

Villanova Magazine

SPRING 2016

40 *Prüfungsausschuss*

Versuche über Pflanzen-Hybriden

von
Gregor Mendel.

(Vorgelegt in den Sitzungen am 8. Februar & 8. März 1865).

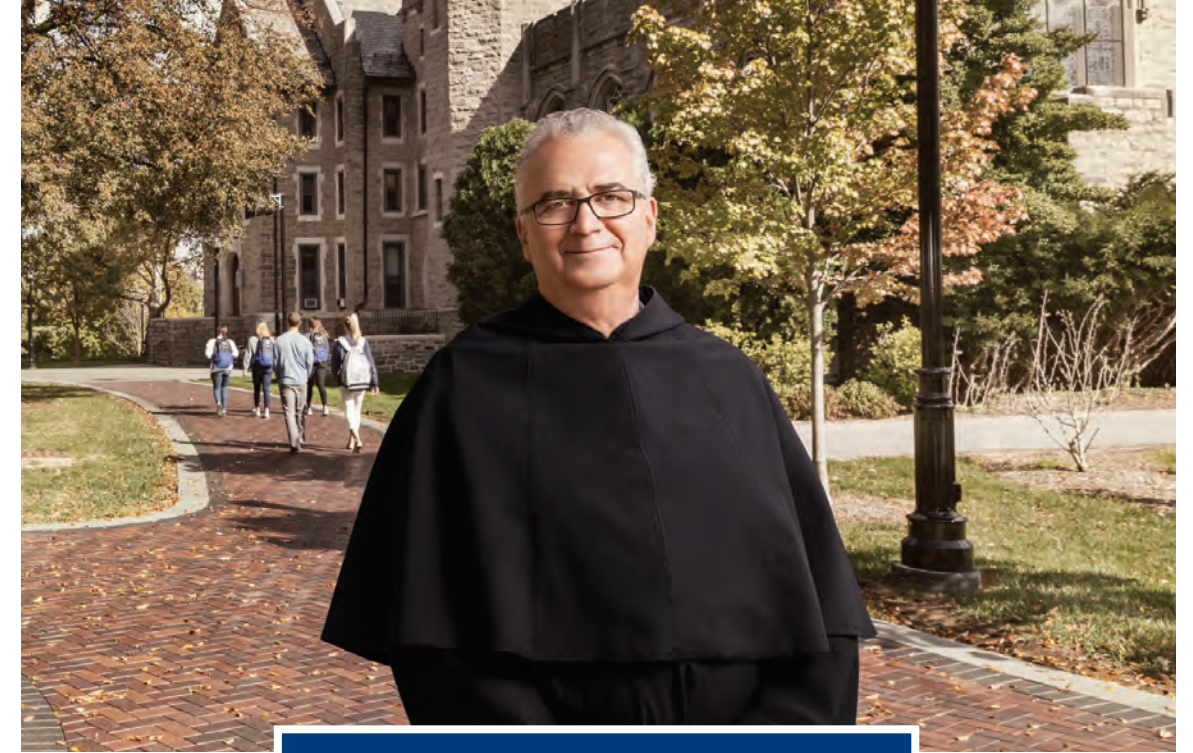
Einleitende Bemerkungen

Einstufige Kreuzungen, welche an Kreuzpflanzen dieselbe aus-
gewählte Eigenschaft, im Jahre zweimal zu erhalten,
sowie die Kreuzung zu den Kreuzungen, welche die
Kreuzung zu erhalten sollen. Die vollständige Reifezeit,
mit welcher dieselben hybridisieren immer wiederholen,
so oft die Kreuzung zu erhalten gleiches Erbe erhalten, gel-
te die Kreuzung zu erhalten (Experimenten), deren Aufgabe
es war, die Entwicklung der Hybriden in ihren Kreuz-
gen zu verfolgen.

Dieser Aufgabe haben folgende Herren, wie Herr Doktor,
Gärtner, Hoeser, Lecq, Michura n. n. einen Teil ihrer
Arbeit mit unermüdetem Eifer gewidmet. Nament-
lich hat Gärtner in seinem Garten, der sich in der Nähe
des Pflanzensystems befindet, die Kreuzungen durchgeführt,
und zu einem Teil auch Michura unermüdet
Kreuzungen über die Kreuzung der Hybriden gemacht.
Nun ist es uns nicht gelungen, ein allgemeines
gesetzliches Gesetz für die Bildung und Entwicklung der
Hybriden aufzustellen, so dass das Namentlich Michura
namentlich, von dem Anfang der Aufgabe kam mit die
Kreuzungen zu erhalten, mit denen Michura

In the Spirit of Mendel

Advancing the work
of the “father of genetics”



FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR FRIENDS,

At Villanova, our identity as an Augustinian Catholic university is a point of distinction, as well as one of pride. In everything we do and say, we seek to exemplify our Augustinian values, which call on us to think critically, act compassionately and succeed while serving others.

As a community of learners, we support and challenge our students in a rigorous academic environment that prepares them to ignite change wherever their lives and careers may take them. I am continually amazed by what our students can achieve, and by our world-class faculty and staff, who are committed to their success.

This tradition of academic excellence and a strong community has made Villanova University a sought-after destination for high-achieving students from across the country and around the world. This year we received another record number of applications, with 17,000 applications for 1,600 spots in the incoming freshman Class of 2020. And the quality and diversity of the applicants continue to rise.

These freshmen will join a community that celebrates the visionaries who built the Augustinian intellectual tradition and those working today to carry it forward. One of those visionaries is Gregor Mendel, the Augustinian friar and “father of genetics” whose breakthroughs are still studied and applied today, including by many Villanova faculty and alumni. Developing new ideas and finding innovative solutions are part of Villanova’s enduring legacy of looking beyond itself to make a positive impact on campus and beyond.

Villanova recently achieved another exciting milestone, when the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching elevated the University to the Doctoral Universities category from the Master’s Colleges and Universities category. For years, Villanova has been a national university in terms of its academics, its research activity, its athletics and its reach, and this new classification supports that label and associates us more strongly with other nationally ranked universities.

Our Augustinian values continue to be the foundation of our strong academic community. Included in this magazine is a special bonus publication that celebrates these values and their effect on all aspects of life at Villanova. It is a reminder that, with our 175th anniversary approaching, we remain steadfastly rooted in our tradition as we confidently move forward.

Sincerely,

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

“Being at an Augustinian institution has meant home to me and has given me a stronger sense of community. I have developed a greater moral compass to reflect on my actions and how they will impact others.”

—Harry Perretta '95 MA, who this season won his 700th career game as head coach of Women’s Basketball

22 HEIR APPARENT

In the Augustinian intellectual tradition of Gregor Mendel, OSA, Villanova grows the legacy of the “father of genetics.”



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Villanova Magazine
VOLUME 30, NO. 1 | SPRING 2016

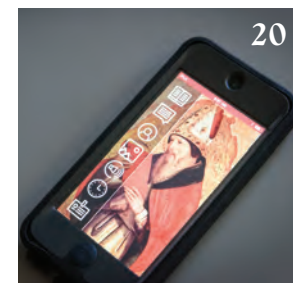
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FEATURES

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Villanova cultivates innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship across disciplines.



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Villanovans are building technological connections to the Augustinian mission and to the community.



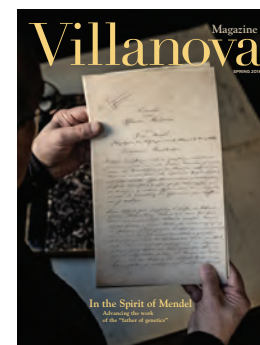
36 WILDCATS CONNECT
More than ever, Villanova is a destination school for the world's finest student-athletes in track and field.



CHECK OUT ►

the brochure inserted between Pages 48 and 49 to learn how the University's Augustinian heritage defines Villanova.

ON THE COVER

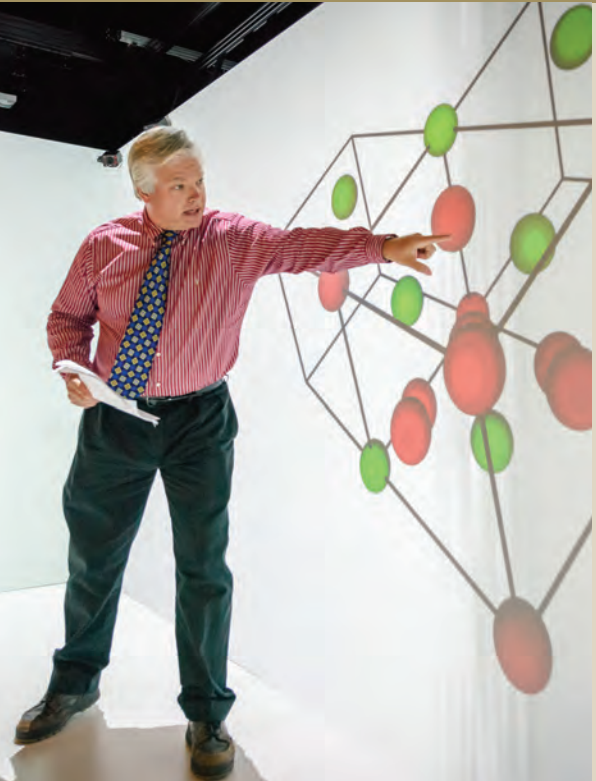


The Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSA, PhD, '69 MA, special assistant to the President, examines a copy of the original manuscript on plant hybridization, handwritten by Gregor Mendel, OSA, the “father of genetics.” The document was a gift to Villanova University from Masaryk University's Mendel Museum in Brno, Czech Republic, in recognition of the former's commitment to the Augustinian intellectual tradition and to the friar-scientist.

ABBREVIATIONS OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

- CLAS:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- COE:** College of Engineering
- CON:** College of Nursing
- CPS:** College of Professional Studies
- VLS:** Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law
- VSU:** Villanova School of Business

Strength in Research and Academics Leads to Carnegie Reclassification



The Carnegie Foundation has elevated Villanova's classification from the Master's Colleges and Universities category to that of Doctoral Universities. This change, triggered by the number of doctoral degrees the University awards each year, testifies to Villanova's forward momentum, as well as the strength of its academic programs and research in niche areas.

"This new category ensures the interdependence of teaching, research and scholarship at Villanova, while also enhancing our national reputation," says Villanova President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS.

The Carnegie classification, updated every five years since 2000, has been the leading framework for recognizing and categorizing the diverse institutions in US higher education since 1970. It is based on the number and nature of doctoral degrees awarded each year, the amount of research grants and

activity occurring, and other measures of scholarly productivity.

This change reflects Villanova's commitment to research and strong graduate programs that enhance the undergraduate student experience.

One of the noteworthy outcomes of Villanova's new category is the *U.S. News & World Report* ranking. *U.S. News* uses the Carnegie classification under different names for its annual "Best Colleges" ranking. Villanova has topped the Regional University North category for 23 years, but this elevated classification means that Villanova will appear in the National Universities category for the first time this fall.

"The new classification will allow Villanova to continue attracting the most talented students and faculty, and will heighten the intellectual discussion among undergraduates, graduate students and faculty on campus," says Provost Patrick G. Maggitti, PhD.

CLAS Honors Alumni and Former Dean



The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences presented the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSA Alumni Medallion—newly named after the leader who served as dean for 25 years—to Brian F. Harrington '85, founder, Each One Counts Foundation (third from right). Other honorees and well-wishers at the Oct. 22 ceremony were George Kolb '84 VSB, associate vice president, Alumni Relations; Graduate Alumni Medallion recipient Michael B. Smith, PhD, '94 MA, associate professor, Ithaca College; Adele Lindenmeyr, PhD, CLAS dean; the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75, University president; Young Alumni Medallion recipient Diepiriye Anga, Esq., '11, associate, Kaye Scholer LLP; the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSA, PhD, '69 MA, assistant to the President; and Patrick G. Maggitti, PhD, provost.

\$5 Million Gift to Establish Institute for Women's Leadership



Anne Welsh McNulty '75 CLAS, co-founder and managing partner of JBK Partners, and former Villanova trustee, has given \$5 million to establish an institute dedicated to developing women as leaders. The Anne Welsh McNulty Institute for Women's Leadership will launch in 2017, 50 years after Villanova's Board of Trustees decided to become fully coeducational across all disciplines. It will foster women's advancement through education, advocacy, community building and the creation of knowledge.

"The exceptional community at Villanova provides a strong and inclusive space to expand understanding and to promote and empower women to assume leadership roles of all kinds," McNulty says. "As the institute evolves, it will serve as a platform through which Villanova can initiate and contribute to national and global conversations about women in leadership." ■

Nursing Dean's Extraordinary Impact Recognized



The example of M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, the Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor of the College of Nursing, who is an esteemed leader, visionary and advocate in nursing education, inspired the state board of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania to create what will be its highest honor: the Lifetime Achievement Award. Dean Fitzpatrick received this new award at the association's convention in November in Harrisburg.

The Nurses Educational Funds Inc. also paid tribute to the dean's prominence by establishing the M. Louise Fitzpatrick Scholarship Fund to assist nurses in graduate school. The NEF recognized Dean Fitzpatrick at its gala reception in November in New York City. ■

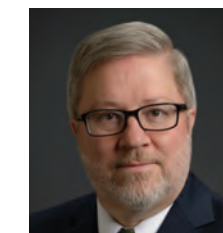
BIG EAST Commissioner Headlines Title IX Conference

BIG EAST Commissioner Val Ackerman spoke at the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law conference "Sports, Violence and Equality: Current Issues in Title IX Compliance." The Jan. 29 event convened experts to explore topics such as gender equity in sports and sexual harassment. Since its enactment in 1972 prohibiting sex discrimination in federally funded education programs and activities, the Title IX statute has raised complex issues nationwide. Ackerman visited campus in the fall semester to speak at the forum "Academics and Athletics in the Catholic Social Tradition." ■



LEADERS BRING TALENTS TO NEW APPOINTMENTS

Carolyn Everson '93 CLAS, vice president of Global Marketing Solutions at Facebook; Doug Gaston '92 JD, former senior vice president and general counsel at Comcast Cable; and Richard Kreider, retired director at Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co., were appointed to Villanova's 34-member Board of Trustees, effective Jan. 1.



Craig Wheeland, PhD, was appointed in January to the new position of vice provost for Academics. In this role, Dr. Wheeland provides leadership and management for academic affairs, particularly those related to teaching, research, student learning, career services, and the pursuit of innovation and creativity.

agement for academic affairs, particularly those related to teaching, research, student learning, career services, and the pursuit of innovation and creativity.



Professor Todd Aagaard was appointed vice dean of Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, effective Aug. 1. He oversees academic

affairs, career strategy, admissions, financial aid, administration and faculty support.



