out Villanova Law Professor Michele Patrone, JD, to learn more about the Clinic’s Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services. When the opportunity arose, he applied to work in the clinic, where students represent refugees seeking asylum protection in the United States because of threatened persecution in the countries from which they fled. Recently, Canales learned that one of his former CARES clients was granted asylum.

“My life was in their hands,” Canales says. “I remember the lawyer told me, ‘Congratulations and good luck.’”

By this point, he had met and fallen in love with a young woman in Scranton. Maryori was a member of the same Catholic youth group and also from Honduras. Canales proposed to her in 2010, and they were married in 2014. Later, he received a green card and became a US citizen on Aug. 1, 2014.

“To me, being a United States citizen is a dream come true—one of the most amazing things that can ever happen. Some people take being a citizen for granted, and before 2014 I would think, ‘What would I do to trade places with them?’”

Maryori says that they had been dating for a year before she learned about his experiences in Honduras. She has seen firsthand how the trauma that might break other people mentally only strengthened her husband’s resolve. “He was always a natural leader, always motivating people in the community to do good for others. Helping makes him feel like he is accomplishing something. It heals some of the scars.”

BECOMING A VILLANOVAN
Canales graduated with honors from Marywood University in Scranton and, remembering his vow, he researched law schools, trying to find one that spoke to his sense of purpose and his journey.

“When I was looking at law schools, I read their missions. Reading Villanova’s mission statement, I thought ‘This is the place,’ ” Canales says.

He applied to Villanova and was placed on the waitlist. Undeterred, Canales began law school in western Massachusetts and applied again to Villanova the following year. He was accepted.

“It was amazing to be holding those shoes and having the opportunity to speak to the world, after not having had any shoes to wear to school as a boy,” he says.

“Luis is a fighter who will make tremendous contributions as a US citizen,” Patrone says. “His ability to transcend cultures and differences will make him a capable lawyer and leader, able to use his strong oratory skills to gain support from communities.”

ALWAYS IGNITING CHANGE
Even when Canales graduates in May, he knows there will be challenges: helping his wife finish her Social Work degree; repaying their student loans; launching a legal career that will keep his promise to God, country and family.

Every time doubt arises, when the journey seems too hard, Canales remembers the many who had a hand in helping him and all of those who are reaching out, in turn, for help.

“There are people who are waiting for me to become a lawyer, for someone like me to be their goal,” he says. “That’s my goal all of the time. Everyone has potential, if they are given an opportunity. If I am in a better position, I will be able to help better other people.”
A bomb explosion kills dozens of worshipers at St. Mark’s Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Cairo. Refugees express fear about returning home to Qaraqosh, a recently liberated city in northern Iraq. Pope Francis appeals to President Bashar Assad for an end to violence in Syria. Such are the stories that made headlines in early December 2016, the very time when experts from around the world gathered at Villanova to delve into the complex and often misunderstood crises that have escalated in the Middle East in recent decades.

In the politically and religiously charged Middle East, there is no better way to look forward to a future of coexistence and mutual respect than to look back at its history,” says conference presenter Sami El-Youssef, a regional director for the Catholic Near East Welfare Association—Pontifical Mission for Palestine. "The conference was a great opportunity not only to look back, but also to offer ideas on how we can move forward to ensure that this precious Christian presence is maintained and flourishes.”

El-Youssef and other invited guests traveled as many as 6,000 miles to Villanova to share their perspectives. A breadth of voices received air time. Attendees heard from a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, a scholar of conflict resolution at Tufts, and a special adviser in the US Department of State, among others. One of the presenters was especially familiar: retired Marine Corps Gen. Anthony Zinni ’63 VSB, whose former roles include that of special envoy for the US to Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and commander-in-chief of the US Central Command. Sobering exchanges, occasional heated debates and positive participant feedback signaled the conference’s success. That was great news to the Rev. Kail Ellis, OSA, PhD, ’99 MA, assistant to the president and dean emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

For more than a year, Father Ellis and colleagues had planned what proved to be, according to presenter Rami Khouri, a noteworthy forum that set new standards for how to discuss these issues. “First, the organizers consulted with colleagues from across the Middle East and in the US to shape an agenda that touched on several critical dimensions, rather than pursuing the traditional pattern of organizing panels in response to Western assumptions on a narrow issue,” says Khouri, a senior public policy fellow at the American University of Beirut. “Second, the panels addressed the dynamics of organizing panels in response to Western assumptions on a narrow issue,” says Khouri, a senior public policy fellow at the American University of Beirut. “Second, the panels addressed the dynamics that shape the conditions of minorities in the region, including new vulnerabilities that all Arab citizens face in today's political climate.”

One of the benefits of the conference, says Dr. Warrick, is that it debunked the oversimplified “cartoon version” of complex realities in the Middle East. “The notion that all minorities are Christian, that they are all marginalized, that it’s always for doctrinal reasons, and that it’s consistent everywhere and over time is inaccurate. There are huge variations.”

For Brian Katulis ’94 CLAS, taking stock of these variations is part of the job. A senior fellow at the think tank Center for American Progress, Katulis advises policymakers on US national security strategy in the Middle East and South Asia. To collect data for the 2015 report “The Plight of Christians in the Middle East,” Katulis, the lead author, met with faith leaders, refugees and victims of persecution in Iraq, Egypt and other countries. He shared lessons learned when he spoke at Villanova’s conference. Katulis, who testifies before Congress and offers commentary via sources such as PBS NewsHour, NPR and The Washington Post, was honored to present at the institution that had nurtured his fascination with the Middle East and prepared him to become a respected expert. “I arrived as a freshman never having flown on a plane,” says the world traveler. “Because of Villanova, foreign policy is my life’s work.”

“Christians are original inhabitants of this region. They ... are ... the heirs to apostolic origins and the guardians of ancient traditions.”

—Excerpt of a letter from Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for the Eastern Churches, read at the opening of Villanova’s Christians in the Contemporary Middle East Conference.

In certain sections of the Middle East today, Christians live in dire circumstances. Yet, as the conference emphasized, their roots in the Arab-Islamic world run deep, and their cultural contributions have been considerable. Raising awareness of this historical context can lead to a more tolerant tomorrow.

ADVANCING THE CONVERSATION
The conference “Christians in the Contemporary Middle East: Religious Minorities and the Struggle for Secular Nationalism and Citizenship” shed light on how declining pluralism, geopolitical tensions, Shi’ite-Sunni conflicts and other factors are threatening the region’s ethnic and religious minorities, especially Christians. In certain sections of the Middle East today, Christians live in dire circumstances. Yet, as the conference emphasized, their roots in the Arab-Islamic world run deep, and their cultural contributions have been considerable. Raising awareness of this historical context can lead to a more tolerant tomorrow.

VOICES FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

VILLANOVA CONVENES INTERNATIONAL PANEL FOR COMPELLING VIEWS OF PEOPLES IN PERIL

BY SUZANNE WENTZEL

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Speaker Ussama Makdisi, PhD, the first Arab-American Educational Foundation Chair of Arab Studies at Rice University, directs a question to one of the panels.

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the commission recommends a specific designation: “country of particular concern,” or CPC.

Dr. Mark has traveled with small delegations to Vietnam and Nigeria, both of which the commission has recommended for designation as CPCs, as well as to Azerbaijan, Indonesia and Malaysia. Such visits allow the commissioners to meet with religious leaders, victims of persecution and those working on the ground. High on the agenda are meetings with senior government officials, who know that their countries are under scrutiny. These sometimes fraught, but always diplomatic, encounters also take place in the commission’s Washington, D.C., offices. Even when the pursuit incrementally advances, Dr. Mark relies on argument based in reason to present the commission’s point of view.

“Our hope is that people will recognize and uphold religious freedom, but in places where the culture is less supportive of human rights, it helps to make the case that it is in a country’s best interest to address these problems.” Concerns about their international reputations can also spur governments to step up their efforts to get a more favorable designation.