Named associate dean for Academic Affairs for Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law May 15, April Barton '96 JD manages areas

such as the registrar, student affairs, trial advocacy, externships, and clinical and international programs. ■

Spotlight on Engineering Alumni



The Engineering Alumni Society's annual awards were presented at a reception Nov. 14. The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS, University president (left), and Gary A. Gabriele, PhD, the Drosdick Endowed Dean of Engineering (right), joined in congratulating the 2015 recipients: Gerard "Gerry" Fasano '87, '90 MS; Brian Lange, PE, '88; John Hartner '85; Patsy "Pat" Aguanno, PE, '56; Nicholas Piazzola '68; Andrew Blasetti '04, '06 MS; John "J.P." Gunn '10; Melissa Morea Evola '94; Jenny Papatolis Johnson '03, '06 JD; and Joseph Callaghan '59, '63 MS. (Timothy Arcuri '93 and Joseph Brady '15 are not pictured.)



Continuing MLK's Legacy

Villanova honored the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of peace and justice the week of Jan. 18 by offering programs on campus and volunteer opportunities on the National Day of Service. As part of the celebration, MK Asante—filmmaker, rapper, Morgan State University professor and author of the best-selling *Buck: A Memoir*—gave the keynote address. ■



IMPRESSIVE RANKING FOR MBA PROGRAM

The Villanova School of Business earned the No. 12 spot in the nation and the No. 1 spot in Greater Philadelphia in the 2015 *Bloomberg Businessweek* ranking of Part-Time MBA programs in the US. The ranking is based on measures of student satisfaction, alumni reflections on their MBA experiences and the impact of the degree on their careers. ■

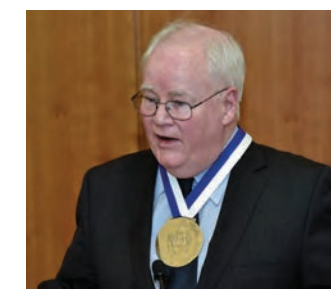
Advocate Meets Pope



Vanessa Berhe, a visiting student from Sweden attending Villanova on the Dr. Peter Wallenberg Scholarship, founded One Day Seyoum, an organization dedicated to the release of her uncle, a journalist and prisoner of conscience in Eritrea. Vanessa was a youth ambassador to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences in 2014, when she shared her cause with Pope Francis, and in 2015. To learn more about the organization, visit onedayseyoum.com. ■

Scholar and Human Rights Activist Awarded Civitas Dei Medal

Villanova presented its Civitas Dei Medal, an Office for Mission and Ministry award that recognizes Catholics who have made exemplary contributions to the Catholic intellectual tradition, to the Rev. David Hollenbach, SJ, PhD, Nov. 18. Father Hollenbach holds the University Chair in Human Rights and International Justice at Boston College. After accepting the award, the renowned expert in Christian social ethics delivered the lecture "Humanity in Crisis: The Rights of People Displaced by War." ■



Gift Creates Center for Law and Religion

A \$2 million gift from Joseph T. McCullen Jr. '57 CLAS, chairman of McCullen Capital LLC, and his wife, Eleanor, has established the Center for Law and Religion in the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law. The center offers an innovative curriculum, hosts events on advocacy issues in law and religion, and sponsors interdisciplinary research. "With its Augustinian Catholic heritage, Villanova is a perfect place to address fundamental issues in the amalgam of religion and law," notes Joseph, who first supported the Law School by creating the Joseph T. McCullen Symposium on Catholic Social Thought in 2007. ■



Day of Service Hits Milestone

A record 5,000-plus students, faculty, staff, alumni and family members turned out for the 10th annual St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service Sept. 12. Volunteers partnered with organizations and agencies at 136 service sites in the Greater Philadelphia region. Alumni chapters also participated locally. The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS started the initiative when he took office as University president in 2006. ■

Grants Totaling Nearly \$1.5M Fund CLAS Research

Herpetologist Aaron Bauer, PhD, the Gerald M. Lemole Endowed Chair in Integrative Biology, has received two National Science Foundation grants to support his research on geckos in Angola, as well as a project to synthesize data on the evolution and diversity of geckos. An NSF grant awarded to Daniel Kraut, PhD, assistant professor, Chemistry, will advance his research on adenosine triphosphate, a molecule that fuels life. ■

Villanova Hosts Augustinian Leaders in Higher Education



Officers from Augustinian colleges and universities around the world gathered at Villanova in November to meet each other and explore new ways of cooperating and sharing resources. This was the first in a series of encounters that will focus on Augustinian heritage and identity in Catholic higher education.

New Dean an Exemplar in Continuing Education



The Continuing Education Association of New York presented Deborah J. Tyksinski, PhD, founding dean of Villanova's College of Professional Studies, with its 2015 Emeritus Honor. This distinctive award goes to individuals who have extensive histories and excellent track records of commitment to the organization, and who have made lasting impressions on their institutions and on continuing education. ■

NURSE-RESEARCHER GARNERS AWARD



Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, COS-C, assistant professor in the College of Nursing, received the Springer Publishing Company Geriatric/Gerontological Nursing Award for a distinguished published research manuscript. With her co-authors, Dr. O'Connor, the lead author, had analyzed extensive data to indicate best practices for preventing rehospitalization in Medicare-reimbursed home health care. The article ran in the August 2015 issue of *Research in Nursing & Health*. ■

University President Receives Barry Award

Michael Finnegan, president of the American Catholic Historical Society, presented University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS with the society's 2015 Barry Award Nov. 20. This annual award recognizes an American who, "by his or her character and contributions to the Church and community, and by professional accomplishments, has distinguished him/herself." ■



Philly Journalists Honor Wildcats



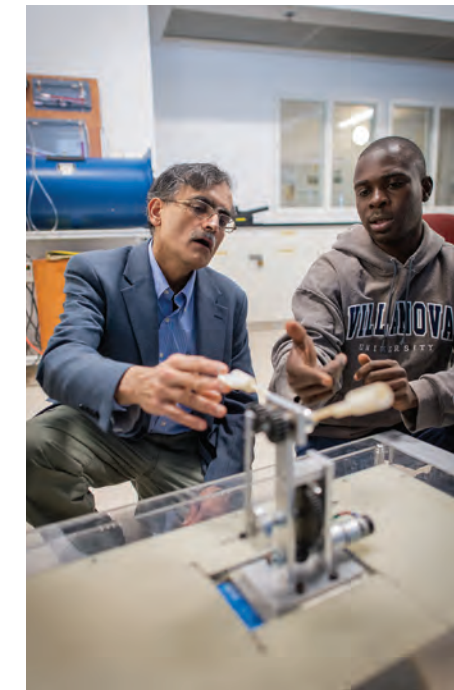
At its 112th annual banquet Feb. 1, the Philadelphia Sports Writers Association named Volleyball senior Gabby Pethokoukis (center) the 2016 winner of the Most Courageous Athlete Award. Diagnosed in 2014 with Burkitt lymphoma, Pethokoukis earned second team All-BIG EAST honors this past season. Senior Track and Field star Angel Piccirillo (right) won the Frank Dolson/Penn Relays Award, and senior Jackie Froccaro, Women's Lacrosse, was recognized for being the BIG EAST Attacker of the Year. ■

Former NASA Director Gives Engineering Lecture



Gretchen McClain, who has served as founding CEO of a global water technology company and as NASA's chief director of the International Space Station, delivered the College of Engineering's sixth annual Patrick J. Cunningham Jr. and Susan Ward '80 Endowed Lecture Feb. 19. McClain shared insights with students on how to become standout leaders. ■

Engineering Launches Analytics Center



The College of Engineering has opened the new Villanova Center for Analytics of Dynamic Systems (VCADS). According to Director C. Nataraj, PhD, professor of Mechanical Engineering, and the Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Moritz, Sr. Endowed Chair in Systems Engineering (left), "VCADS was founded to develop tools to determine how best to use large amounts of data to uncover the hidden nature of systems for analysis, diagnostics, prognostics and health management." ■

PLEDGE SPURS SENIOR GIVING

The May Family Match is the largest Senior Class Gift challenge pledge in Villanova history. The Mays, a family of five alumni, will donate \$100 in honor of every senior who makes a gift to Villanova by May 31, 2016. This year's goal is to have at least 920 seniors, or 61 percent of the class, make a gift. ■



Forum Engages Business Leaders

Members of the Villanova School of Business advisory councils, students and faculty gathered for networking and presentations at the 2015 Business Leaders Forum Oct. 8. Carolyn Everson '93 CLAS, vice president of Global Marketing Solutions at Facebook, gave the keynote address. In addition, VSB presented the Rev. Joseph C. Bartley, OSA Alumni Medallion to Kevin M. Curley '80 (pictured). ■

PwC Gift Supports Business School

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, one of the University's top employers, gave the Villanova School of Business more than \$1 million in support. The gift—a combination of contributions from active and retired PwC partners and staff, as well as company-sponsored matching funds—subsidized renovations to an auditorium in Bartley Hall and created an endowed fund for faculty in the Accountancy and Information Systems Department. ■



CPS Confers Distinguished Student Award

Susan Leighton, a Villanova employee who will graduate in May with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies in Media and Technology, as well as a minor in Political Science, was awarded the College of Professional Studies' 2015 Distinguished Student Award during Non-Traditional Student Week. Recognizing Susan's achievement were Deborah J. Tyksinski, PhD, dean of the College of Professional Studies (left), and Patrick G. Maggitti, PhD, provost. ■



VSB Celebrates Center Launch

The Villanova School of Business celebrated the launch of the Charlotte and James V. O'Donnell '63 Center for Professional Development this past fall. Housed within the Clay Center, the O'Donnell Center provides students with more opportunities to interact with employers and recruiters; hones leadership skills that prepare graduates for professional success; and offers increased access to internships and co-op programs. ■

Nursing Addresses End-of-Life Care

Experts from around the country spoke at the College of Nursing's inaugural Esther Schwartz Conference, "Advance Care Planning Reimagined: Clinical Excellence and Cultural Leadership in Oncology." Held April 1 and 2, this interdisciplinary event focused on how to develop effective communication skills among oncology nurses, physicians, health care providers, social workers, clergy, patients and families so that they can promote improved advance care planning. ■

Expanded Internship Opportunities in Asia



The Freeman Foundation has awarded a two-year, \$350,000 grant to the Center for Global Leadership, housed in the Villanova School of Business. The grant will expand student participation in internships in countries in East and Southeast Asia, including China (pictured), and will allow undergraduates from across the University to take part in internship programs in Asia. ■



Men's Basketball Team Meets Nova Fans in LA

En route to the Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor Invitational, the Men's Basketball team stopped in Los Angeles to hold an open practice and attend a reception with alumni, parents and friends. ■

Pulitzer Prize Winner Opens Literary Festival



Gregory Pardlo, winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, led off the 18th annual, semester-long Literary Festival Jan. 28. After interacting with students in a creative writing workshop, Pardlo read from his collection to a University-wide audience.



NATIONAL PRAISE FOR MASTER'S IN COMMUNICATION

At the National Communication Association's 101st convention in November, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' graduate program in Communication received the 2015 Outstanding Master's Degree Program Award. The program offers a state-of-the-art studio and multimedia complex, small classes, student-faculty interaction and a supportive learning environment. ■



Novelist Holds Heimbold Chair

Glenn Patterson, regarded as one of Ireland's finest novelists, holds the Charles A. Heimbold, Jr. Chair of Irish Studies this semester. Patterson is teaching a Creative Writing course and an Honors course on Belfast narratives. His most recent novel is *The Rest Just Follows*. ■

High Producer of "Super Lawyers"

Villanova Law came in at No. 30 in *The National Jurist's* ranking of law schools that produce the most graduates who are selected as "Super Lawyers" in their careers. According to the analysis, an estimated 12.9 percent of Villanova alumni have been named. ■

Talking Sports Biz

The Jeffrey S. Moorad Center for the Study of Sports Law launched what will be an annual speaker series that features conversations with sports industry professionals, who share their knowledge, experience and career advice. The fall lineup included Scott O'Neil '92 VSB, CEO of the Philadelphia 76ers, New Jersey Devils and Prudential Center. ■

Homecoming Welcomes President's Club



The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS addressed guests at the President's Club Reception during Homecoming. The event recognized donors who make annual gifts of \$2,500 or more to the University. Mike O'Neill, senior vice president for University Advancement, gave a campaign update, and Allie Braun '16 COE shared highlights from her Villanova experience. ■

Connelly Invests in Irish Studies



The Connelly Foundation has made a leadership gift of \$1 million to elevate Villanova's current Irish Studies Program, one of the oldest of its kind, to a Center for Irish Studies. The new center will add academic programs and increase opportunities for study abroad and exchange programs. The center's directorships will be named in honor of Emily C. Riley, the executive vice president of the foundation and a former Villanova trustee. Over nearly four decades, the foundation has given more than \$15 million to the University to fund academic programs, infrastructure and scholarships, including the Connelly-Delouvrier International Scholars Program. In November, Riley congratulated the latest recipients of this scholarship. ■



700 IN THE "WIN" COLUMN

When the Wildcats defeated Georgetown Feb. 21, Harry Perretta '95 MA, head coach, Women's Basketball, notched his 700th career win. Perretta is the 10th active and 14th overall Division I women's basketball coach to hit this milestone. He is just the third active Division I women's coach to win 700 games at one school. Finally, the victory over the Hoyas was Perretta's 300th BIG EAST regular-season win, making him just the fourth coach in the history of the BIG EAST Conference to achieve this feat. ■



Talley to Retire After 2016 Season

After what will be his 32nd year as head coach of Villanova Football, Andy Talley will retire at the end of the 2016 season. He will then serve as special assistant to the Athletic Director through 2017. Mark Ferrante, longtime Wildcats assistant coach, will succeed Talley. The coach with the most wins in school history, Talley has guided Villanova to 11 NCAA playoff appearances, six conference championships, three Lambert Meadowlands cups, three ECAC Team of the Year awards, three national semifinal appearances and the 2009 national championship. ■

Top Cats

The week of Feb. 8, for the first time in program history, Men's Basketball occupied the No. 1 spot in both The Associated Press and the USA Today Sports Coaches polls. At the end of the regular season, for which the Wildcats earned the BIG EAST crown, junior Josh Hart (pictured) was one of four unanimous selections to the 2015-16 All-BIG EAST First Team. Jay Wright, meanwhile, was named Co-BIG EAST Coach of the Year, sharing the honors with Seton Hall's Kevin Willard. At press time, the Wildcats were heading into the Final Four. A publication commemorating Villanova in the NCAA Tournament will be mailed out later this spring. ■



Volleyball Bid to NCAA Tourney

Villanova's Volleyball team earned one of 32 available at-large bids to the NCAA Tournament, held this past December. It was the Wildcats' second appearance in the national tournament and their first since 1997. ■

Profiles in LEADERSHIP

Two distinguished members bring diverse knowledge, skills and experience to Villanova University's Board of Trustees

By Colleen Lynn



Carolyn N. Everson '93 CLAS and Thomas Quindlen '84 VSB

Carolyn N. Everson '93 CLAS TRUSTEE

As an undergraduate in Villanova's Honors Program, Carolyn N. Everson '93 CLAS was offered a rare opportunity when her sociology professors, Bernard J. Gallagher III, PhD, and Brian Jones, PhD, invited her to present—and publish—original research.

"This was, for me, the first stage of being able to dream big and set very big goals and high expectations for myself," says Everson, who became Facebook's vice president of Global Marketing Solutions in 2011 and, in 2014, earned the top spot on *The Adweek 50*—the publication's roster of "the real movers and shakers behind the world's top brands." Beneath that No. 1 ranking are skills rooted in experiences like those that professors Gallagher and Jones provided.

"As a Villanova student, I benefited from the emphasis placed on truth—on original thought. I was taught how to think on my feet," she says.

This authentic, bold thinking is essential at a company that has changed dramatically since Everson's arrival, with such highlights as the acquisition of Instagram and the overall shift to mobile. "You have to innovate," she says. "Otherwise, the company can't move forward."

Everson is responsible for much of that movement, overseeing a 1,000-plus-member team and devising solutions that have propelled Facebook's growth while helping clients to reach their goals. But Everson is just as much interested in the goals of her colleagues, who follow her lead in writing an annual "vision statement," listing professional, personal and service objectives as if they've already been completed, and then sharing them—broadly—to create accountability.

"The exercise is incredibly valuable—for graduating college seniors, for working mothers and fathers, for everyone. It's about priorities, and defining what's important to you personally and making it happen," she explains.

Not surprisingly, the things most important to Everson spotlight qualities that her company and alma mater have in common and that attracted her to both places. "Villanova is a community and a family, and Facebook operates in much the same way," she says. "Similarly, Villanova is very mission-driven, and so is Facebook." Everson is fulfilled by that kind of environment, and by a commitment to service, as a professional and as a mother of twin daughters, who are learning the value of giving back by doing community service as a family, both here in the US and abroad.

"Now that I have the perspective of years, I can see that Villanova's core values—truth, caring and service—really have shaped the person I've become and am becoming."

That process now includes her new position as a University trustee—another dream realized. With her global marketing expertise, Everson is poised to attract bright students from around the world who are drawn to the intrinsic values that set Villanova apart from other institutions.

"Villanova is such an incredible school," she says. "I want the world to know about it." ■

Thomas Quindlen '84 VSB TRUSTEE

To say Thomas "Tom" Quindlen '84 VSB grew up in a Villanova family is an understatement. Each of his four siblings graduated from the University ahead of him, following in the footsteps of their father, Jack Quindlen '54 VSB, who brought his children to Villanova basketball games and imparted a deep fondness for his alma mater.

"During my college years, my dad was especially influential," says Quindlen. "He was working as a DuPont executive and had an appreciation of the world that I didn't have yet, and he reminded me that my Villanova education would position me well in the future."

His father was right. Today, Quindlen serves as the executive vice president and CEO of Retail Card at Synchrony Financial (formerly GE Capital Retail Finance), with a distinguished record as a senior leader. He has helped companies achieve growth across multiple retail categories, as well as around the globe, through earlier engagements in Tokyo and London.

Quindlen's leadership success harks back to another important figure, Thomas "Tim" Monahan, PhD, CPA, the John M. Cooney Endowed Professor of Accounting and Information Systems. "Tim was a terrific teacher," he recalls. "I loved his class—and who really loves intermediate accounting? He pushed me to excel, and showed me how important energy and enthusiasm are in a leader."

Just as important to Quindlen are the values that inform his professional approach: a belief in fostering unity through trust, and in creating a business culture defined by caring and the desire to make a difference.

"Caring for others is something I learned from my parents at our kitchen table, and from the community at Villanova," he says. "I simply believe we should do what we can to help others."

True to those words, Quindlen also works with several nonprofits. A father of three, he has a particular interest in helping young people through projects that intersect with his professional endeavors, including Junior Achievement, a program that aims to prepare students for success in the global economy. "I love the idea of connecting children to business concepts early in their lives," he says. He and his colleagues at GE and Synchrony have also partnered with Family and Children's Aid to help battered women and children.

Additionally, Quindlen has forged a strong partnership between his company and his alma mater, working with Villanova leaders to recruit talented Villanova School of Business students for internships and full-time positions at GE and Synchrony. This is just one aspect of his role as a University trustee, an honor he proudly shares with his father, who served under University Presidents the Rev. John M. Driscoll, OSA, PhD, '48 CLAS and the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, OSA, STD, '58 CLAS.

Quindlen brings to the Board of Trustees more than 30 years of business experience that he is excited to apply to the design and execution of a shared vision for Villanova. "I hope to help the University in continuing to produce leaders who are ready for the world of tomorrow." ■



The Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law prepares students for legal practice with an innovative curriculum that emphasizes business principles, professionalism and real-world experience.

Villanova Law Transformed

Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law celebrates new name and impressive forward momentum

By Marian Butcher

VISIONARY LEADERSHIP, strategic thinking and a willingness to adapt while remaining committed to its mission have brought renewed energy to Villanova Law. By nearly any measure, the state of legal education at Villanova has never been stronger.

The Law School's track record of achievement has led to a critical moment in both the school's and the University's history. In a significant show of support for the Law School's transformation over the past five years, and for the 63-year

tradition of legal education at Villanova, Charles "Chuck" Widger '73 JD has invested \$25 million to support innovation and promote student success far into the future.

The gift—the largest in Law School history and the second-largest in University history—will have an immediate and lasting impact on the Law School in many ways, perhaps most visibly with a new name: the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law.

"A gift of this size sends a powerful

message to our students, our faculty, our staff and, most importantly, our alumni and the greater law and business communities about the value of a Villanova law degree," says University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS. "Chuck shares our vision for a law school that is forward-thinking while remaining true to our Augustinian Catholic mission and history."

Success at a critical time

At a time when law schools nationwide

have struggled to remain vital and effective, Villanova Law has not only weathered the storm but soared far above it. Its bold approach to legal education, defined by its "Where Business Meets Law" philosophy, has provided the Law School with exciting new momentum.

Villanova Law has been on an upward trajectory since 2012, when its curriculum was revamped to focus on those skills most in demand in the legal profession. Because the modern lawyer needs to have a strong foundation in business principles in order to be a successful practitioner in any specialty, business courses are incorporated into every student's education.

Through new courses and programs that emphasize sound business practices, professionalism, hands-on learning experiences and strong writing skills, Villanova law students are gaining a competitive edge for coveted jobs that require legal and business skills in equal measure.

Nationwide, law schools have struggled in recent years to recruit students, but applications to Villanova Law increased 16 percent for the incoming class in 2015. And even in an intensely competitive job market, the Class of 2014 secured the

most coveted jobs (full-time, long-term, Bar-passage-required or JD-advantage) in excess of the national average.

"Amid many challenges in legal education, Villanova Law has stood apart in making great strides forward. The success of our efforts is a testament to the strength of our leadership," says Provost Patrick G. Maggitti, PhD.

The gift from Widger allows the Law School to continue to strengthen and expand its offerings. It will fund three primary initiatives that are at the heart of the Law School's strategic plan:

- An Endowed Scholars Program to provide financial support for incoming law students.
- An Endowed University Professorship to bring a nationally known legal scholar to Villanova in an interdisciplinary role with the Law School and other colleges.
- A Dean's Innovation Fund for further enhancements to the curriculum.



Charles "Chuck" Widger '73 JD has given \$25 million to continue the Law School's upward trajectory and promote further innovation and student success.

A foundation of support

Widger, the founder and executive chairman of Brinker Capital, has been a key figure for much of the Law School's transformation, and his loyalty and generosity to his alma mater are rooted in his personal experience at Villanova, which he says was instrumental to his success. According to the seasoned investor, these types of philanthropic investments are personal. "They are our expression of what's important to us, our beliefs," he says.

"Chuck credits his success to his Villanova education, and he wants to give back. I can't think of a better face for Villanova Law than Chuck Widger," says John Y. Gotanda, JD, the Arthur J. Kania Dean and Professor of Law.

The Law School's leaders and supporters see a clear path ahead for growth and enhancements.

"I know firsthand the transformative effect of a Villanova Law education, and I am confident that the value of a Villanova Law degree will grow tremendously well into the future," Widger says. ■

New Role for Law School Dean

John Y. Gotanda, JD, the Arthur J. Kania Dean of the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, has been lauded for providing the vision and innovative spirit that have transformed the Law School. His achievements over more than five years as dean and more than 15 years as a professor and administrator have attracted attention nationally and internationally, and have led to the next chapter in his distinguished career: the presidency of Hawai'i Pacific University.

In June, Dean Gotanda will return to his native Hawaii to serve as the fifth president of the private university in Honolulu.

"While we will miss John's extraordinary leadership and energy, Hawai'i Pacific University is fortunate to have such a talented academic and true visionary as its next president," says University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS.

Since coming on board as dean in 2011, Dean Gotanda has championed the implementation of an expansive strategic plan that resulted in a new, forward-thinking curriculum that brings legal education at Villanova in line with the demands of the 21st-century marketplace. "I am proud of what we've accomplished together and look forward to seeing Villanova achieve even greater levels of success in the years to come," Dean Gotanda says.



MAKING IDEAS HAPPEN

Villanova cultivates **innovation, creativity** and **entrepreneurship** across disciplines

By Shawn Proctor

When IBM gave the world's CEOs a pop quiz on the most important leadership quality for the future, they overwhelmingly chose creativity. And when IBM followed up on the 2010 study, survey results reaffirmed that innovation and collaboration remained keys to capitalizing on business's tangled digital and social networks.

Leaders recognize that success requires more than intelligence. New ideas are powered by creativity and intellect, applied together.

This spirit of innovation has created a culture of multidisciplinary learning at Villanova and inspires students to generate ideas and find resources to market them in the real world. The University continues to find new ways of supporting students with entrepreneurial dreams, often drawing on the expertise of alumni who have long been acting as forces for innovation in the professional world.

"More and more people and companies are looking for problem solvers who are able to take a new situation and package an opportunity from it," says Il Luscri, executive director of the Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship (ICE) Institute.

Recently, ICE transitioned from a center based in the Villanova School of Business to a University-wide institute, open to all students, alumni, faculty and staff, and reporting to University Provost Patrick Maggitti, PhD. Also, last fall, the ICE Institute opened the Idea Accelerator, a dedicated space in Falvey Memorial Library that is designed to promote interaction and a multidisciplinary approach to innovation.

"The location is key. The Idea Accelerator is in a central hub of campus, where people from all the colleges naturally come together," Luscri says.

ICE's expanded scope gives it the ability to accomplish much more. The institute creates connections and offers even more opportunities to bolster entrepreneurship among Villanovans. Luscri has already seen how the collision of different viewpoints can spawn fresh solutions for business, student organizations, research, curricular programs and social issues.

ICE-ing on the cake

Natalie Galvez '16 CLAS came to Villanova as the owner of

The ICE Institute recently opened the Idea Accelerator, a dedicated space designed to promote multidisciplinary innovation.

Natalie's Cake Creations, a custom cake and cupcake company. Her work within the ICE Institute has allowed her to learn while developing her business.

"I was already an innovator and entrepreneur as a student, but Villanova's ICE Institute has given me the ability to expand my creative thinking process," says Natalie, a Political Science major with three minors who is currently applying to law school. She completed Luscri's entrepreneurship course even though she is not a business student.

Natalie started baking after the professional cake for her quinceañera—a traditional coming-of-age celebration in Hispanic culture—was a virtual kitchen disaster. She baked and decorated a cake for her next birthday, and everyone at the party thought it was an expensive bakery's work. Inspired by reality-TV baking shows and guided by instructional online videos, she cultivated her talents into a small business, now based in North Carolina.

"The entrepreneurship courses at Villanova gave me a business foundation, which is an incredible asset," she says. "I understand how to open and market an actual shop in the future, if I wanted."

Connecting resources to innovation

To strengthen the spirit of entrepreneurship even further at Villanova, ICE draws on the talents of alumni who give generously of their time and insights. The institute's advisory board includes Bob McNally, PhD, '70 COE, president and CEO of GeoVax Inc., a biotechnology company that develops innovative human vaccines. McNally works with the institute to expose engineering students to business concepts and outlets for their creativity. It's an extension of his life's work, which has seen him involved with three startup companies, one of which is now listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

"Innovation programs on college campuses are relatively rare. It is fantastic to have full-time, dedicated staff, a continuous flow of programs that allow all students to participate and, now, an idea lab with mentors," he says.

Jeff P. Bodle '95 CLAS, '99 JD, also an advisory board member, has seen multiple entrepreneurs who, through the ICE Institute, have developed relationships that have resulted in new businesses, funding sources and investment opportunities. ICE has connected Bodle with many Villanova students, faculty and alumni involved in all aspects of the innovation ecosystem across the country.

He has also supported ICE events on campus that help young entrepreneurs grow ideas and foster innovation, including the Villanova Women in Technology Summit and the annual Pitch Day, in which students showcase their business startup ideas and receive funding to bring them to life.

"These efforts inspire Villanova entrepreneurs and provide them with opportunities to learn about innovation, how to build a successful startup and how larger companies innovate

as they unveil new products," says Bodle, a startup and venture capital lawyer and partner at Morgan Lewis.

Building blocks of ideas

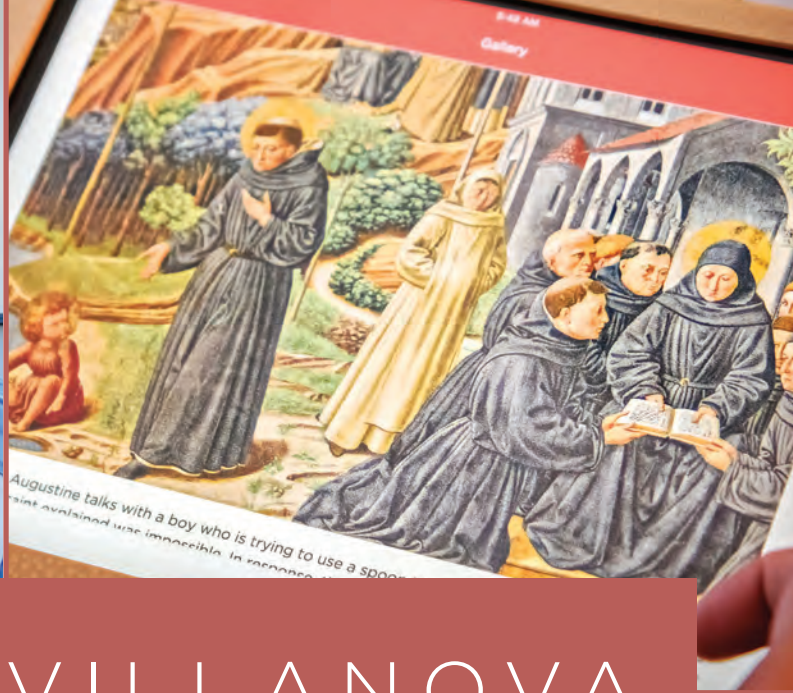
Luscri believes that everyone is born creative and has the ability to draw out ideas that could lead to the next business breakthrough. Still, sometimes it is a matter of uncovering the lost creative impulse. That is why, in addition to several flexible meeting areas, the Idea Accelerator includes a "tinkering lab," complete with 3-D printer, toy construction blocks, and welding and construction tools. The epoxy surfaces, familiar from science classes, can stand up to scratches and scorching. And the yellow scheme, which evokes the iconic, warm color of Legos and Tonka trucks, gives non-verbal permission to play, build and create freely.