Dr. Mark feels privileged to do his “tiny bit” for this critical cause and to support those who sacrifice so much to defend their beliefs. “People fight for their rights in different ways, but religious freedom is the one they are most willing to die for.”

His colleagues value the conviction and knowledge of the commission’s youngest member. “Dr. Mark is a passionate advocate for the rights of religious minorities and other persecuted people around the world,” says Commissioner Jackie Wolcott, whose distinguished career includes service as special envoy for Nuclear Nonproliferation and US ambassador to the United Nations Security Council. “He brings great academic precision to our work and, as vice chairman, is an exceptional and highly respected leader, both inside and outside the commission.”

Evidence of this high regard abounds. Since joining Villanova’s faculty in 2013, the Princeton-educated political scientist has published a plethora of scholarly chapters and articles. He was a visiting fellow at his alma mater last year and will be one next year at the University of Notre Dame. CNN, U.S. News & World Report and other media outlets have shared his insights with a worldwide audience. Listed on the cover of a recent issue of Vital Speeches International are the titles of addresses by the prime ministers of India and the United Kingdom, the vice president of the Philippines, the premier of China—and Daniel Mark.

RECALCULATING

The esteem accorded Dr. Mark on the international stage is matched by the respect of learners in his classroom. In courses on political theory, law and morals, and other themes, students rise to the challenge of wrestling with issues inherently worthy and politically pressing. In addition, Dr. Mark, who received the title of Battalion Professor in 2015, inspires midshipmen in Villanova’s Naval ROTC with invigorating guest lectures.

One midshipman, Brett Sacks, ’17 Class, had been hitting the snooze button on his political awakening, but Dr. Mark’s intellect, eloquence and fair treatment of issues roused his interest. Sacks took one of Dr. Mark’s courses, and the experience redefined the way he looked at government.

“When we expressed opinions in class, Dr. Mark would push back to test how well they were developed,” recalls Sacks, now an ensign in Virginia Beach. “He didn’t change our opinions. He changed how we arrived at them. That immersion in critical thinking transformed me.”

Dr. Mark sees Villanova as the ideal environment in which to engage students in intellectual struggles. The University’s commitment to its identity never wavers. “Villanova recognizes that the liberal arts are critical for educating young people to be responsible citizens in a free republic,” he says. At a time when civil discourse is “bitterly divisive and crass,” the need to develop and exercise the virtues of citizenship is urgent.
I was this intimidating thing. How could I protect him?" recalls Dr. Cantrell, now a professor in the College of Nursing at Villanova, where she earned her Master of Science in Nursing in 1989. "But it was more about emotional protection than anything else."

Inspired by her connection with Steve and other pediatric cancer patients, Dr. Cantrell, who had earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Duquesne University, went on to write her doctoral dissertation at the University of Maryland on the relationship between self-esteem and hope among adolescents with cancer. "About the time I finished," Dr. Cantrell says, "there was this explosion of research on childhood cancer survivors." She turned her attention to investigating this population.

In the three decades since, Dr. Cantrell has practiced as a nurse for 18 years, published widely and prepared hundreds of nurses for careers. Inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2015, she is credited with contributing to the evidence base in psychosocial care interventions for pediatric cancer patients. Dr. Cantrell’s goal is to develop practice guidelines based on "nursing presence," those unmeasurable moments that build relationships with pediatric cancer patients and answer their common question: "I know you can give me chemo, but can you really take care of me?"

EXAMINING LIFE AFTER TREATMENT

Despite the often sobering side of pediatric oncology nursing, Dr. Cantrell found it was a hopeful and upbeat field in which to practice. She had an affinity for adolescents, who were already in a difficult period of life. "I was in awe of the sense of resilience many of the kids had." Dr. Cantrell started to follow some patients after they left treatment and entered the world of survivorship. Her research illuminated the struggles of childhood cancer patients, at least two-thirds of whom live with long-term effects. Physical issues can include radiation damage, problems with fertility and digestion troubles.

While survivors have reported some positive psychosocial impacts, they also face intimacy difficulties, financial concerns, discrimination, depression and a sense of isolation. As one survivor said to Dr. Cantrell, "I’m healed, but I’m not whole." Dr. Cantrell has pulled back the curtain on what happens after children have defeated cancer, says Teresa Conte, CRNP, ’04 MSN, ’11 PhD, an assistant professor of Nursing at the University of Scranton. When Dr. Conte was earning her doctorate at Villanova, the two collaborated on a study of young adults who were no longer in treatment for cancer but who hadn’t hit the five-year mark when they could be officially considered "survivors."

"These kids have told us, ‘When I go back to the oncology clinic, I don’t want to sit with the kids in treatment, yet I’m not allowed to sit on the survivorship side. So where am I?’" Dr. Conte says. "Mary Ann’s research has brought attention to that."

Currently, Dr. Cantrell has funding for two projects focused on adult female childhood cancer survivors, a subgroup that has been shown to experience higher levels of psychosocial distress and depression. In one, she is examining the health outcomes of survivors between the ages of 22 and 39 to provide more evidence for the development and testing of targeted interventions.

The other project, funded by the Oncology Nursing Society, is a feasibility study to assess the acceptability of the use of a mobile health app among this subgroup. Dr. Cantrell’s interest in mobile health apps was piqued by Susan Birkhoff, RN, ’10 MSN, ’17 PhD, one of her doctoral students at Villanova. The app lets users track and record health and wellness information, such as symptoms, medications, mood, weight, diet and activity. Participants in the study will use the app for nine months and take questionnaires that assess implications for their survivorship experience, their ability to manage their needs and their health-related quality of life.

INSPIRING OTHERS

One childhood cancer survivor came back into Dr. Cantrell’s life in an unexpected way. Stephanie Luff ’14 CON was 2 years old when she received a leukemia diagnosis, and she spent much of the next year in treatment at CHOP. Cancer-free ever since, Luff came to Villanova to study Nursing. When Dr. Cantrell mentioned in class that she had been a CHOP nurse, Luff’s ears perked up. After class, Luff approached Dr. Cantrell, who remembered her. "That was a really cool moment for me to be able thank her in person," Luff says.

Luff took several courses with Dr. Cantrell and participated in her research. When Luff was ready to enter the workforce, Dr. Cantrell put her in touch with a CHOP colleague, an introduction that led to Luff’s position as a nurse in outpatient oncology. "I’ll never be able to repay Dr. Cantrell for taking my hand and leading me into the career of my dreams," Luff says.

Dr. Cantrell will begin her appointment as the next director of the College’s PhD in Nursing Program in August. She plans to focus on how student dissertations can affect not only the nursing profession, but also patient outcomes.

"It’s truly all about the patients," she says. "What are students going to investigate that can improve the care that nurses provide?"
The signs of Villanova’s forward momentum are all around—cranes and scaffolding that signal a transformation of campus spaces, banners and signs that trumpet top rankings and a national championship, and the buzz about Villanova’s national reputation for academics and innovation. You can see and feel all of these exciting developments on campus.

Priorities for the remainder of the Villanova Campaign include funding for campus facilities, boosting the annual undergraduate alumni participation rate to a record 27 percent last year, and signs that trumpet top rankings and a national championship, and a national championship, and a national championship, and a national championship, and a national championship, and a national championship, and a national championship. There’s still much more to do. The campaign’s milestones have been remarkable: The University has received the three largest gifts in its history—each one worth more than $20 million—and nearly 70,000 people have been inspired to give, helping to bring the undergraduate alumni participation rate to a record 27 percent last year. There’s still much more to do. The priorities for the remainder of the campaign include funding for campus facilities, boosting the annual undergraduate alumni participation rate to 30 percent and continuing to grow the endowment, opening in the lives of students. On the next page, you’ll meet

Manny Garcia ’18 VSB

Manny “Manny” Garcia excels at seizing opportunities. Since his first year in the Villanova School of Business, the rising senior has accrued five internships, one co-op and four job offers. A triple major in Accounting, Economics and Finance, Manny has meshed his classroom learning with formative experiences at PwC, Johnson & Johnson, Hershey Entertainment & Resorts and other companies. Every placement has led to a bigger network, a more impressive resume and a better sense of his career path.