"It signals to our visitors that it is a place to get your hands dirty, to grab something to play with, to build and think," Luscri says. "It also illustrates to our students, faculty, staff and alumni how serious Villanova is about creativity and entrepreneurship."

From the open-ended questions posted on white boards around the space to book suggestions on notes slapped to the wall, the Idea Accelerator, as part of ICE, appears like an open question inviting many different answers from anyone keen to create. ■

Lauren Miltenberger, PhD, assistant professor of Public Administration, collaborates with a student in the Idea Accelerator.





THERE'S A VILLANOVA APP FOR THAT

VILLANOVANS ARE BUILDING TECHNOLOGICAL CONNECTIONS TO THE AUGUSTINIAN MISSION AND TO THE COMMUNITY

BY YASMINE IQBAL

St. Augustine of Hippo died more than 1,500 years ago, but his legacy is still very much alive at Villanova, where all students read *The Confessions*, an account of his spiritual journey from wayward young adult to revered theologian and philosopher. Now, a new tool is further invigorating the study of this ancient text, connecting students to St. Augustine's lessons through a thoroughly modern medium: the smartphone.

A team of faculty, students and staff offering technical and scholarly expertise has developed a mobile app that offers an innovative platform for readers of *The Confessions* to draw parallels between their own lives and St. Augustine's search for knowledge, truth and meaning.

All freshmen at Villanova read *The Confessions* during the two-semester Augustine and Culture Seminar Program, and it is also widely read around the world. With the new *Confessions* app, anyone wishing to learn more about St. Augustine's teachings can experience the text, along with audio recordings and commentaries by Villanova faculty and other new, interactive features that pull the fourth-century work into the present day.

BOOKS: THE HEART OF THE APP

This is the core component of the app: all 13 books of *The*

Confessions, as translated and annotated by New City Press/Maria Boulding, OSB. Users can search and highlight the text, view footnotes and commentary, and add their own notes.

Noël Dolan '90 CLAS, director of Academic Learning Communities within the Augustine and Culture Seminar Program, first thought of the idea for the app in 2010, during Villanova's Augustinian Pilgrimage to Italy Program. "I wanted to try to bring some of the experiences from that trip back to the classroom," she says.

For the next three years, Dolan helped oversee a process that brought together people from all over the University and the country, from Augustinian scholars to Computer Science students, to create an app that would make St. Augustine's life and message more accessible and understandable to a modern audience.

COMMENTARIES: ADDING CONTEXT

The app features commentaries that provide historical context, invite the reader to delve deeply into the meaning of the text and help interpret St. Augustine's message.

Father Allan Fitzgerald, OSA, PhD, '64 CLAS, director of Villanova's Augustinian Institute, was one of the first people Dolan reached out to for help in creating content for the app,

Matthew Ballas '19 CON; Noël Dolan '90 CLAS, director of Academic Learning Communities; Aimee King '18 CLAS; Katherine Allen '19 CLAS; and Grace McDermott '18 CLAS use the mobile app to enhance their study of St. Augustine's *Confessions*.

and he contributed many of the commentaries.

"The role of the Augustinian Institute is to search out and find ways to collaborate, and creating this app provided the perfect opportunity to do that," he says. Father Allan and Dolan contacted Augustinian authorities around Villanova and other institutions.

"I met so many people whom I otherwise wouldn't have," Father Allan says. "And as more people became involved, the energy kept building, and the project became more and more exciting."

AUDIO: BRINGING WORDS TO LIFE

In the audio section, users can hear Villanova faculty, including Villanova President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS, read each book of *The Confessions* aloud.

The technical challenge in creating the app was great—the app's various elements, from the audio to the text to the other interactive features, had to work seamlessly so as to enhance and not disrupt the text's meaning.

Dolan did not have to look far for the skilled technical developers that a project of this magnitude required. She first contacted Frank Klassner, PhD, professor of Computing Sciences, who recruited students from his mobile apps class to develop a prototype. In 2015, the University IT team joined the effort, led by Lisa Kemble, assistant director for Application Development, and Chris Backofen '14 CLAS. Backofen, a former student of Dr. Klassner's, had double-majored in Computer Science and Humanities and interned at the Vatican's Internet Office of the Holy See before being hired by the University. He proved to be the perfect liaison between the content creators and technical experts. The IT Department collaboration ensured that the app became richer, more interactive and compatible with multiple devices.

Interestingly, the techies cite the audio as their favorite feature and the one that allows them to experience St. Augustine on a purely human level, on their own time. Kemble

notes that she sometimes listens to the app audio while commuting.

"*The Confessions* isn't an easy read, but once you listen to it, you start to understand," Backofen adds.

Dr. Klassner agrees. "You know that St. Augustine is pouring out his heart and soul, but you really start to get that emotional impact when you hear it."

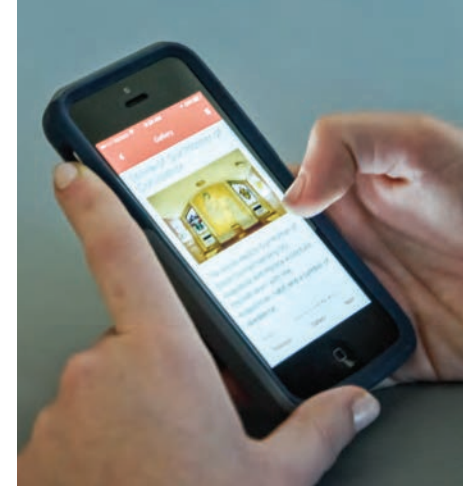
ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND UPDATES

The app also includes a gallery of Augustine-themed artwork from around the world, a map of his travels and a timeline of important events in his life, with historical context.

Dolan anticipates that it will be fully incorporated into the Augustine and Culture Seminar curriculum by this fall, and she's excited about the unlimited potential for new features, including audio files in the original Latin and music from St. Augustine's lifetime.

"Creating the app was a real labor of love," she says. "And even after all these years of working on it, I'm still excited about how we'll be continuing to enhance it and use it to bring *The Confessions* to life." ■

The *Confessions* app, which includes all 13 books of the original text, is available for purchase for \$9.99 on Apple and Android devices.



The mobile app of St. Augustine's *Confessions* includes audio recordings, commentaries and other interactive features.

AN APP FOR ATHLETES

Amitoj Sawhney '18 CLAS, Hannah Lee '17 COE and Angelo Milone '18 VSB

share a passion for the Special Olympics Pennsylvania's Fall Festival, which is held on Villanova's campus and is billed as the largest university student-run Special Olympics event in the world. As volunteers on the Computers and Registration Committee last year, they set out to design a free app that made navigating the event easier for coaches, spectators and athletes.

Hannah, the committee chair, noted that despite their different areas of expertise, the three students worked well in brainstorming features for the app. "We had a unique dynamic, and the ideas kept coming," she says.

The result was NovaFallFest, which included a campus map with icons depicting the location of events, a schedule, emergency contacts and a hub for social media sites. The app even incorporated push notifications that alerted participants 15 minutes before award ceremonies were due to start.

Amitoj, who developed the app, is working on enhancements for 2016's festival. "We want to make it more customizable—for example, by pinpointing users' locations so they know where they are in relation to the map," he says.

Angelo, whose brother is a Special Olympics athlete, says the joy he felt while

volunteering for the event went beyond his expectations.

"Fall Festival is the best weekend of the year," he says. "You forget you're on a college campus as it turns into an Olympic village. And we'll do anything we can to make the athletes' experience more enjoyable. That's what drives us."



Angelo Milone '18 VSB, Amitoj Sawhney '18 CLAS and Hannah Lee '17 COE designed and developed a mobile app for the Special Olympics Pennsylvania's Fall Festival, held on Villanova's campus.



HEIR APPARENT

IN THE AUGUSTINIAN INTELLECTUAL TRADITION OF GREGOR MENDEL, OSA, VILLANOVA GROWS THE LEGACY OF THE “FATHER OF GENETICS”

BY SUZANNE WENTZEL

THE EVENTS WERE UNRELATED AND, IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD AT THE TIME, UNREMARKABLE. IN 1842, A GROUP OF AUGUSTINIANS FOUNDED A SCHOOL OUTSIDE PHILADELPHIA TO EDUCATE IRISH IMMIGRANTS. A YEAR LATER AND 4,000 MILES AWAY, THE SON OF A FARMER ENTERED AN AUGUSTINIAN MONASTERY IN BRNO (A CITY IN THE PRESENT-DAY CZECH REPUBLIC) TO PREPARE FOR THE PRIESTHOOD AND STUDY THE NATURAL SCIENCES. IN TIME, THESE MODEST TURNING POINTS LED TO SIGNIFICANT CONSEQUENCES—AND OVERLAPPING DESTINIES.

Today, Villanova, the country’s only Augustinian Catholic university, is nationally recognized for its education, scholarship and research, all of which are rooted in the conviction that faith and reason work together. Villanova also is a custodian of the legacy of Gregor Mendel, OSA (1822–1884), the brilliant scientist and Augustinian friar whose experiments with pea plant hybrids revealed the secrets of heredity, helped give birth to a branch of biology and earned him the title “father of genetics.” Villanova nurtures its unique relationship with Mendel. “Our association arises from the intellectual tradition of the Augustinian Order,” says the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSA, PhD, ’69 MA, special assistant to the President. “We are committed

to advancing science, celebrating our heritage and spreading knowledge about the ramifications of Mendel’s work.”

360-DEGREE VIEW OF MENDEL

In December, Villanova hosted an international lineup of experts to speak at the University’s inaugural Mendel Symposium. The symposium honored the 150th anniversary of Mendel’s paper “Experiments in Plant Hybridization.” Father Ellis’ initiative, the gathering strengthened the Mendel-Villanova bond. “Villanova cherishes its connection to Mendel and to the example he set by combining scientific excellence and Augustinian values,” says Gregory Radick, PhD, MPhil, professor of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Leeds, and one of the invited speakers. “The symposium had that same dual emphasis.”



Ondřej Dostál, PhD, the director of Masaryk University’s Mendel Museum in Brno, Czech Republic (left), and the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, PhD, OSA, ’69 MA explore Villanova’s special collection of Mendel items.



“WE ARE COMMITTED TO ADVANCING SCIENCE,
CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE AND SPREADING KNOWLEDGE
ABOUT THE RAMIFICATIONS OF MENDEL’S WORK.”

—The Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSA, PhD, '69 MA

The day’s eclectic program covered Mendel and his context; modern genetics; and ethical, legal and social implications. This breadth promoted the cross-pollination of ideas, as geneticists, historians, philosophers, medical and legal experts, and other scholars learned from each other.

“It was nice to have a program that placed the humanistic aspects of Mendel and Mendelism front and center,” says Nathaniel Comfort, PhD, professor, Department of the History of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University. “I love cross-disciplinary meetings that are productive, and I got a great deal from this one.”

Dr. Comfort, who highlighted misapplications of Mendel’s principles, including forced sterilization, also gave a great deal, as did every prominent scholar who took the podium or contributed to the closing roundtable. Among them: Robert Green, MD, MPH, a leading expert in translational genomics and health outcomes; Professor Patricia LoRusso, DO, the associate director of Innovative Medicine, Yale Cancer Center; and Simon Mawer, the acclaimed British writer whose novels include *Mendel’s Dwarf*.

GUARDIAN OF MENDEL ARTIFACTS

Besides providing fertile ground for cultivating Mendel discussions, Villanova safeguards Mendel artifacts and documents. Treasures preserved in Falvey Memorial Library’s Special Collections include original volumes of the annual proceedings of the Natural History Society of Brno. These contain the pea genetics paper and four other articles by Mendel published between 1866 and 1871. Another gem is a photo album chronicling a 1946 pilgrimage by the botanist Herbert Christian Hanson, PhD, to sites associated with Mendel. These photos depict buildings damaged during World War II and documents that have since been lost.

Villanova’s trove received a prized addition during the symposium. Partici-

Pilar Nicole Ossorio, PhD, JD, professor of Law and Bioethics, the University of Wisconsin Law School, shares her expertise on genetics and law.



Symposium presenter Gregory Radick, PhD, MPhil, professor of History and Philosophy of Science, the University of Leeds, contributes to a roundtable on modern genetics.

pant Ondřej Dostál, PhD, the director of Masaryk University’s Mendel Museum in Brno, presented Villanova with a high-quality copy of the pea genetics paper written in Mendel’s own hand, which is pictured on the cover of this magazine. Dr. Dostál also received a gift by having the opportunity to explore all things Mendel on campus. This excursion included a sesquicentennial exhibit, curated by library staff, of notable objects highlighting Mendel’s life and legacy.

THE ONGOING QUEST

The scientific community of his day didn’t quite grasp the implications of Mendel’s research. Yet Mendel believed that one day his findings would be recognized and would spur new investigations into the principles of inheritance. Before he died, he predicted, “My scientific labors have brought me a great deal of satisfaction, and I am convinced that before long the entire world will praise the result of these labors.”

Mendel was right, and leading the chorus is Villanova. It bestows its Mendel Medal upon Nobel laureates and other renowned scientists for whom true faith and true reason do not conflict. It attracts pioneering researchers in genetics and bioethicists not afraid to pose tough questions. It graduates men and women who advance to the forefront in genetics-related fields. On campus and around the world, this Augustinian university community carries Mendel’s spirit into the future. ■



VILLANOVA’S MENDEL MEDAL

In 1929, Villanova awarded its first Mendel Medal. This tangible sign of the University’s stewardship of the Augustinian friar’s legacy honors the professional achievements and religious convictions of outstanding scientists. Eminent recipients include priest and cosmologist Abbé Georges Lemaître, originator of the Big Bang theory; and Nobel laureate Ahmed H. Zewail, the pioneer of femtochemistry.