Manny has followed these and other avenues—he is an officer in the Business and Leadership Society, a peer adviser to VSB students and a beneficiary of VSB’s Mentor Program—courtesy of the Charlotte and James V. O’Donnell ’63 Center for Professional Development. Established in 2014 with a commitment from the O’Donnells, the center consolidates and expands VSB’s emphases on curriculum-integrated professional development, experiential education, career programming, student business groups and one-on-one mentorship.

The involvement of alumni in all these areas has personalized and strengthened Manny’s experiences. “Our alumni network is an amazing resource, and it has enabled me to succeed in my internships.”

Villanova’s loyal and generous alumni, parents and friends are making life-changing opportunities possible for students.

KATE GALLEN ’19 CLAS

Despite coming from a Villanova family, Kate Gallen ’19 CLAS wanted to explore other options before following her parents, aunt and uncle to the University. That was until she set foot on campus.

“Villanova immediately felt like home,” she says. Her decision was made easier due to the Martell Family Endowed Scholarship’s support. The scholarship helped Kate, an aspiring emergency room doctor who majors in Biology, to attend Villanova—and to seize opportunities to expand her medical knowledge. In summer 2016, the Honors student traveled to Chulucanas, Peru, for a medical mission, and then completed a two-week course in emergency and wilderness medicine in Colorado. For someone who had never even camped, both were challenging and rewarding experiences.

Perhaps equally important was her time spent volunteering recently with hospice patients. Her mother, Eileen Cusimano-Gallen ’86 CCN, passed away when Kate was 16, and the work allowed Kate to better understand her mother’s experience.

“Volunteering in a hospice care center was eye-opening,” she says. “It emphasized the personal aspect of being a caregiver.”

SAMANTHA SCHAFER ’17 COE

Villanova Engineering Service Learning group leader and Chemical Engineering major Samantha Schafer ’17 COE (on the right in the picture) and fellow students had devised a way to repair the exterior of a 120,000-gallon water storage tank in a town in Panama that they would visit over this past winter break.

But when the students arrived, they found extensive damage to the tank’s interior. For 12 days, they excavated problem areas, patched cracks, and relined the walls and floor with an advanced sealant. Their watertight solution restored the tank to operation and improved the quality of life for the local people.

Robert Pizzano ’70 COE, P’79 knows firsthand how powerful the experience of applying technical knowledge in a developing country is. After accompany a different group of students to Panama, he was inspired to make an estate gift to the University to offset the cost of future trips.

His gift ensures that more Villanovans will be transformed as Samantha was. “My time in Panama has yielded some of my favorite memories,” she recently reflected. “My service there has made me a better student not only of engineering, but of life.”

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“Volunteering in a hospice care center was eye-opening,” she says. “It emphasized the personal aspect of being a caregiver.”

SAMANTHA SCHAFER ’17 COE

Villanova Engineering Service Learning group leader and Chemical Engineering major Samantha Schafer ’17 COE (on the right in the picture) and fellow students had devised a way to repair the exterior of a 120,000-gallon water storage tank in a town in Panama that they would visit over this past winter break.

But when the students arrived, they found extensive damage to the tank’s interior. For 12 days, they excavated problem areas, patched cracks, and relined the walls and floor with an advanced sealant. Their watertight solution restored the tank to operation and improved the quality of life for the local people.

Robert Pizzano ’70 COE, P’79 knows firsthand how powerful the experience of applying technical knowledge in a developing country is. After accompanying a different group of students to Panama, he was inspired to make an estate gift to the University to offset the cost of future trips.

His gift ensures that more Villanovans will be transformed as Samantha was. “My time in Panama has yielded some of my favorite memories,” she recently reflected. “My service there has made me a better student not only of engineering, but of life.”
IGNITING CHANGE

Villanovans contributing to the community

By Susan Cousins Breen

Ted McLaughlin '90 CLAS founded DiSorb Systems, a leading manufacturer of medical waste treatment products, in 2000. The company’s operations are based in an economically challenged area of North Philadelphia, where he is committed to hiring local residents who are military veterans or have criminal records.

Economic Boon

Entrepreneur’s company revitalizes community and empowers veterans

Four years in the US Navy taught Edward “Ted” McLaughlin Jr. ‘90 CLAS the importance of discipline and service. His undergraduate education at Villanova instilled the value of community and the spirit of an entrepreneur.

McLaughlin has combined those experiences to launch an impressive career, founding and leading DiSorb Systems. His medical product manufacturing company, which increases hygiene and safety in health care facilities around the world, has had a dramatic effect locally as well. It has had a dramatic effect locally as well. It hires veterans and people in need of second chances, bolstering the North Philadelphia neighborhood DiSorb calls home.

As his business has grown, so have McLaughlin’s connections to the neighborhood in which DiSorb has been located since 2006. Most of his employees live within blocks of the headquarters, an 80,000-square-foot facility, and many may have had trouble finding work because of military service-related disabilities or criminal records.

Serviceman, student and CEO

McLaughlin’s own career got a kick-start when he enlisted in the US Navy at the age of 20. After four years as a gunner’s mate and as a search-and-rescue diver, McLaughlin was honorably discharged with a back injury in 1987. He then enrolled at Villanova. “The discipline and maturity that I developed in the Navy, combined with the desire to learn, had a profound impact on my Villanova experience,” he says. “I received a great education, loved the culture of the school and did better academically than I ever had.”


In June 2016, the veteran-owned company completed a $1.3 million expansion project, installing a second high-speed production line and enlarging the state-of-the-art facility. Five employees have been added, and 75 percent of the 23 staff members are veterans. “The new system can produce enough solidifier to meet the entire US demand,” says McLaughlin, DiSorb’s CEO. “This year, we expect to more than triple sales and add more employees.”

DiSorb’s solidifiers, sold under two brand names, help health care facilities comply with federal regulations, reduce potential exposure to blood-borne pathogens and save money. SafeSorb® is a fluid solidifier, designed to be preloaded in an empty suction canister before a medical procedure starts. SuperSolid Plus® solidifies and disinfects liquid medical waste so that treated canisters can be disposed of as municipal solid waste in most states, significantly reducing transportation and disposal costs.

Investing in the community

By moving DiSorb’s operations to a section of North Philadelphia that is designated a Historically Underutilized Business Zone, McLaughlin spurred the neighborhood’s economic development. HUBZone and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business certifications help the company qualify for preferential access to federal procurement opportunities. “When we purchased a city block, we did a lot of work to improve the building, and that improves the neighborhood,” he says. “We also help the city’s tax base by generating more revenue.”

Perhaps the biggest economic impact has been management’s commitment to hiring veterans, former prisoners and local residents who have difficulty finding work. “We always hire vets first,” McLaughlin says. “We believe it’s important to take care of our vets, and we live that philosophy.”

Employees have a generous benefits package, training programs and a gym. The company helps them to open checking accounts, improve their reading and earn GEDs. “As a result,” says McLaughlin, “we get higher quality work, lower turnover and happy employees.”

In December, DiSorb held its first Criminal Records Expungement Fair for the community. Seventy veterans turned out to begin their applications, assisted by nonprofit attorneys. The next day, about 100 queries came in, so the company plans to host a second fair. “Lives change when an arrest record is expunged,” McLaughlin says. McLaughlin also makes time to give back to his alma mater. When II Luscri, executive director of Villanova’s Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship Institute, invited McLaughlin to join the ICE Advisory Council, he “jumped at the opportunity to reconnect with the University.”

McLaughlin shares his expertise with students, from evaluating their business plans to meeting with them to help advance their ideas. “Ted has been an incredible advocate for our students and alumni as they work toward their entrepreneurial dreams,” Luscri says. “His efforts to support and engage veteran entrepreneurs have also been inspiring.”