Honorees appreciate the medal’s significance, as these testimonies show:

“Gregor Mendel, the modest Augustinian from Brno, provided the mathematical foundation for genetics on the basis of his simple pea plant experiments. At a time when the noisy polarization of the science and faith worldviews gets most of the attention, Villanova’s Mendel Medal reminds those who are willing to listen that there are wonderful opportunities for harmony to be found, and that rigorous science for the believer can even be a form of worship.”

Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD

Director of the National Institutes of Health
Former Director of the NIH’s National Human
Genome Research Institute

“That this Mendel honor was the first of several I’ve since received indicates the prescience of Villanova in identifying and promoting those contributions that represent the Augustinian commitment to the sciences and humanism in the tradition of Mendel.”

W. Ian Lipkin, MD

John Snow Professor of Epidemiology
Columbia University

“To me, the very existence of the Gregor Mendel Medal is an eloquent answer to those who would mistakenly set science and faith in opposition. A tireless devotion to the search for truth is at the heart of the scientific enterprise. The ultimate justification for that search is the belief that there is reason and order to existence, and that human understanding is equal to the task. These beliefs are just as integral to the Christian faith.”

Kenneth R. Miller, PhD
Professor of Biology
Brown University

THE GENE TEAM

Familiar with every science from agriculture to zoology, Mendel is a Villanova icon. Physical evidence of his lofty estate includes a pedestaled sculpture of the scientist and the Mendel Science Center, whose east entrance the statue dominates.

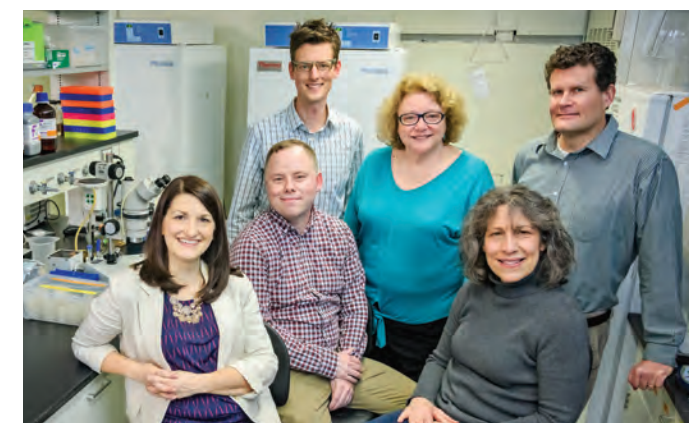
More powerful, however, is the scholarly evidence. Mendel’s example inspires faculty to teach, investigate and share findings tirelessly. In the Biology Department, for instance, genetics experts pursue studies beneficial to society, including the molecular basis of changes in immunity that come with aging, and the genes and growth conditions that can be used to engineer bacteria.

The Dennis M. Cook '90 Endowed Gregor Mendel Chair in Genetics, as well as grants from the National Science Foundation, helps to fund a varied research agenda. Dennis Wykoff, PhD, holder of the Mendel Chair, explores the extent to which the gain and loss of genes affect how organisms respond to environmental stresses. He and his team have discovered a family of genes unique to *Candida glabrata*, a yeast that causes sometimes fatal infections. Their goal: to see if the proteins encoded by these genes are successful vaccine candidates. Key to Dr. Wykoff’s team are students who share bylines in published research and go on to topflight medical schools.

Using the roundworm as her model organism, Assistant Professor Elaine Youngman, PhD, seeks to identify the genetic factors that control fertility, including certain regulatory RNA molecules that may or may not be inherited by offspring. In worms, the absence of these molecules causes sterility. With an NSF grant and funds from the endowed chair, Dr. Youngman and her colleagues bought a next-gen DNA sequencer. On-site access to such powerful instrumentation will expedite research across the department, says Dr. Youngman, and “allow my lab to sequence every RNA molecule in the progeny of a worm we’re studying to see what is being passed on.”

The College of Nursing has been integrating genetics and nursing education since the early 1990s, thanks to pioneer Suzanne Zamerowski, PhD. Assistant Professor Michelle Kelly, CRNP, '94 CON, '12 PhD, a member of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, keeps up with the surge in scholarship, trafficking it to faculty so that they can incorporate latest findings into their teaching. “As nurses, our students will have to translate complex information so that patients understand the genetic risk factors and implications of their care.” ■

Biology faculty focused on genetics research include Elaine Youngman, PhD; Dennis Wykoff, PhD; Matthew Youngman, PhD; Janice Knepper, PhD; Angela DiBenedetto, PhD; and Todd Jackman, PhD.



VILLANOVANS AT THE FORE OF GENETICS

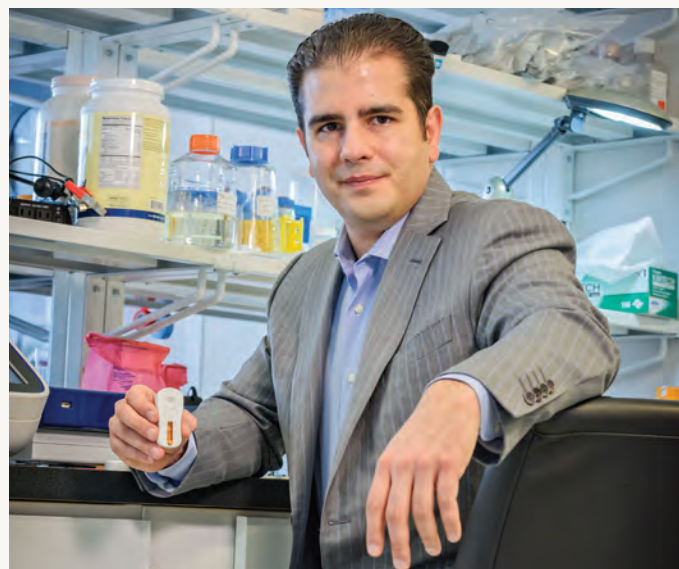
Alumni from different disciplines are moving along exciting pathways in genetics-related fields. Whether their careers are budding, blooming or branching off, they trace their successes back to Villanova.

“Without the support of my Biology professors, I would not have been able to further my education,” says **Kevin J. Curran, MD, '00 CLAS**. A pediatric oncologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Dr. Curran uses immunotherapy to treat children whose leukemia persists after they undergo chemotherapy and/or bone marrow transplants. Dr. Curran and his colleagues withdraw immune cells from the patient’s blood, genetically modify them to detect and attack the cancer, and infuse the modified cells (called CAR T cells) back into the patient. They also are developing protocols to treat solid tumors.

Frank Zemlan, PhD, '70 CLAS, '71 MS, a clinical researcher, patent holder and retired professor from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, founded P2D Bioscience in 2005. The biotech company seeks to develop drugs to treat Alzheimer’s disease and frontotemporal dementia. Taking genes from patients with these disorders, researchers clone them into mice. They then screen potential drugs against the human form of the diseases in the animal models. “Developing new drugs to treat these disorders would benefit millions of patients in the US alone,” says Dr. Zemlan.

In San Francisco, **Mary Kate Alexander, PhD, '96 CLAS**, a senior scientific researcher at Genentech, is on a mission to address a problem that affects 2 million Americans a year: bacterial infections resistant to antibiotics. Immersed in early-stage research, she and her co-workers study bacteria at the genetic level to identify weak points and figure out how to attack them. Dr. Alexander credits Villanova with setting her on this path. “When I entered the PhD program at Princeton,” she says, “I realized that Villanova had provided me with a superb background.”

His first Biochemistry lab hooked **Nicholas Siciliano, PhD, '04 CLAS** on genetics. His first job hooked him on biotech. Joining these interests, Dr. Siciliano is co-founder and CEO of Invisible Sentinel, which produces a cost-effective, easy-to-use tool that detects the DNA of specific organisms. Currently, the food and beverage industry uses it to identify pathogens and spoilage organisms in the hope



Nicholas Siciliano, PhD, '04 CLAS holds his company’s DNA detection tool.

of preserving quality and preventing foodborne illnesses. “We’ve taken an idea from concept to fruition, created jobs and developed a technology that protects people,” Dr. Siciliano says. “I’m proud of that.”

Alumni don’t need science degrees to thrive in the realm of genetics. Adept at writing, excellent at elucidating scientific concepts and knowledgeable about the evolution of medicine, History major **Meighan Gallagher '08 CLAS** has carved out her niche. Gallagher is a research manager for the division of Pediatric Pulmonology, Allergy, Immunology and Sleep Medicine at New York Medical College. Part of her job entails overseeing clinical trials related to cystic fibrosis, a genetic disorder. One big challenge: “Determining study eligibility and treatment effectiveness based on patient genotyping and the functionality of the study drug.”

Scott Megill '07 MBA is keen to align business and technology, and “no technology is more personal than genetics.” Megill is the founder of Coriell Life Sciences, a for-profit spinoff of the Coriell Institute for Medical Research. Its products combine genomic medicine and clinical care while securely storing data obtained through genomic sequencing. The result: On the basis of a patient’s genetic makeup, physicians can decide which drugs are appropriate and which may cause adverse reactions. The company, whose system Megill calls “a game changer,” has won several entrepreneurship awards.

BIOETHICISTS SHAPING THE CONVERSATION

When organizers of the Mendel Symposium needed esteemed bioethicists for a roundtable on modern genetics, they tapped three faculty members in the Philosophy Department whose voices are respected in the academic, private and public sectors.

Since his days as a doctoral student at Georgetown’s Kennedy Institute of Ethics, the Rev. James McCartney, OSA, PhD, '66 CLAS has contributed to emerging issues in clinical bioethics. Among the many roles he has played in his luminous career: professor; chair; consultant; institute founder; author; editor; and expert in the areas of human experimentation, death and dying, and organ donation.

Two of Father McCartney’s “How cool is that?” moments hold special meaning. In 1987, *Esquire* honored him for his outreach to people with AIDS. In 1992, he spoke about ethics and

“BIOETHICISTS ANTICIPATE HOW PROBLEMS CAN EMERGE IN TRYING TO DO GOOD. THEY APPRECIATE THE TARGET WHILE OPENING UP SPACE FOR QUESTIONS THAT PEOPLE ON THE TRAJECTORY MAY NOT SEE.”

—ANA ILTIS, PhD, '96 CLAS

the Human Genome Project at a conference in Brno. “I think I’m the first Augustinian since Mendel to give a genetics paper there!” Questions about moral responsibility and meaning on issues concerning the “edges of human life,” such as assisted reproductive technologies and care of the dying, intrigue Sarah-Vaughan Brakman, PhD, who has provided expertise on embryo adoption to the US Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Brakman serves as the ethics consultant and chair of the National Ethics Committee of Devereux, the nation’s largest nonprofit provider of behavioral and mental health care. She also advises on institutional policy and consults on difficult cases.

“At times, having good intentions and clear goals is not enough to determine what constitutes the right decision in a clinical situation. It’s a privilege to help health care professionals and patients navigate complex moral dilemmas by providing reasoned analysis and compassionate judgment.”

Stephen Napier, PhD, an expert in applied epistemology (the study of knowledge and what counts as a valid belief), probes how people think about biomedical issues. What effects do conflicts of interest have on research involving human subjects? Do people listen only to the arguments that agree with their opinions? What factors disrupt moral thinking?

One solution, says Dr. Napier, is to engage in virtuous inquiry. “Be open-minded and intellectually fair, thorough and courageous



Stephen Napier, PhD, Sarah-Vaughan Brakman, PhD, and the Rev. James McCartney, OSA, PhD, '66 CLAS, all faculty members in the Philosophy Department, form a powerhouse of clinical bioethicists.

when your beliefs and your investigation of issues look plausible.” He tries to hold himself to this standard in his own bioethical research. Dr. Napier has performed many ethical consultations and served on the institutional review boards of several hospitals.

A fourth bioethicist in the roundtable is a product of Villanova’s Philosophy Department. Professor Ana Iltis, PhD, '96 CLAS, the director of the Center for Bioethics, Health and Society at Wake Forest University, specializes in research ethics. Dr. Iltis focuses her scholarship on how to respect people’s rights and protect their interests while still advancing knowledge. She shares her insights as a research ethics consultant for people designing research studies.

“Most scientists set out to do good,” Dr. Iltis says. “Bioethicists anticipate how problems can emerge in trying to do good. They appreciate the target while opening up space for questions that people on the trajectory may not see.” ■

IGNITING CHANGE

Villanovans contributing to the community



In 2012, Emily Southerton '10 CLAS traveled around the country to implement the Poet Warriors Project, an initiative she created to give historically underrepresented students the means to teach, empower and create change through storytelling.

Can You Hear Them Now?

Alumna's platform allows voices of underrepresented students to be heard

By Suzanne Wentzel

For six months, Emily Southerton '10 CLAS zigzagged across the United States. Much of the time, the Mifflinburg, Pa., native lived out of the truck she drove from city to town to reservation. But her attention was on a vehicle that had far more power than a V-8 engine. That vehicle was poetry.

Southerton's odyssey introduced teachers and students to her initiative, the Poet Warriors Project, which seeks to build spaces that allow historically underrepresented students to share their stories with the nation. Her vision for this work originated at Villanova. Here, her experiences, professors and courses versed her in the historical, social and political forces that keep populations from being heard—and showed her a means of redressing that injustice.

Epic beginning

In her junior year, Southerton, a Presidential Scholar and Honors student, built on her courses in politics and Arabic by studying in Jordan. Hearing personal accounts from leaders and members of suppressed political parties so engrossed Southerton that she was determined to learn more about politics and the Middle East. Advised by Maghan Keita, PhD, professor of History and director of the then nascent Institute for Global Interdisciplinary Studies, Southerton focused her senior thesis on the inclusion of all voices in government systems and the potential outcomes when voices are repressed instead.

A job Southerton took on campus deepened her appreciation of equal, authentic

representation. In the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law's Clinic for Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services, she scoured international news sources for evidence to verify the reasons for flight cited by asylum seekers. Her findings helped law students build stronger cases.

But nothing foreshadowed the dramatic change that a poetry-writing course would cause in Southerton's thinking. Not a fan of the genre, she felt a new spirit awoken the first day of class, when Daisy Fried, a visiting professor, told the students they all would be poets—and good ones. Rising to the challenge, Southerton embraced this literary form and was eventually selected as Class Poet.

Reading her poem at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' Convocation was a pivotal moment. Southerton never forgot the lesson it—and Fried—taught her. "When I went into teaching, I wanted my students to recognize the power they had to use their voices to impact each other and change the world."

Passing on the power of poetry

That opportunity came while Southerton was with Teach for America (TFA) in Jackson, Miss. When the shooting of Trayvon Martin made headlines, Southerton and her sixth-graders knew they needed to seek out spaces where the students could publicly define themselves. For the rest of the semester, they wrote poems about their identities, families, communities and priorities. Southerton created booklets of the poems, and students distributed them in libraries, churches and other public areas. "The possibility that strangers would read them and be affected by their voices made students feel proud and powerful," says Southerton. By doing this activity, she had written the first stanza of the Poet Warriors Project.