Villanova is a family tradition. McLaughlin and his wife, Melissa (Miller) ‘93 VSB, were married in St. Thomas of Villanova Church in 1997. His father, Edward McLaughlin Sr., graduated from the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law in 1959, and Melissa’s mother, Carol Miller, earned a master’s degree in Education in 1969. The McLaughlins and their four sons live in Whitpain Township, Pa.

With his blend of acumen and compassion, McLaughlin defines what it means to succeed in business: Everybody wins. Employees, neighbors, customers and fellow Villanovans benefit from his entrepreneurial drive and his eagerness to be a force for good. When it comes to generosity of spirit, McLaughlin is a veteran.

“We believe it’s important to take care of our vets, and we live that philosophy.”

—Ted McLaughlin Jr.”
Air of Excellence

Anne Roby, PhD, credits her engineering education with her rise at an industrial gases company

Before she embarked on a career that took her from the Gulf Coast to Shanghai, Anne Roby ’86 had to clear a hurdle closer to home. As a Chemical Engineering major at Villanova, she faced a daunting challenge courtesy of Robert White, PhD, then chair of the department. “We had a rigorous lab course, and Dr. White was one of the professors,” Dr. Roby recalls. “He was famous for not settling for anything less than excellence. He wouldn’t tolerate sloppy data or a misplaced comma. Our work had to be perfect.”

MOVING UP, MOVING ABOUT
That drive for excellence has propelled Dr. Roby throughout her career, including her latest role as senior vice president at Praxair Inc., a leading industrial gases company. She oversees Praxair’s operations in engineering and project execution, procurement, research and development, market development, sustainability, global strategic sales, electronic materials and safety, and health and environment.

After completing her doctorate in Chemical Engineering at the University of Delaware, Dr. Roby started at Praxair in the research and development of new uses for gases in the chemical industry—work for which she was granted four patents. She was then tapped to be the global marketing manager for the chemical and refining markets. The one downside for Dr. Roby: The job required lots of travel. As her family was growing to include three daughters with her husband, Larry, Dr. Roby decided to move into a position in sales and business management in Houston. The new role brought new challenges. “Houston rises and falls with the prices of oil and natural gas—changing fivefold during my time there,” Dr. Roby says. “We also went through the crisis with Enron. It was incredible to see how quickly things can change. It was a real wake-up call to all industries about the importance of ethics and compliance to the sustainability of a company.”

In 2011, Dr. Roby was named president of Praxair’s operations in Asia, and she and her family moved to Shanghai. “As I traveled through China, India and other countries, I worked hard to apply American safety standards while also respecting local norms,” she says. “Finding the right balance was sometimes difficult, but it is one of the achievements I am most proud of.”

RETURNING TO HER ROOTS
Dr. Roby draws from her experiences to further strengthen the College of Engineering’s reputation for excellence. As a member of the College’s Advisory Board, she shares her expertise and advises administrators on industry trends. “Anne has challenged and supported us as we grow our national profile,” says Drosdick Endowed Dean Gary Gabriele, PhD. “She exemplifies the modern executive who understands how Villanova’s values can enhance today’s business environment.”

“As part of a subcommittee that advises the College’s Career Compass professional development program, Dr. Roby provides content on topics such as diversity and ethics, and has been, says Keith Argue, the College’s assistant dean of External Relations, a great advocate for students. “Dr. Roby has opened up avenues to internships and jobs at Praxair, and she has spoken to students about coming up through the technical ranks and then going into management.” As a senior executive, Dr. Roby sponsors Praxair’s participation in the Resilient Innovation through Sustainable Engineering (RISE) Forum. This College initiative brings together technical leaders from across industries to promote corporate sustainability practices, and it engages Sustainable Engineering graduate students in real-world projects. “RISE helps us understand the academic thinking around sustainability,” Dr. Roby says. “At the same time, we bring to the forum our company’s needs and approaches to sustainability.”

The critical thinking and innovative team skills that Dr. Roby developed at her alma mater have powered her to success, and she wants the same for current students. “Villanova taught me to ask questions and look more deeply,” she says. “I stress this approach with students, even as they face new problems.” She knows that no Villanova engineer would settle for less.

“Anne exemplifies the modern executive who understands how Villanova’s values can enhance today’s business environment.”

—GARY GABRIELE, PhD, Drosdick Endowed Dean of the College of Engineering

BY BRIAN HUDGINS
Those who cannot anticipate how policy may affect the future will be unprepared for emerging challenges and changes in the world. That’s why futurists—people like Brando Brandolini ’15 CLAS, ’16 CPS—can provide essential insight for today’s leaders in the public and private sectors.

Brandolini’s experience in emerging technologies and political policy—developed at Villanova and honed through research projects and a White House internship—provides insight into how these critical areas intersect and influence one another. This wisdom, in short, helps leaders lead.

“I don’t necessarily want to go into politics,” says Brandolini, who is currently pursuing opportunities in cybersecurity. “But I want to put myself in a position where I can help bridge that disconnect between politics and the emergence of the digital realm.”

While his undergraduate studies in Political Science and in Fluency and Information Technology at Villanova provided strong academic foundations in those fields, Brandolini knew he needed additional education in technology to round out his knowledge. He enrolled in Villanova’s College of Professional Studies to pursue a certificate in Information Systems, which he completed in 2016.

“There is often a lack of understanding of politics and technology. In this day and age, it is critical to understand their importance to one another. That’s why it is the focus of my research,” he says.

PREPARED FOR SUCCESS

Brandolini noticed how cybersecurity threats and breaches—confidential information made public—could affect geopolitics and foreign policy, as well as how government policies could steer the development of new technologies, such as automated vehicles. He realized that those theoretical ideas had the potential to become very real.

After earning his bachelor’s degree, Brandolini wanted to further his education to prepare himself to face these challenges, and CPS was a natural choice. The Information Systems curriculum, which emphasizes application of technology in the modern workplace, ended up complementing the FIT certificate he had earned previously and opened doors to new learning experiences.

Through his coursework, real-world experience and interaction with his mentor, Sandy Kearney ’00 MS, assistant dean in CPS, Brandolini gained critical insight about computer science in the field. He also worked as a teaching and research assistant on projects, including a National Science Foundation grant and Villanova’s CAVE Automatic Virtual Environment, an enclosure that uses computer graphics to create 3-D environments. And Kearney helped connect Brandolini with an internship opportunity in fall 2016 at the White House as a research assistant for President Barack Obama’s senior adviser for Technology and Economic Policy.

Brandolini’s research at the White House included new and emerging technologies, encryption, cybersecurity, data breaches, and drones and artificial intelligence, often as they related to national security. He also contributed to a developing autonomous vehicle policy, which examines the security risks of driverless cars and offers a framework for how companies could work on implementing an autonomous driving system.

Brandolini drew on what he had learned in Disney Institute leadership excellence courses he took through CPS in June 2016 to navigate the levels of administration and to gain confidence in speaking to White House officials at the highest levels.

“I dealt with a wide spectrum of subject areas, but everything closely related to my education at Villanova,” he says.

INSPIRING OTHERS

His success in the internship program was a direct result of the professional growth Brandolini experienced throughout his career at Villanova. “Brando embodies Villanova as a person,” Kearney says, adding that in his classes Brando­lini would take time to mentor fellow students, inspiring robust discussions.

Brandolini’s desire to elevate the learning of his fellow students had its origins back in his undergraduate days, according to David M. Barrett, PhD, professor of Political Science, with whom Brandolini took courses on the US presidency and government intelligence. “His outgoing personality and contagious enthusiasm for the subject matter sparked lively discussions in the classroom,” Dr. Barrett says.

“Brando is an excellent example of the type of high-caliber student that CPS attracts,” says Deborah J. Tyksinski, PhD, founding dean of CPS. “He is smart, driven and innovative in how he pushes his knowledge in new directions.”
THEOLOGY IN THE THIRD MILLENNIUM
High-impact faculty foster the dynamic relationship between faith and society

By Suzanne Wentzel

E ngeers, biologists and business analysts on campus don’t pursue their disciplines without reference to the real world. Neither do Villanova’s theologians.