Awed by the results, Southerton realized that her experiment had the potential to be national and digital, not simply pinned on grocery store bulletin boards. With funding from TFA, she built up the program as she envisioned it. She traveled to low-income schools around the country to launch the Poet Warriors Project—teaching poetry writing, collecting stories and publishing them on her newly developed website.

Ode to a thriving resource

Today, Southerton operates the project in more than 60 cities as an unfunded,

We don't have a home at night we roam

We beg for money they think it's funny

We're dirty like a dog blind at the evening fog

We're bulls fighting for territory

—From "Family Dollar's Side," by June Penolio, New Mexico

collaborative online entity available to any school or student as a free resource and venue for publishing stories. Teachers have enhanced its toolkit by adapting Southerton's curriculum for all age groups. The website gets hits from almost every state and nearly 30 countries every week. Many visitors submit feedback. "It excites students to know that their poems have inspired viewers in Alaska or Kenya, for example," Southerton says.

The poems' authentic voices reverberate across local and national media. For example, coverage of a South Dakota student who used poetry as one of the ways in which she raised awareness about suicide led to her becoming a youth leader in President Barack Obama's Generation Indigenous initiative. Media also spotlighted a high school student, the son of Haitian immigrants, who published poems about being bullied. He went on to create a nonprofit workout camp for other victims.

Such outcomes don't surprise Dr. Keita. "Emily epitomizes the Global Interdisciplinary Studies graduate. She has harnessed

the power of her intellect to the force of her dream, and her work has changed the lives of young people."

Southerton, who teaches in the Greater Philadelphia area, launches the project each January, and spends evenings and weekends reading submissions and sending emails. Her dedication inspires those who know her. "Emily consistently finds ways to use her talents to give others hope, to bring out their best and to inspire people to work for the common good," says former roommate Theresa Henry '10 CLAS, now a candidate in the Rutgers RWJMS-Princeton University MD/PhD program. "I admire her unwavering reliance on truth and love."

Southerton's workload may sound overwhelming, but when students write about how the project has transformed them, Southerton is grateful for what these "Poet Warriors" offer the world. At the end of a program she had presented in Los Angeles, a student told her that he now knew why God had put him on this earth. "That's the kind of reaction I can't step away from." ■



In Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, middle school Poet Warriors write about race, place, culture and colonization.

Ryan family siblings Carolyn Ryan Healey '86 CLAS, William "Bill" Ryan '88 CLAS, Christopher "Chris" Ryan '83 COE and Laurene "Laurie" Ryan '80 VSB



A Legacy of Innovation

The Ryan siblings honor their parents with a new VSB chair

In January, the Villanova School of Business inaugurated The Frank J. and Jane E. Ryan Family Endowed Chair in Strategy and Innovation, in memory of Frank '53 COE and Jane Ryan, spouses and partners for 51 years. Their four children, Laurene "Laurie" Ryan '80 VSB, Christopher "Chris" Ryan '83 COE, Carolyn Ryan Healey '86 CLAS and William "Bill" Ryan '88 CLAS, gathered the evening of Jan. 13 to celebrate what their parents' legacy means to their family—and to future Villanovans.

"The human impact of establishing a chair is in line with our parents' values," says Chris, who recalls his parents' commitment to the personal and professional development of young people. "They would have wanted to create something that had a positive and lasting impact."

GROWING FAMILY, RISING CAREER

Frank and Jane Ryan married in 1955, and, two years later, Frank began what would be a transformative career at Air Products and Chemicals. Ascending to president and chief operating officer, Frank possessed the innovative spirit, keen intellect and integrity in deal-making that would help to build Air Products into a Fortune 500 company and a global leader in industrial gases and chemicals. Jane invested time and energy into their church and community while skillfully shepherding the growing, active family through several relocations.

Throughout his career, Frank recruited students from Villanova's College of Engineering, seeding divisions of Air Products with promising graduates. In 1984, the College recognized his leadership with the J. Stanley Morehouse Memorial Award and later conferred upon him an honorary doctorate of Engineering. In 2003, the Villanova University Alumni Association awarded Frank the St. Thomas of Villanova Alumni Medal.

The Ryan siblings credit their parents with instilling in them a clearly drawn values system, based in their deep Catholic faith and reinforced by their undergraduate educations at Villanova, that continues to guide their decisions today.

Laurie, who earned a degree in Business Administration from Villanova, recently added

to her years of expertise in human resources by completing a master's in Organizational Development at American University. Chris, who, like his father, studied Chemical Engineering at Villanova, later earned his MBA at the University of Chicago and is now vice president and general manager, Global Generics Business, at West Pharmaceutical Services Inc. After majoring in Computer Science and Philosophy, Carolyn went on to earn her MBA from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. Bill is in sales with L.L. Bean.

MEMORIALIZING PARENTS' VALUES

After Frank and Jane both passed away in 2007, their children sought a meaningful way to make a gift to Villanova and decided that the School of Business was the right target for their investment. VSB's mission of nurturing change-makers who impact their communities for the better corresponded directly with the Ryans' legacy. "While our dad loved chemical engineering, he made his greatest impact as a business leader with a brilliant strategic and innovative mind, and as a personal leader who believed in people and their potential. It was this legacy, along with his commitment to Catholic values, that inspired us to create this VSB chair," Carolyn says.

This past fall, Associate Professor Pankaj C. Patel, PhD, a respected voice in the fields of management strategy, entrepreneurship and innovation, joined the Management Department as the inaugural Frank J. and Jane E. Ryan Family Endowed Chair in Strategy and Innovation.

"We were moved by Dr. Patel's humility, intellect and heart," Bill says. "We admire the values he brings to this role and also his evident passion for spurring discovery among his students."

After the inauguration ceremony ended, the Ryan family walked to the Pavilion for the Men's Basketball game as the bells of St. Thomas of Villanova Church rang out. "Our dad and mom would have loved the evening," says Laurie. "Being on campus, having the whole family there and then attending a Villanova basketball game would have been a perfect evening in their minds, and it was magical to us as well." ■

"The human impact of establishing a chair is in line with our parents' values."

—CHRISTOPHER RYAN

BY MEG MAXWELL

Charting a New Course

Patrick Smith '16 CON finds his niche in nursing and service

Patrick Smith '16 CON, throughout his four years at Villanova, has stretched the definition of what a nursing student, an undergraduate researcher and a student leader can be.

A Presidential Scholar from Melrose, Mass., Patrick has excelled in his courses, been active with the Center for Peace and Justice Education, traveled internationally for a global health program and pursued numerous research projects. Plus, he hasn't neglected the other aspects of a typical college experience—club sports, basketball games and times with friends.

By his own admission, there have been times when he hasn't slept much, but one of the most valuable lessons he's learned, he says, is to make the time for what he's passionate about.

"Finding a balance where I can focus on the things that are important for my education and important to me as a person has been critical in making the most of my education here," Patrick says.

Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor of Nursing, who has taught Patrick in three courses and advised him on research projects, says he is recognized by his fellow students as a model for all that they can achieve during their undergraduate years.

"Villanovans of tomorrow will be able to stand on Patrick's shoulders," says Dr. Dowdell. "He's a great representative for nursing and for Villanova. He's pulled it all together—the academics, the leadership, being a part of the community and being a true Villanovan."

As head chair of Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, an annual event that delves into the underlying causes of poverty, Patrick was in charge of numerous events, including a speaker panel, vigils, a food drive and a sleep-out on campus. The goals of the week are to educate the community, provide opportunities to stand in solidarity with those experiencing hunger and homelessness, and provoke action on these issues.

He has also been active in food security education initiatives through the Catholic Relief

Services Ambassadors program on campus, and it's through these activities that Patrick says his strongest friendships have been forged.

"It was just really easy to find a cluster of people here who are as excited about global development as they are about Villanova basketball," he says.

Patrick has also found support within the College of Nursing as he has melded his interests in public health and international development. To that end, he has conducted research as a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Public Health Scholar. He also spent eight weeks last summer in Ghana as a volunteer Global Impact Fellow for Unite for Sight, assisting with medication and eyeglass distribution, and administering vision tests in communities around the country.

"It was a great opportunity to witness local health care leaders in action, and certainly to see some of the challenges of global health care delivery," he says.

Gaining international experience in Ghana also opened up possibilities for his future. Patrick has applied for a research grant from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program and is waiting to hear whether he will spend the next year studying the health care system in Lesotho, a small African nation that is landlocked within South Africa.

While the specifics of his next steps are still to be determined, the wealth of experiences he's immersed himself in at Villanova has provided a clear road map for his future pursuits, Patrick says.

"I've had a great intellectual freedom to take lessons that I've learned from clinical nursing experiences, the Center for Peace and Justice Education, the core curriculum, peers, professors and mentors, and tie those into a framework for how I see the world," he says. "I feel confident in the values that have been instilled in me by my Villanova education and this institution, and that's a really powerful thing to be able to say after four years here." ■

"Villanovans of tomorrow will be able to stand on Patrick's shoulders."

—ELIZABETH BURGESS DOWDELL, PhD, Professor of Nursing

BY MARIAN BUTCHER

ALL THIS AND A PAYCHECK TOO

Villanovans flourish professionally and personally in the demanding field of international development

>> By Suzanne Wentzel

Growing up, Andrea Zinn '13 VSB never dreamed of becoming an agricultural monitoring officer. She didn't know the job existed.

That was before her Villanova experience—including service in Cambodia, involvement in a nonprofit in Peru, and studies in peace and justice—gave new contours to Zinn's vision. A triple major in International Business, Marketing and Management, Zinn had an epiphany: "I didn't have to work for 20 years before giving back. I could make an impact as a young professional."

After a Fulbright grant took her to Malaysia, Zinn landed a job at Oikocredit, a worldwide cooperative and social investor that provides funds to the microfinance sector, fair trade organizations and small to midsize enterprises. As part of the unit that makes loans to agricultural associations, Zinn is living her dream. "We give skilled, motivated people access to the resources they need to empower themselves."

Zinn is one of many alumni pursuing careers in international development. Capitalizing on a strong education, experiences abroad and a deep cache of skills, these Villanovans strengthen people's capacity to flourish—and get paid to do it. "International development isn't charity or volunteering," says Suzanne Toton, EdD, associate professor of Theology and Religious Studies, and coordinator of the University Partnership with Catholic Relief Services. "It takes dedicated, highly skilled professionals. We want students to consider how their Villanova education can be harnessed to reduce poverty and promote the common good."



In January, Andrea Zinn '13 VSB met with several of the 700 farmers served by the Oikocredit partner Indupalsa, a sustainably run palm oil mill in northern Peru. Here, a worker prepares a delivery of oil-palm fruit for processing.

To acquaint more students with these career options, the CRS partnership and other campus entities sponsored Villanova's third and largest Careers in International Development Day in November. After a keynote by Lindsay Coates, president of InterAction, a coalition of 180 international nongovernmental organizations, students met with professionals who specialize in advocacy, foundations, geospatial technologies, global health, humanitarian engineering, impact investing and other areas.

Admission staff from elite graduate programs, recruiters from overseas volunteer organizations, and representatives of curricular and extracurricular opportunities discussed how to get one's foot in the international development door.

THRIVING IN THEIR CAREERS

For Ryan Flynn '08 CLAS, who wanted a career in social policy, the strategy was a rigorous academic agenda. The Honors student focused on Economics and Philosophy, and he studied in China. A master's

degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science added to his credentials. Flynn was hired by the World Bank, which provides financial and technical assistance to developing countries.

A workforce development analyst for regions in Africa, Flynn oversees loans to partner governments and advises on projects that support education as a path out of poverty and into employment. His background prepared him for the job's intellectual and ethical challenges. "Economic and social policy analysis is complex because of the various factors at play. We seek to serve those less able to advocate for their interests, and that creates a moral responsibility to do good work."

Fighting for the rights of vulnerable people consumes Katie Tobin, JD, '04 CLAS. A senior protection associate in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Tobin covers the Caribbean and Central America. She currently is assisting officials in Belize with creating an asylum program for those fleeing violence in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.

Tobin lives at both ends of the spectrum. She provides direct services to people in desperate situations while advising governments on policy and legislation—a role that requires knowledge, training and

"We want students to consider how their Villanova education can be harnessed to reduce poverty and promote the common good."

—Suzanne Toton, EdD, coordinator, University Partnership with Catholic Relief Services

diplomacy. "To effect change, you have to be credible. My Villanova education has been the foundation of everything I've done." Tobin would welcome job obsolescence if it meant "we could live in a world where people had no need to seek asylum."

Bryan Enslein '07 COE also makes decisions that affect people's lives. The *National Geographic* issues of his childhood sparked his desire to explore different cultures. Villanova sparked his desire to use his technical skills to better the world. From the Peace Corps, Enslein went to work for the United States Agency for International Development, whose mission is to end extreme poverty and enable resilient, democratic societies to realize their potential.

A Foreign Service Officer, Enslein has shared his engineering expertise in Southeast Asia, Afghanistan and Haiti, overseeing projects ranging from the

remediation of dioxin contamination, to road and infrastructure improvements. He relies on the problem-solving mentality that Villanova nurtured. "I have to react quickly to unexpected situations that constantly arise, knowing that whatever I do will have a major impact on projects and people."

As the manager of Business Development at Logenix International, Matt Haemmerle '12 CLAS does work that intersects with USAID. Founded by Ron Cruse '77 CLAS, Logenix provides supply chain services on behalf of the US government and its contractors, including humanitarian organizations, in more than 140 developing countries. Haemmerle has traveled to Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria, South Sudan, Afghanistan and other regions to educate partners on best practices in supply chain design.

A student of Economics, Political Science and Arabic at Villanova, Haemmerle didn't know how life would "play out" after graduation. But he was confident that he would find a meaningful job "that used my strengths and enabled me to contribute to something larger." Being part of this public-private venture and having the opportunity to cultivate relationships worldwide suit him perfectly.

Other alumni in international development have made the same discovery: They are great fits for their jobs. Passionate, motivated, intelligent, skilled and culturally literate, they achieve professional success in trying to level the world's playing field. They don't just feel good about what they do; they bank on it. ■



Matt Haemmerle '12 CLAS embraces the challenges of his job as manager of Business Development at Logenix International. Founded by Ron Cruse '77 CLAS, the company provides supply chain services to humanitarian programs in countries around the world, including Burkina Faso (pictured).

TRACK RECORD OF EXCELLENCE

More than ever, Villanova is a destination school for the world's finest student-athletes in track and field

By Christopher Graziano

WHICH came first: the brilliant athlete or the visionary coach? In the case of Villanova's Men's and Women's Track and Field programs, the question is almost impossible to answer. Through the decades, athletes and coaches have worked hand in baton to enhance the University's reputation as a powerhouse in the sport. That reputation continues to attract world-class talent and to produce men and women whose names are synonymous with record breaker, gold medalist and hall of famer.