Religious beliefs shape—and are shaped by—people, events and eras. To do their work, then, faculty in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies approach Christianity not as a set of abstractions but as a “lived experience” in a particular time and place.

“If we don’t relate our faith tradition to contemporary life, theology has no impact on people’s minds and hearts,” says Peter Spitaler, ThD, associate professor and department chair.

At the undergraduate, master’s and doctoral levels, the department has reemphasized the Augustinian mantra of “faith and reason at its core. “We need more people thinking about how science and religion fit together. My hope is to have PhD students who will further this work.”

If it weren’t being used by the pope, “Pontifical”—Latin for “bridge builder”—would be an apt Twitter handle for church historian and professor Massimo Faggioli. The Italian-born theologian and Vatican II expert helps the different worlds of European and American Catholicism understand each other.

After years of study at the universities of Bologna and Turin, research in the Vatican archives, and teaching in other countries, Dr. Faggioli came to the United States during the 2008 presidential campaign. He was promptly tapped to write articles for European audiences, explaining the religious aspects of US politics, and for American audiences, explaining the qualities unique to Catholicism in this country. That task continues.

“When you can see a universal experience of Catholicism, I try to cast light on ideas that are distinctly American, some of which may be worth questioning,” Dr. Faggioli says.

The 2013 election of Pope Francis catalyzed Dr. Faggioli, then a faculty member at the University of St. Thomas, back onto the international stage. He provided expert commentary for respected US and European media outlets, and has continued to do so since coming to Villanova in 2016.

In addition to bringing his European perspective to the classroom, Dr. Faggioli draws upon it as he writes what will be a trilogy of books on Francis’ papacy. Unlike many scholars in the US, he “follows what the pope says and does directly from Vatican sources, without having to rely on translations. It’s fascinating.”

With doctoral degrees in Pharmacology and Theology, Sister Ilia Delio is eminently qualified not only to speak authoritatively about two distinct fields but also to show that, contrary to popular opinion, science and religion can work together.

Since fall 2015, she has pursued this calling as the Josephine C. Connelly Endowed Chair in Christian Theology at Villanova.

Sister Ilia has deep roots in both fields. The Newark, N.J., native had been researching a drug for diabetic neuropathy when she decided to enter the Sisters of St. Francis. The community sent her to Fordham University, where she earned her second doctoral degree, this one in Historical Theology. The convergence of her interests in cells and souls transformed her. “I was like a fish who had finally found water.”

In her various posts at prestigious institutions, most recently, Georgetown University, Sister Ilia has developed new ways of understanding how God is present and active in an evolving, dynamic universe. Her award-winning books go beyond academia to show people how they can “reclaim a living God for a living world of change and complexity.”

As one who appreciates Villanova’s Augustinian heritage, Sister Ilia is excited about a doctoral program that has faith and reason at its core. “We need more people thinking about how science and religion fit together. My hope is to have PhD students who will further this work.”
Andy Talley, Villanova’s head football coach for more than 30 years, was known as much for his football expertise as for his mentorship of hundreds of student-athletes.

Talley sat at his desk in the building named for him, a pile of index cards in front of him, and the words coming slowly for a man accustomed to speaking in public. In just four days, 200 guests would gather on a mid-February evening at Overbrook Country Club to celebrate Talley’s 32 years as Villanova’s head football coach and help ease him into retirement and emeritus status within the program.

Former players, high school friends, college roommates from Southern Connecticut State, family, members of the Villanova community, conference administrators and other college athletics types would salute Talley’s achievements and his effect on their lives, the University and football in general. It would be a night of stories and reminiscing, of laughter and gratitude. It would be a fitting tribute to the man who revived a football program and built it into a national power, and a gleaming emblem of success and athletic virtue. And Talley was more worried about that night than he had been about any opponent during his 37-year head coaching career.

“This is the first time I have ever done something like this,” he said, clearly uneasy with the whole idea. “It’s certainly something I appreciate, but I don’t have the words. Usually, I’m pretty good at having words, but I don’t want to hurt anybody’s feelings. I don’t want to leave anybody out.”

Talley had been intimately involved in the event’s planning, making sure the invitation list included those most important to him and the program. He had chosen three former players—one from each of his decades as the head coach at Villanova—to address the crowd, and he would serve as the master of ceremonies.

GOING LONG
The night was a huge success and provided a symbolic close to Talley’s time at Villanova. The official conclusion had come Dec. 3, when the Wildcats dropped a 10–7 decision at South Dakota State in the second round of the NCAA tournament, the 12th time one of Talley’s teams had reached the playoffs. Though the loss was disappointing, the coach’s tenure ended in the postseason, with the Wildcats again among the nation’s best.

“Although Andy’s retirement signals the end of an era of unprecedented success for Villanova Football, it’s also an opportunity to celebrate all that he built on and off the field,” says University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 CLAS.

Talley’s teams accomplished plenty during his 32 seasons, including 229 victories, shares of six conference titles and the 2009 national championship. But his positive influence on the Villanova community goes beyond the football field. Talley created a program that embodied the University’s principles, with education and service valued ahead of wins and losses. His teams provided a strong public face for the school’s mission and embraced Talley’s decades-long commitment to registering bone marrow donors.

“He had a large impact not just from a football perspective but on how the program benefited the University,” says Britt Gordon ’02 VSB, a Villanova quarterback from 1999 to 2002 who graduated with seven school passing records and led the Wildcats to the 2002 national semifinals. “Since the beginning, Coach Talley has run a first-class program both...
on and off the field. Under his leadership, Villanova Football has always represented the values of the University, and that message was always being communicated to his players.”

Talley arrived at Villanova in 1994 after five seasons at St. Lawrence University, charged with the substantial task of beginning the Football program anew. Three years earlier, a variety of circumstances had led the University to suspend the program. Talley had few players at his disposal and limited resources. He squirmed the Wildcats through fledgling campaigns as independents, without a conference home, and eventually led them into the Yankee Conference, where in 1989 he tied for the league championship. “He set the tone. There was no question that he was the head coach,” Ferrante says. “As I’ve stated to Coach, ‘I’m going to use you as a consultant and utilize your experience and knowledge.’ He did this job for more than 30 years, so if something comes up, I’m going down the hall.”

“It’s ideal to have Andy continue to be involved,” says Brandy Brady ’98 VSB, ’91 MBA, who played on some of Talley’s earliest teams, remembers how tough the coach could be on the players but also how well he prepared them to succeed after they left campus. “I think he served the University’s mission unbelievably well,” Brady says. “He lived the culture, and that was why he was so successful on the field and off the field while positively impacting the lives of so many.”

Now, those are just the right words.

FROM FIELD TO FOUNDATION

Despite his fabulous football résumé, Talley’s biggest legacy is his tireless efforts to increase the number of potential bone marrow donors. With the help of his players, Talley began on-campus registration drives in 1992, after he learned of the devastating odds facing blood cancer patients in need of transplants. He partnered with Be The Match® in 2008, creating the “Get in the Game. Save a Life” initiative. Since then, more than 71,000 people have registered. Talley expects to add 10,000 to 12,000 this year. He is particularly excited that Penn State has joined the dozens of college football programs involved in this cause.

“I’m going to do this until I die,” says Talley, who founded the Andy Talley Bone Marrow Foundation in 2010. “I have more energy for it, now that I don’t have to worry about recruiting and practices.”

Those and other gridiron concerns are Ferrante’s now, and he has a proven platform of success on which to build. Bob Brady ’98 VSB, ’91 MBA, who played on some of Talley’s earliest teams, remembers how tough the coach could be on the players but also how well he prepared them to succeed after they left campus. “I think he served the University’s mission unbelievably well,” Brady says. “He lived the culture, and that was why he was so successful on the field and off the field while positively impacting the lives of so many.”

Now, those are just the right words.

Below, left: Andy Talley led Villanova Football to the 2009 FCS national championship. Above, right: One of Talley’s signature achievements was his leadership in increasing the number of people registered as potential bone marrow donors. Fourteen Villanovans—including Matt Szczur ’11 CLAS, a star wide receiver on the national championship team and now a Major League Baseball player—have matched the registry and donated marrow to patients in need of transplants.

THE ANDREW J. TALLEY ATHLETIC CENTER was officially dedicated in October 2016. The center, located in the west end zone of Villanova Stadium, houses the Football program and other amenities for student-athletes, including meeting space, training, weight and locker rooms, and lounge areas.

The center houses the Football program and other amenities for student-athletes, including meeting space, training, weight and locker rooms, and lounge areas.
A Tireless Advocate

George Coleman ’78 VSB has never slowed down in his work for Villanova and its students

When George Coleman ’78 VSB took a summer job at age 16 at the Larchmont Shore Club in New York, he had no idea that it would be his first introduction to the power of the Villanova network.

The president of the club, Edward Riley ’43 VSB, took a liking to Coleman and suggested that he consider Villanova for college. Coleman knew little of the school, but was intrigued by Riley’s descriptions and guided by his mentorship.

Coleman would later tap into the Villanova network to launch his 30-year career in finance, to prepare Villanova students for jobs on Wall Street, and to inspire other alumni to stay engaged and involved with their alma mater.

“Villanova changed my life, so it’s very easy for me to give back,” Coleman says.

FINDING A BROTHERHOOD

Coleman sees his life as a series of milestones, and one of the most influential for him was the decision to join Delta Tau Delta fraternity soon after coming to Villanova as an Accounting major. He eventually became president of the group.

“It gave me an enormous amount of confidence, not only that the brothers had faith in me that I could do the job, but also that, in return, I could deliver,” Coleman says.

The next milestone also came courtesy of his DTD affiliation. A few years after graduation, he was working in sales but hoping to break into finance. At a dinner with fraternity brothers in New York City one night, Coleman sat next to Jim Giordano ’77 CLAS, who worked at a hedge fund and offered to make a call on Coleman’s behalf to the investment banking firm First Boston.

Coleman started in the associate training program at First Boston, which later became Credit Suisse, and worked his way up to become a managing director in the firm’s Securities division and vice chairman of the Global Equities department.

As his career bloomed, Coleman turned back to Villanova, hiring graduates for Credit Suisse jobs and also finding opportunities to help them achieve at an even higher level.

“The interview process on Wall Street is very complicated, and I was seeing that Villanova students had the academic credentials but needed more preparation in the soft skills,” Coleman says. For several years in the early 2000s, he pulled together Villanova alumni who were also top executives on Wall Street to present to students on how financial institutions operate and on best practices for successful interviews.

“It is invaluable to have alumni of George’s caliber willing to share their insights and give back in ways that significantly benefit our students.”

—Patrick G. Maggitti, PhD, Villanova’s Provost

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Coleman is known to Villanova students who attended the interviewing workshops he moderated for nearly 10 years, and he’s known to other VSB students because they’ve managed the $100,000 he gave to a student-managed fund in the endowment. Some students in the College of Nursing also know Coleman for a scholarship he established in memory of his mother, a nurse who earned a PhD in public health at the age of 63. Men’s Basketball players benefit from his support of the building of the Davis Center, his generosity to the upcoming Pavilion renovation project, and his endorsement of the team’s strength and conditioning coach position.

Now retired, Coleman is even more active as a Villanova ambassador. His roles as New York regional chairman and member of the Campaign Executive Committee for the Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change keep him doing what he loves—building relationships, inspiring others to do their part and sharing his own Villanova story.

“I tell people that Villanova has not been a four-year decision. It’s been a 40-year decision,” Coleman says. “Those four years have stayed with me the entire time.”

For those who have known him the longest, it comes as no surprise that Coleman is still connecting people and raising his hand for leadership roles.

“George doesn’t do anything halfway,” says Bill Donnell ’77 VSB, a classmate and DTD brother. “He goes all in or he doesn’t go in at all, and he has done that consistently since I met him in 1974.”

BY MARIAN BUTCHER
网络

大学

价值

Villanova

始终

野猫

创建终身价值

BY CHRISTINE GUERRINI

第四章

Villanova大学校友协会的新平台

校友价值

Villanova University

在2016年团聚期间，Devon Jackson ’00 CLAS, ’03 MA受邀参加VUA的黑人校友社团活动。他说：“我意识到校友参与的最好方式就是我的参与。”

校友认同

校友与Villanova的关系可以提供参与机会与他人交流，并助力校友关系的发展。Louis Manon ’97

Clark transferred to Villanova during his junior year and never lived on campus, so he felt a different connection to campus from his peers. The friends, faculty and staff he met, however, had a positive influence on his journey.

During Reunion 2016, DeVon Jackson ’00 CLAS, ’03 MA invited Manon to a happy hour for the VUA’s new Black Alumni Society. “I was glad to learn that opportunities like this existed,” says Manon. “I realized that my best contribution as an alumnus is my involvement.”

As co-chair of the affinity group, he has spoken with students to learn how the society can be a resource for them. Manon also has explored ways to bring more BAS members back to campus. “I’m proud to help create a new outlet for Villanovans to engage, no matter how long they’ve been away.”

回归价值

校友在大学的未来中也认识到将大学大厦作为资源的重要意义。通过Villasova University’s校友会俱乐部组织的奖学金活动，他们已经成功筹集到2016年的$312,000，为学生的未来提供更多奖学金。

激励新世代

通过校友的参与和支持，校友和学生在社区中可以形成强有力的联系。Mary Yachnik ’19 VSB had heard about the benefits of being a Villanovan from her parents, Catherine ’89 VSB and Michael ’89 VSB, and her sister Denise ’17 VSB. When it came time to choose a school, Villanova was a natural fit.

“它有我想要的：出色的学习成绩，校友参与，校友和校友之间的相互联系，”Mary在Marketing and Communication专业担任市场和通信双重职责。

Mary是学生校友协会和团聚会的成员，该组织由VUA赞助。Mary在团聚会中帮助校友和学生，她说：”当我教育和参与这个社区，我知道我有一个光明的未来。”

学会如何获取Villanova校友的益处，更多信息请访问alumni.villanova.edu。
Volunteer Leaders Conference Marks Alumni Accomplishments

The annual Volunteer Leaders Conference offers Villanova University Alumni Association volunteers from around the country the chance to engage with one another and University leadership through a day of networking, education, and collaboration.

Through interactive workshop sessions and panels, attendees at the 2016 event, held Oct. 21, learned how to become more effective and strategic in their roles and how to engage and inspire future leaders.

During a lunch led by University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ‘75 CLAS, outstanding leaders were recognized for their volunteer accomplishments. The following were the 2016 award recipients:

- David C. Ridenour ’79 VSB, Goodwill Ambassador Award
- Katrina Ercole ’86 VSB, Distinguished Service Award
- Victor J. Maggitti ’56 VSB, Reunion Volunteer Service Award
- Matt Clark ’11 MBA, Leadership Award
- Andrew J. Talley Athletic Center, the Rev. Ray Jackson Community Service Award
- Ronald Abbazio ’18 VSB, Outstanding Student Volunteer Award
- John G. Hughes ’84 CLAS is joined by the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, ’75 CLAS, University president; Terry Delaney ’83 CLAS, president of the Villanova University Alumni Association; and George Kolb ’84 VSB, associate vice president for Alumni Relations, as he accepts the Nova Challenge Award on behalf of the Villanova University Club of Fairfield and Westchester.

Patty Esposito ’80 CLAS, a dedicated supporter of the University for three decades, was presented with the 2016 Villanova University Loyalty Award at Homecoming.