The numbers speak to Villanova's prowess in indoor and outdoor track and field, and cross country competitions. In terms of team accomplishments, the women's program owns nine NCAA championships and 38 BIG EAST titles; and the men's program, eight NCAA championships and 19 BIG EAST titles. The number of individual titles also is impressive. The men's and women's programs have 116 individual championships at the national level and 557 individual championships at the conference level.

Wildcats also have vaulted to glory in global competitions, including at least one Villanova Track and Field Olympian in every Summer Olympics since 1948. Beginning with the 1956 Summer Games in Melbourne, Australia, when Charles Jenkins Sr. '58 VSB won gold in the 400-meter and the 4-x-400 meter relay, and Dubliner Ronald Delany '58 VSB broke the tape in the 1,500-meter final, Villanovans have won 11 gold and silver medals in track and field events.

Behind the numbers are athletes and coaches who have made Villanova a magnet for successive generations of standouts. The impact of Wildcats excelling first in cleats and then with



Central to Villanova's track and field legacy are outstanding coaches, including (clockwise from top left) James "Jumbo" Elliott '35 VSB; Marcus O'Sullivan '84 VSB, '89 MBA; and Gina Procaccio '87 VSB.



Above: Charles Jenkins Sr. '58 VSB won gold medals in the 400-meter and the 4-x-400 meter relay at the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia. Right: Senior Jordy Williamsz (center) is one of several current and former Wildcats competing in trials for the 2016 Olympics in Brazil.



clipboards has been especially strong. In his 32 years as head coach at Villanova, for example, former short- and middle-distance runner James "Jumbo" Elliott '35 VSB became a living legend in college athletics. He was inducted into the USA Track & Field Hall of Fame in 1981.

Today, two alumni who competed internationally are expanding Elliott's legacy. Gina Procaccio '87 VSB, whose accolades include running on relay teams that set collegiate, American and world records, is in her 16th year as head coach of the Women's Track and Field, and Cross Country teams. Atop her long list of coaching achievements are nine team BIG EAST championships and two team national championships. The latter strengthened Villanova's position as the most successful women's cross country

program in collegiate history, with nine NCAA titles.

Being personally a part of the legacy that her student-athletes are growing drives Procaccio to succeed. "You don't want to be that coach who lets the legacy down," she says. Procaccio was a Wildcat when the Women's Track and Field program began its ascent in the 1980s. "I had a coach who told me when I ran, 'It all started with you.' It can't end with me."

Marcus O'Sullivan, '84 VSB, '89 MBA, a four-time Olympian and one of just three people ever to run more than 100 sub-four-minute miles, is in his 18th year as the Frank J. Kelly Endowed Track and Field Coach. The head coach of the men's program, O'Sullivan has coached 15 national champions,

93 All-Americans and 180 BIG EAST champions, among other successes.

Procaccio, who was born in Drexel Hill, Pa., and O'Sullivan, a native of Ireland, exemplify how Villanova draws elite student-athletes, be they local or international. The University and the Emerald Isle have a particularly strong affinity.

"Villanova was founded to educate Irish immigrants," O'Sullivan says. "That eventually evolved to Irish athletes meeting at the Olympic Games and encouraging one another to come here." O'Sullivan is proud of his staff's recruiting successes overseas. "I don't look at it as, 'We're bringing a foreign student here.' I look at it as, 'We're fulfilling the mission upon which our University was founded.'"

In the long line of Irish athletes coming to Villanova, Sonia O'Sullivan '91 VSB



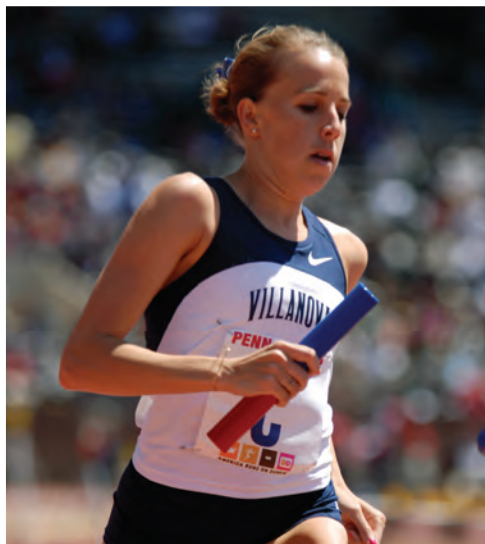
The Men's and Women's Track and Field teams have won a combined 132 Championship of America titles at the Penn Relays. Pictured are the 2014 women's distance medley relay champions: Nicky Akande '14 CLAS, Emily Lipari '14 CLAS, Stephanie Schappert '15 VSB and current senior Angel Piccirillo.

was the first woman. She was determined to set the bar high. "The Jake Nevin Field House had a picture of Ronnie Delany kneeling down in thanks after winning Olympic gold," she says. "It was a daily reminder of what is possible for Irish athletes passing through Villanova." O'Sullivan found out for herself in 2000, when she won silver in the 5,000-meter in Sydney.

Delany and Sonia O'Sullivan both medaled at Olympics held in Australia—a country from which Villanova now



Left: Sonia O'Sullivan '91 VSB is one of the legendary runners who have been a part of the Wildcats' "Irish pipeline" and was the first Villanova woman to win an Olympic medal. Below: Nicole Schappert Tully '10 VSB was a three-time All-American at Villanova and will compete for the United States at this summer's Olympic Trials in Eugene, Ore.



"I always tell the athletes stories about my coaches, my teammates and myself, and I think that definitely helps to show them, 'You can do this too.'"

—Gina Procaccio '87 VSB, head coach, Women's Track and Field

recruits. The groundwork for that relationship was laid when Marcus O'Sullivan recruited Adrian Blincoe '03 VSB from New Zealand. Blincoe, in turn, helped bring Patrick Tiernan, now a senior, to Villanova from Australia. Tiernan's teammate, senior Jordy Williamsz, came at the advice of his coach in Australia, Nic Bideau—Sonia O'Sullivan's husband.

Tiernan and Williamsz hope to extend the University's Olympic legacy by qualifying for the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro. They will compete at Australia's Olympic trials. Canadians Rob Denault '15 VSB and Sheila Reid '12 CLAS, and Americans Nicole Schappert Tully '10 VSB and Bobby Curtis '08 VSB are expected to compete at their respective countries' trials.

"Every young athlete dreams about the chance to represent their country at the Olympics," says Tiernan. "I think Villanova's reputation in the Olympics helps with recruiting."

But it is more than the chance to join the list of Olympians that has shaped Tiernan's and Williamsz's Villanova experience. They also have savored victory at the historic Penn Relays, the oldest and largest track and field competition in the US. Villanova has won a record 95 men's Championship of America titles and 37 women's titles.

"Penn Relays will be pretty hard to top," says Williamsz, who, along with Tiernan, Denault and Australian Sam McEntee '15 CLAS, won the 4-x-Mile relay in 2015. "Because of the achievements of everyone who has come before us, there's a big emphasis on being successful."

"Everyone who has come before us": This is the distinguished group that inspires every student-athlete and coach who comes to Villanova. This is the storied tradition to which they hope to add their marks. ■

New Athletic Director Proud To Be a Wildcat

Guided by the core principles of supporting student-athletes and building on Villanova Athletics' tradition of success, Athletic Director Mark Jackson has spent his first months on campus as a student of all things Villanova.

What he's learned so far has impressed him, personally and professionally.

"My own personal philosophy revolves around my four F's: family, friendship, faith and fun," Jackson says. "I had a feeling from the beginning that Villanova was going to be a good fit for me, and, since I've been here, that feeling has only solidified."

For his family and his faith, he's glad to bring his wife, Tricia, and four children back to the East Coast and into a Catholic community that shares their values. For his friendships, he's building the critical relationships that inspire support for Athletics and the University as a whole.

"The fun part to me is certainly winning, which we do a lot of around here, but it's also day-to-day interactions with the student-athletes, the campus and the community," he says.

Jackson came to Villanova from the University of Southern California, where he spent a total of more than nine years,

most recently as senior associate director of athletics and chief innovation officer.

Foremost among Jackson's goals at Villanova, he says, is to graduate "complete student-athletes." Villanova's more than 500 student-athletes are just as accomplished in the classroom as they are in competition: As a group, they have registered a GPA higher than 3.0 for 25 straight semesters.

"It's essential that there's a healthy balance between athletics and the rest of what student-athletes do," Jackson says. "The strength of our programs collectively is that we graduate really successful men and women, and their experience on our campus is only enhanced through the athletic program."

Jackson is evaluating all aspects of Villanova Athletics, paying particular attention to the facilities and the fan experience, recognizing that sports are a key way in which alumni and non-alumni alike build ties to the University.

"When people come to Villanova, I want them to feel that the Athletic Department is a welcoming element of the campus," he says. "I want them to become immersed in the experience."



University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS welcomes new Athletic Director Mark Jackson; his wife, Tricia; and their children, Grace, Hannah, Kevin and Sean, to Villanova.

Building Connections

John Igoe '63 COE is a key ambassador for Villanova on the West Coast

BY NAN MYERS

As an undergraduate at Villanova, John Igoe '63 COE acquired the tools he needed to be a successful civil engineer. More importantly, his education equipped him to embark on a personal and professional journey that would take him across the nation, challenge him to embrace new opportunities and remind him not only to look back but also to give back to the institution that made it all possible.

"It's been a wonderful journey because of the strong foundation I received at Villanova," Igoe says. "That foundation enabled me to do all the things I have accomplished."

The list is impressive. Today, Igoe is director of Real Estate, Design and Construction for Google Inc., which is committed to creating employee environments that stimulate innovation. In this role, he is responsible for developing real estate globally and is overseeing numerous current projects, including sustainably designed Google office buildings in India and London, as well as a new domed headquarters in Northern California.

Igoe has remained connected to Villanova because it was important for him to give back to the place where his exciting journey started. From the first day he began commuting to Villanova, he was determined to earn a degree in Civil Engineering, having been exposed to the world of construction through his father's career as a plumber.

"Engineering is deeply rooted in math and technology, and these were challenges to me. But I found everyone to be collaborative, and that support was an

important part of my success," says Igoe.

After graduating from Villanova, Igoe joined the US Air Force and served at three bases in California and Alaska. He married his wife, Peggy, in 1966, and they went on to have five children.

Igoe earned a master's in Civil Engineering, Construction Management, from Stanford in 1970. He returned to Philadelphia for a position in General Electric's Environmental and Space Systems and to study for his MBA at Drexel University. In 1974, he moved his family to Foster City, Calif., where he and Peggy still live. He worked in successive real estate, design and facility positions at major firms in Northern California before joining Google in 2011.

Igoe has never forgotten the influence of his professors and other Villanovans, and he seizes every opportunity to make Villanova even better known in Northern California. A leader of the regional alumni chapter and a former member of the Villanova University Alumni Association Board of Directors, Igoe has also received the Engineering Alumni Society's Meritorious Service Award and the VUAA's Goodwill Ambassador Award. In addition, he and Peggy are funding the John F. Igoe '63 Endowed Scholarship in Support of the Luckow Scholarship Challenge Program to help students in need.

At Google, he has been a key driver of Villanova in the Valley, a networking and educational program that links students from his alma mater to Silicon Valley. Igoe's connections have allowed Villanova students to visit Google headquarters and create relationships in the industry.

Recently, he received the VUAA's Distinguished Service Award, largely in recognition of his role as an ambassador for Villanova on the West Coast. "Today, California is the fourth-largest state for Villanova alumni," Igoe says.

He has also helped to recruit the next generation of Villanovans at college fairs and prospective student interviews. He initiated the VUAA Book Award for high

"It's been a wonderful journey because of the strong foundation I received at Villanova."

—John Igoe

school juniors who demonstrate academic achievement, a commitment to service and school, and community spirit.

For many, there's no better example of a dedicated Villanovan.

"Loyal, dedicated, smart, accomplished, humble and the genuine article—John did not just go through Villanova; Villanova has clearly gone through him," says Michael Gaynor '88 MS, director of University Admission. "No favor is ever too great—even beyond John's volunteer leadership recruitment efforts for Villanova. He is always there when I reach out to him to connect the dots on behalf of a recent Wildcat graduate for career advice and networking." ■

NOVA

NETWORKING

ONE VILLANOVA

VALUE OF VILLANOVA

ALWAYS A WILDCAT

VILLANOVANS HELP ONE ANOTHER TO ACHIEVE PROFESSIONALLY

BY SHAWN PROCTOR

Second in a five-part series on the Villanova University Alumni Association's new platform for alumni engagement

NETWORKING: Alumni receive expanded professional and social opportunities online and in person.

The search for truth, the strength of community and love for one another define the Villanova student experience. And after graduation those same ideals—*Veritas, Unitas, Caritas*—create the foundation of Villanova's powerful network. Alumni, students, parents and friends of Villanova help one another, proving that together they can do more.

The Villanova University Alumni Association provides many ways for Villanovans to grow skills, expand professional networks, and connect with students and career opportunities through a mix of resources available on and off campus, online, and in person. Most alumni simply know it as the Nova Network.

Young and experienced alumni alike can take part in many of Villanova's networking programs, which cross all disciplines and majors. Wherever a career in any field leads, success depends on the ability to cultivate and maintain strong relationships.



Students participating in the Villanova in the Valley program network with professionals working in Silicon Valley.

Through alumni.villanova.edu/careers, Villanovans can connect with other alumni via the online directory and the official Villanova University Network LinkedIn community. They also can register for Handshake, the University's career service platform, which is available to all alumni, regardless of graduation year.

And through the VUAA professional development website, there are many other ways to connect with career opportunities offered throughout the University. For example, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences hosts large-scale, industry-based networking events every year. The Villanova School of Business has expanded its Mentor Program, which pairs undergraduate students with alumni mentors. Effective with the Class of 2018, every undergraduate business student has an opportunity to have a meaningful, individualized relationship with a professional mentor and to establish a foundation for career development, success and fulfillment.

The College of Engineering, too, hosts dozens of niche and industry-based programs. Beginning sophomore year and continuing through graduation, all engineering students are professionally linked to alumni and internship organizations through the Career Compass program. The College of Nursing also has dedicated staff who personally connect current students with nursing alumni who have opportunities to share.

IMPRESSIVE YOUNG VILLANOVANS

When Brett Snyder '09 CLAS founded Knucklepuck Media, a digital marketing agency in Arlington, Va., he knew turning to up-and-coming Villanova talent would be ideal in order to support the company's growth. In fact, the startup's first hire came as a result of Villanova's LinkedIn group. Meghan Furey '14 CLAS impressed Snyder with her understanding of using the Internet to cultivate business relationships—and he wasn't even actively looking to fill the role at the time.