Esposito serves on the Villanova University Alumni Association Board of Directors and is an active member of the Villanova University Club of North Central Jersey. She received the inaugural Reunion Volunteer Service Award for her longtime leadership on Class of 1980 Reunion committees. Esposito is also a former member of the Villanova Parent Ambassadors and is a college fair volunteer in North Jersey for the Alumni Recruitment Network.

Instituted in 1932 by the Villanova University Club of Greater Philadelphia, the Loyalty Award is one of the University’s oldest awards. The recipient is selected by the vote of previous award winners.

SCHOOL SPIRIT SOARS AT HOMECOMING

At Homecoming 2016, a crowd of Villanova fans—alumni, family and friends—visited campus to celebrate and rally together. The Homecoming Festival featured performances from student a cappella and dance groups, the Villanova Band; cheerleaders; and the Villanova mascot, Will D. Cat. Families enjoyed lively music, caricature artists and giant lawn games.

In the Homecoming football game that afternoon, the Wildcats thrilled thousands in attendance, defeating Albany 24–13. Before kickoff, Villanova’s players entered the field for the first time from the team’s locker room in the new Andrew J. Talley Athletic Center. They were greeted by a throng of alumni and supporters who cheered them on to victory.

Tracy Setlock Brala ’90 VSB, immediate past president of the Villanova University Alumni Association, networks with Victor J. Maggitti ’56 VSB, Reunion Volunteer Service Award winner, and Ronald Abbazio ’18 VSB, Outstanding Student Volunteer Award recipient.

Patty Esposito ’80 CLAS—with her husband, Jim ’79 VSB, and children, Reilly ’16 CLAS, Connor ’10 VSB and Emily ’13 VSB—receives the Villanova University Loyalty Award.

ALWAYS TRUE TO VILLANOVA
Class Notes
Villanova Graduates Share Their News & Updates • In Memoriam • Faculty • Staff

1950s

Class of 1952
65th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017

Class of 1957
60th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017


Class of 1960
50th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017

Walter F. Hayes ’57 COE married Jeffrey Myers.

1960s

Class of 1962
55th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017

Class of 1966
50th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017

Al Reinasto ’63 CLAS was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame as a coach of Seton Hall University from 1964 to 1996.

Herbert J. Davis ’65 VSB of Families in Philadelphia.

Robert J. Simone ’71 VS, the managing principal of Smith & Wilson Financial Managers Association.

Brian Muscarella ’80 VSB, ’89 MBA joined Akerman LLP as a health care transactional partner.

Lisa A. Brown ’84 VSB, ’89 MBA was appointed brigadier general in the US Army.

Sandra “Sandy” Gomberg ’85 CON, ’89 MBA is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Wayne, Pa.

Thomas Oxenreiter ’88 VSB is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Wayne, Pa.

1970s

CLASS OF 1972
45th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017

CLASS OF 1977
40th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017

John “Marc” Goodman ’74 VS was elected to a fifth term as county attorney for Lyon County, Kan.

Robert R. Kulesher, PhD, ’74 CLAS was promoted to professor in 1970s.

1980s

CLASS OF 1982
35th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017

Jim Agnew ’80 CLAS was named enterprise vice president, Corporate Development and Acquisitions, for Taub Health Plan and Taub Health Ventures.

Frank J. Cerra ’80 CLAS was a shareholder of Carlsons Fields, was honored by Visions for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Brian Muscarella ’80 VS competed in the fifth Cycle to the Cure.

Nancy O’Mara Ezzo ’80 CLAS was named a board member of The Forum of Executive Women.

John R. Pascal ’80 CLAS is a contributing author to the book Mark Twain and Youth: Studies in His Life and Writings.

Jennifer A. Yockey ’80 CLAS wrote the book Edition at a launch party hosted by the Alliance for Women & Children.

Mark Van Blargan ’89 CWSL, ’92 LLM, convinced to volunteer as a surgeon, operating on pediatric heart-disease patients in developing nations.

James P. Scanlan ’85 VSB, ’88 DMD was appointed trustee of the Chester County Hereditary Health Care.

Greg Acken ’87 VS published the book Service With the Signal Corps: The Civil War Memoir of Captain Lewis L. Forsythe.


Rear Adm. Kirk Foster ’87 CLAS wrote the book The Corpsman: Naval Corpsman, Military Hero, and the assistant judge advocate general upon his retirement after 28 years of honorable and dedicated service in the Navy.

John L. Lehr ’87 CLAS, ’90 MA was appointed CEO of the Parkinson’s Foundation.

Gene M. Linkmeyer ’87 CLAS is an associate professor of natural resources at Oregon State University.

Robert F. Preston ’87 CLAS joined Sullivan & Cromwell LLP in his New York City office.

Steve DeAngelo ’88 VS is executive vice president and head of Distribution at PSJ Investments.

Thomas Owenreiter ’88 VS welcomed a boy.

Join thousands of students, faculty alumni and families at service projects throughout Greater Philadelphia and with alumni clubs around the world. Don’t miss this opportunity to put our Augustinian mission and ideals into action! Contact your club leader or visit alumni.villanova.edu/villanova/stvc
1990s

CLASS OF 1992
25th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017
Clifton A. Davis ’90 COE
recruited a Doctor of Arts in Music from Ball State University.
Charles Zeiders, PsyD, ’90 MS published the article “A Psychological Autopsy of a Mass Murderer” in Journal of Forensic Psychology.
Mark C. Grider, PhD, RN, ’91 MS was named the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association’s president.
Nancy E. Maloney ’96 VSB was appointed executive vice president of the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association.
John F. Castano ’92 CLAS graduated from the US Army War College and was elected to the Penn-Lehigh Board of Directors.

CLASS OF 1997
20th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017
Judith A. Harris ’91 LLM, a member of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus PA, was elected to serve as chair of the board of the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival for the fiscal year that began October 2016.
Freda Pepper ’91 CWLS joined Reed Smith LLP as counsel in the firm’s State Tax Group.
Lora A. Caruth ’90 MS authored the book Love and Leftovers: A Memoir of Parental Bereavement.
John F. Castano ’92 CLAS was recently appointed executive director of New Jersey Seeds.
William Sweeney Jr. ’92 CLAS was named assistant director in charge of the New York Division of the FBI.
Kenneth Batchelor ‘91 CLAS was recently appointed as the superintendent of Radnor Township School District in Pennsylvania.
Mark C. Grider, PhD, RN, ’91 MS was named the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association’s association president.
Nancy E. Maloney ’96 VSB was appointed executive vice president, controller at Huntington Bancshares.
Christian J. Giudice ’97 CLAS was named the 15th Judicial Circuit of Florida.
Laura Powers Chiara ’03 CLAS married Barret Rottman of The Florida Bar.

CLASS NOTES

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Mark Your Calendar
9.19.17
Coming together for the Greater Greater
villanova.edu/annualfund

28% UNDERGRADUATE ALUMNI PARTICIPATION GOAL
MAKE YOUR GIFTS BY MAY 31!

out of
25,000
undergraduates
who participated
in the 2016 Giving Campaign.

Our Goal:

$1,500,000

Our Actual:

$2,508,038

2010s

CLASS OF 2009
15th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017
Sharon Doerr ‘99 CLAS was named an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin.
Lorraine Carman ’10 MS was named an associate at Jones Day.
Lorena Bercovitz ’11 CLAS joined the US Army Reserve as a captain.
Pete Filippone ’10 COE joined the New England Patriots as a scout.

CLASS OF 2012
5th Reunion
June 8–11, 2017
Lorena Carman ’10 MS married Ben Hox ’12 VSB.
Pete Filippone ’10 COE married Meaghan O’Sullivan.

INDUCTEES
HALL OF FAME

Max Petrucco ’07 CLAS, an attorney with The Legal Aid Society and the poverty law firm Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba PC. Scenario With Discussion.”
Charles Zeiders, PsyD, ’90 MS joined the faculty of The Duquesne University School of Nursing as an assistant dean.
Sheldon L. Pollock ’97 VSB was named the 15th Judicial Circuit of Florida.
Daria M. Wallace ’98 VSB was named associate vice chancellor for student affairs.

RECORD
UNDERGRADUATE ALUMNI PARTICIPATION GOAL
MAKE YOUR GIFTS BY MAY 31!

Our Goal:

$1,500,000

Our Actual:

$2,508,038

VILLANOVA.EDU

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES
Two Villanovans have been enshrined in their respective sport’s Hall of Fame—one as a coach and one as an athlete—honoring their outstanding athletic achievements.

William “Billy” Joe ’63 VSB was inducted into the Black College Football Hall of Fame at the College Football Hall of Fame in Atlanta in February. He won 373 games in his career, trailing only the legendary Eddie Robinson of Grambling State in black-college football wins.

A former National Football League player, Joe was a member of the Super Bowl champion New York Jets in 1969.

Villanova’s Frank J. Kelly Ewandore Track and Field Coach Marcus O’Sullivan ’84 VSB, ’89 MBA was inducted into the Athletics Ireland Hall of Fame in December for his achievements as a world-class runner. During his 15-year competitive career, O’Sullivan was a four-time Olympian, three-time world indoor champion and one of only three athletes in history to run a sub-4-minute mile more than 100 times.

O’Sullivan was one of the most decorated runners in University history. He ran the third leg of the national championship distance medley relay at Villanova in 1981 and was the anchor of the national champion 2-mile relay squad.

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In Memoriam

1930s


1940s

Edward Callo ’40 CLAS, Sept. 12, 2016.
Thomas F. Mylon, MD ’44 CLAS, Dec. 29, 2016.
James M. Baumbgardner ’47 VSB, July 5, 2016.
William A. Butler ’47 VSB, Jan. 4.
Francis T. Nugent ’48 COE, July 1, 2016.
George B. Hech ’49 CLAS, Jan. 10.
L. Kevin McChesney ’49 VSB, Nov. 25, 2016.
Charles Raffetto Jr., MD ’49 CLAS, Aug. 18, 2016.

1950s

Ernest J. Williams, Esq., ’49 VSB, Nov. 17, 2015.

1960s

John J. Bell ’65 COE, June 6, 2016.
Alfred J. Bernardini ’51 VSB, July 1, 2016.
Vincent P. Haley, Esq., ’59 VSB, Nov. 9, 2016.
William C. Cullen ’52 VSB, July 11, 2016.
William C. Grimes ’52 VSB, Sept. 27, 2016.
Albert L. Gritte ’52 COE, July 1, 2016.
George L. McDiedrick Sr. ’52 CLAS, July 11, 2016.
George T. Speirs ’52 VSB, Nov. 15, 2016.

1970s

Matthew Ziemak ’52 COE, June 28, 2016.
Alfred J. Bernardini ’51 VSB, July 1, 2016.
Vincent P. Haley, Esq., ’59 VSB, Nov. 9, 2016.
William C. Cullen ’52 VSB, July 11, 2016.
William C. Grimes ’52 VSB, Sept. 27, 2016.
Albert L. Gritte ’52 COE, July 1, 2016.
George L. McDiedrick Sr. ’52 CLAS, July 11, 2016.
Richard T. Metcalfe ’52 COE, July 13, 246.
George T. Speirs ’52 VSB, Nov. 15, 2016.

Join the growing 1842 Heritage Society

More alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends are choosing to include Villanova University in their wills or estate plans than ever before. You can leave a legacy to support Villanova’s future and generations of students to come.

Visit villanova.edu/plannedgiving or contact
stephen.grourke@villanova.edu or 480-519-5587 to learn more.

CLASS NOTES
The day of the Men’s Basketball’s 2016 championship, Naval ROTC graduates Kyle Lewis ’74 COE, Brian Moscioni ’15 COE and Chris Honeycutt ’74 VSB unfurled Villanova’s colors in front of a T-45C Goshawk at Naval Air Station Kingsville in Texas.

Theresa M. St. Lege ’58 CON, Nov. 8, 2016.
Raymond E. Barrett ’59 VSB, July 20, 2016.
Catherine E. Phillips ’59 CON, Nov. 8, 2016.
John Regan ’59 CON, Jan. 9, 2016.

1960s

Patrick A. Brennan ’60 VSB, Sept. 20, 2016.
John G. Daniel ’60 CLAS, Sept. 20, 2016.
Joseph E. Swartz ’60 CLAS, April 28, 2016.
John P. Keim ’60 VSB, Feb. 12, 2016.
John V. Smith ’60 VSB, Dec. 11, 2016.

1970s

Joseph J. Deeney ’70 VSB, April 24, 2016.
George P. Kalas ’70 CLAS, Aug. 15, 2016.
Frank Murphy ’70 VSB, June 5, 2016.
Dorothy B. Cellini ’71 MS, Oct. 8, 2016.
Lawrence J. Hogan ’72 CLAS, Nov. 9, 2016.

1980s

Mary Ann Sommers ’78 MS, Aug. 3, 2016.

1990s

John F. Oreale ’91 MS, June 12, 2016.
Stephen John Anderer ’92 CWLS, August 28, 2016.
Lorne Zwara’96 CLAS, Sept. 6, 2016.

2000s

What inspired you to join the Navy?
I was born into a military family, although by that time my father had already retired from the US Army as a Purple Heart recipient for injuries sustained in the Vietnam War. While I didn’t move around from duty station to duty station, I was exposed to the military. We lived near the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and visited often. With that exposure, I was all in!

What was your experience as an ROTC midshipman?
In a word: challenging. I transferred to Villanova as a sophomore but was not offered a Naval ROTC scholarship initially. I had to make up for missed coursework, so I carried 18 to 21 credits every semester. The program was physically rigorous as well. I was a high school sprinter who had to work hard at becoming a strong endurance runner in NROTC. It wasn’t easy, and I wanted to give up a few times, but with encouragement from the unit leadership and my fellow midshipmen, I made it through—and was offered a scholarship my junior year.

What stands out as a military career highlight?
Hands down—my first duty station with US Naval Support, Antarctica. I was deployed three times to McMurdo Station in Antarctica, where I served as public affairs officer. At 22 years old, I led 15 people and managed more than $1 million of communications equipment, a radio and television station, and a weekly base newspaper. I also hosted many distinguished visitors interested in the Navy’s logistical support of the National Science Foundation’s research and exploration, including work on the Mars Rover prototype, studies about penguins, ozone and atmosphere, and dinosaur fossil discoveries.

How does your Villanova education influence your endeavors?
I grew up as an Episcopalian, and I wasn’t sure how I would fit into an Augustinian tradition, but I quickly learned that Villanova is about community and service. I love being able to serve others, and Villanova strengthened that desire. In the Navy, I ran a tutoring program for youth, led an Adopt-a-Highway effort and was involved in other projects. In Djibouti, I was able to get “outside the wire” to participate in a discussion group for young people who wanted to improve their English skills. Those opportunities to serve and the exposure to new people and cultures were priceless.

Any advice for those interested in the armed forces?
I would tell them to do it! The Navy—as with all branches of the military—has an important mission to protect the world while working to develop and support service members and their families. We will always be proud of and grateful for the opportunity to serve my Navy and my country.

Retired US Navy Capt. Star Hardison ‘90 CLAS is a proud Villanova Naval ROTC alumna and 26-year Navy veteran whose passion for service began at Villanova and has taken her around the world.
If you receive two or more magazines at your home address, or if you are a parent receiving your son’s or daughter’s magazine at your home, please call the Villanova University Alumni Association at 1-800-VILLANOVA.

REUNION 2017
JUNE - NE 11

Join us at Reunion 2017 to celebrate with friends old and new. Everyone is invited, and there are special events to honor class years ending in a “2” or a “7.”

HIGHLIGHTS
• Class Parties
• President’s Lunch
• Reunion Picnic
• Alumni Mass
• Academic Sessions and Tours
• Supernova Dinner Dance

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