"Her potential was too amazing to ignore," he says.

Expansion of his business has since allowed him to hire two more Villanovans, one of whom he connected with as a result of Take a 'Cat to Work Day, a program that matches students with alumni for job shadowing. Snyder feels that the alumni with whom he has connected all possess a "hustle" perfectly suited to a hungry, small business.

"Villanovans don't sit back and wait for things to come to them. We go out there and do what it takes to make things happen," he says.



The Villanova University Alumni Association offers many ways for Villanovans to connect with one another.

OPENING THE NETWORKING TOOLBOX

The Nova Network is a strong resource for connecting Villanovans. Three Web pages provide starting points for exploring everything that the Villanova University Alumni Association offers to supercharge careers.

- alumni.villanova.edu/careers—The VUAA Professional Development site links to relevant networking opportunities.
- villanova.edu/linkedin—The official Villanova University Network on LinkedIn is open to all University graduates, students, parents, faculty and staff looking to connect.
- villanova.edu/careercommunity—This subgroup provides a space for discussing career-specific topics, issues and advice.



This Bank of America Merrill Lynch reception exemplifies the many ways in which Villanova University helps Villanovans to expand their professional networks and skills.

Networking is continuing to help Snyder's business grow. A former mentor and fellow Villanova alumnus connected him with another group, and the resulting partnership has allowed Snyder to further accelerate the growth of Knucklepuck.

"I've used networking to find talented people, acquire new business leads and discover new opportunities since the day I started my business. I consider it one of the most valuable investments I've made in my career," he says.

POWER LUNCHES

It is also the impulse of Villanovans, like Snyder, to make a contribution to the community that guided them, according to Sheila Doherty, assistant director of Student Services in the Villanova University Career Center. Time and time again, Doherty hears stories of how alumni are delighted to give back to Villanova by sharing their expertise on an industry, role or company.

One recent example brought together seven students and film producer Basil Iwanyk '91 CLAS on the Central Park set of *John Wick II* in New York City. Iwanyk spoke with the students over lunch about his work and founding of Thunder Road Pictures, which produced the Oscar-nominated film *The Town*.

These events are much more than face time with some of Tinseltown's brightest talent. This is often the start of something much bigger, as Vincent Thomas '17 CLAS discovered. He continued the conversation with Iwanyk beyond the lunch and has secured a summer internship at Thunder Road Pictures in Santa Monica, Calif. Vincent was able to reconnect with Iwanyk at Villanova on Set, the University's television and film industry immersion program.

"Being able to connect with one of the industry's biggest producers, who happens to be a Villanova grad, makes my dream of succeeding more realistic than ever," Vincent says.

"Networking, whether it be through a program on campus, a shadowing day or a cup of coffee, gives Villanovans a chance to inspire and be inspired by one another's goals, interests and experiences," Doherty adds.

She has found that, aside from skills and knowledge, networking may be the single most important tool in landing an entry-level position. The hiring process is often powered by impersonal, computer-based systems, but having an advocate within the company can make the critical difference in getting an application through the system and in front of a hiring manager.

HOLDING DOORS OPEN

Jerry Quinn '87 VSB believes Villanova's tradition of service to others creates a thirst to continue helping long after graduation. It works in concert with the University's academic tradition, which promises high-quality, career-minded graduates.

"You first learn about service on campus. When you graduate, you get to see it play out on a higher level as you take a greater responsibility to living up to the Villanova standard," says Quinn, a member of the VUAA Board of Directors and past president of the Greater Washington, D.C., Alumni Chapter.

For his part, Quinn says that he is always happy to hold open the door to other Villanovans as they look for new opportunities. For example, he responded to a LinkedIn post from Sara Vandervort '12 CLAS, who was looking for a summer internship in the nation's capital. He connected her with many resources inside the Beltway, including a Villanovan at a government relations firm where Vandervort was ultimately offered a paid internship opportunity.

Many of Villanova's alumni chapters hold social and professional events that are perfect for networking. Quinn only knew a handful of alumni when he moved to Washington, D.C., in 2004. His involvement in the alumni chapter and the VUAA in person and online dramatically expanded his personal network. "There is just a commitment to Villanovans helping Villanovans that is shared across our community," Quinn says.

To connect with all of the VUAA's professional development resources, visit alumni.villanova.edu/careers. ■

Villanovans Honored at the 2015 Volunteer Leaders Conference

During the Volunteer Leaders Conference in November, the Villanova University Alumni Association honored outstanding volunteers, chapters and affinity groups. The Los Angeles Chapter received the Chapter Challenge Award for the greatest year-over-year participation rate growth that exceeds the University's participation goal. The Executive MBA Alumni Association accepted the Creative Achievement Award in recognition of their creative program development.

John Igoe '63 COE received the Distinguished Service Award, presented to a volunteer leader who has diligently and faithfully served the VUAA over an extended period. Brian Digan '80 VSB was given the Goodwill Ambassador Award in recognition of his significant achievements in the recruitment of future Villanova students. The Leadership Award was presented to Tim McGovern '04 CLAS, and Sabrina Bernadel '16 CLAS was the Outstanding Student Volunteer.

Reunion Class Committee Chair Katie Kokol '05 VSB was the recipient of the Reunion Volunteer Service Award. The Lehigh Valley Chapter was given the Rev. Ray Jackson Community Service Award for their service initiatives to the poor and disenfranchised.



Katie Kokol '05 VSB, Reunion Volunteer Service Award recipient, is joined by George Kolb '84 VSB, associate vice president for Alumni Relations; Tracy Setlock Brala '90 VSB, president of the VUAA; and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS, University president.



Homecoming Brings Alumni Together

A bright fall weekend brought thousands back to campus for Homecoming 2015. Students and alumni celebrated at the Homecoming Festival and cheered on the Wildcats at a variety of sporting events, including the football game against Richmond.

There were many opportunities to socialize and connect with friends, including the President's Club Reception, Young Alumni Pub Night and Engineering Alumni Society Awards Dinner. Alumni and students took advantage of cultural and academic presentations, as well as the 1,661st birthday celebration of St. Augustine and the launch of *The Confessions* mobile app.



Class Notes

VILLANOVA GRADUATES SHARE THEIR NEWS & UPDATES • IN MEMORIAM • FACULTY • STAFF

1950s

**CLASS OF 1951
65th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

**CLASS OF 1956
60th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

1960s

**CLASS OF 1961
55th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

**CLASS OF 1966
50th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

Joe Galliera '66 COE was inducted into the Camden County Sports Hall of Fame Oct. 29, 2015, and the South Jersey Coaches Hall of Fame March 12, 2015.

J. Edmund Mullin '66 VLS, of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin, was named in the 2016 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*® for commercial litigation.

Richard T. Brant '67 CLAS recently was appointed as a faculty project executive in the Fox School of Business MBA Program at Temple University. He is also a consultant and an adviser for Philabundance in Philadelphia.

Theodore Hack '67 COE retired from the US Navy in 1997 after 30 years of service in the Submarine Force. After retiring from the Navy, he worked for General Dynamics (GD) in Falls Church, Va., as

director, Government Relations, Submarine Programs, serving as liaison between Congress and GD submarine programs. Today, Hack is retired and consults on shipbuilding programs.

Donald J. Sesso, DO, '67 CLAS has been appointed professor emeritus of Medicine at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Thomas Balshi, DDS, PhD, '68 CLAS and **Glenn Wolfinger, DMD, '86 CLAS** are partners in prosthodontics at Pi Dental Center and are diplomates of the American College of Prosthodontics. Wolfinger traveled to Seoul, South Korea, to lecture at the International College of Prosthodontists biennial meeting. Balshi was one of 11 renowned zygomatic implant specialists invited to lecture at Nobel Biocare's First International Zygoma Summit in Las Vegas.

Aurelio Pontarelli '69 CLAS, a retired South Philadelphia High School English teacher and author of *Don't Say I Can't*, was recognized by South Philadelphia High School's Alumni Association with their Award of Excellence. Pontarelli also has received the Philadelphia School District Rose Lindenbaum Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Ruth Hare Cluster Teacher of the Year award.

1970s

**CLASS OF 1971
45th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

**CLASS OF 1976
40th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

Joseph E. Comaty, PhD, '71 CLAS, '76 MS retired from the Department of Health & Hospitals, Baton Rouge, La., in 2013. He is now a part-time consultant, teacher, lecturer and author. Comaty co-authored a textbook, Julien's *Primer of Drug Action*, 13th Edition, and is preparing its next edition.

Tony E. Leodora '72 CLAS is host of the *Traveling Golfer* television show, which debuted February 2013 and is now part of regular programming on Comcast SportsNet and The Comcast Network. He is also host of *GolfTalk Live*, a weekly radio show that originates on flagship station NewsTalk 990 WNTF in Philadelphia and is syndicated on other stations throughout the region.

Philip "Flip" H. Corboy Jr. '73 CLAS has been named trustee of the US Olympic and Paralympic Foundation (USOPF), the primary source of philanthropic resources for the Olympic and Paralympic programs in the United States. As a trustee, Corboy will help the USOPF generate critical financial resources that will enable the US Olympic Committee to make investments in areas promoting excellence and innovation for Team USA. Corboy also was named to Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America for 2014-15 and is a member of the Irish Legal 100.

Joseph V. Del Raso '74 VSB, '83 VLS, chairman of the

National Italian American Foundation, was honored with the prestigious Order of the Merit of the Italian Republic.

Bob Fazio '74 COE, '76 MS and **Paul Casazza '87 COE** were involved in the Ellison Avenue Bridge Project in Westbury, N.Y. Fazio is the chief program officer for Infrastructure for the LIRR, while Casazza is a project executive with Posillico Civil Inc., which is building the new bridge.

Vasilios J. Kalogredis '74 VLS, a shareholder of Kalogredis, Sansweet, Dearden and Burke Ltd., spoke on "Considerations in Understanding and Negotiating Employment Contracts" at the Pennsylvania Academy of Dermatology annual meeting in Hershey, Pa. He also spoke at the National Society of Certified Healthcare Business Consultants annual conference in Las Vegas.

Denise L. Devine '77 VSB, '83 MTax recently rang the closing bell with Fulton Financial Corp. at Nasdaq and was featured on the Jumbotron in Times Square.

Richard N. Kender '78 VSB joined Poxel's board of directors as an independent board member.

Brian G. Steller '78 CLAS, a partner with Connell Foley LLP in the firm's Insurance group, was named the John B. LaVecchia Award recipient by the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Marc S. Raspanti '79 CLAS was a featured presenter at the

American Bar Association's annual National Institute on Health Care Fraud May 14, 2015, in Miami.

1980s

**CLASS OF 1981
35th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

**CLASS OF 1986
30th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

Jan S. Beck '80 VLS, '85 LLM has been appointed vice president and general counsel of Troy Corp., a global manufacturer of innovative specialty materials for industry. Beck will be responsible for Troy Corp. legal matters, as well as represent the company in a broad array of business endeavors.

Armand J. Della Porta Jr. '80 VLS, shareholder in the Wilmington, Del., office of Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin, was appointed Atlantic regional director of the Defense Research Institute.

Joseph J. McGrory '80 VSB was a speaker at the Montgomery County (Pa.) Zoning Officers Association luncheon June 10, 2015.

Jean A. Engler, Esq., '81 VSB, '85 VLS was sworn in as the first female district attorney of Carbon County, Pa.

Maribeth Schreder LeBreton, DNP, '81 CON, a nurse practitioner at a clinic at Lancaster General Health, received her doctorate degree in Nursing Practice from Widener University.

Madonna Sutter '81 MA has been named director of Advancement for the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, which sponsors Villanova University, Merrimack College, Malvern Preparatory School, St. Augustine Preparatory School and 14 East Coast parishes.

Jami Wintz McKeon '81 VLS, chair of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, was named the Lifetime Achievement honoree at the 2015 Red Cross Spectrum Award Breakfast.

Patricia Dorris-Crenny, CPA, '82 VSB, an instructor of Accountancy and Information Systems at Villanova University, was the 2015 recipient of the Gerald A. Dougherty Endowed School of Business Faculty Award. This award is presented annually to a Villanova School of Business faculty member in recognition of his or her superior accomplishment in teaching and unique ability to connect with his or her students.

Thomas M. Nealon '83 VSB joined Southwest Airlines as executive vice president of Strategy and Innovation.

Veronica Hill-Milbourne '84 CON, recipient of the Villanova University Medallion Award for Distinguished Service to Nursing and the Community in 2006, recently was named vice president for Clinical Programs at Health Partners Plans.

Teresa F. Sachs '84 VLS was promoted to partner at Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin.

Mary Jane Hurley Brant '85 MS became a partner in MS Care for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Brant is also a regular contributing writer for *The Sandpaper* on Long Beach Island, N.J., and a practicing psychotherapist in Newtown Square, Pa.

Steven Beer '86 VLS published his first book, *Your Child's Career in Music and Entertainment: The Prudent Parent's Guide*.

Felice Glennon Kerr '86 CLAS was appointed the first female judge of the Family Court of the state of Delaware.



A LEADING ROLE IN THE THEATRE OF WAR

Part of a top secret Army unit of artists, actors and creative thinkers who confounded the Nazis during World War II, Army 1st Lt. **Bernard "Bernie" Mason '95 CLAS** and the Ghost Army are credited with saving 15,000 to 30,000 American lives in the European theatre. However, their heroism was only declassified in 1996, more than 50 years later.

The 1,000-strong Ghost Army's exploits, detailed in a 2013 PBS documentary, included tactics designed to confuse the enemy: playing sounds of artillery blasts; setting diversions with inflatable soldiers and weaponry; and impersonating other units.

In fall 1944, US Gen. George Patton relied on Mason and members of the Ghost Army to act as the 6th Armored Division at the Rhine River and set up dummy tanks to fill a hole in the line.

"We were putting on a show," says Mason, who earned a Bronze Star Medal for his service. "If the Germans had known it was fake, they could have wiped us out and attacked the army from behind."

After the war, Mason took classes locally toward an engineering degree, but he was unable to finish. In 1991, after a career as a commercial artist and an art director in Philadelphia, Mason enrolled at Villanova.

He was the first person in his family to earn a bachelor's degree, graduating magna cum laude at age 75. "I was afraid when I went back that I would be patronized, but everyone was great. It was a wonderful experience. I love Villanova for giving me the opportunity to achieve a lifelong goal."

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ELEVATING CARE FOR GERIATRIC PATIENTS

Michelle A. Cuttino '15 DNP, CRNP, AGPCNP-BC, adult-gerontology nurse practitioner at Optum Care, is passionate about caring for her 116 patients at two rehabilitation and long-term-care facilities in Philadelphia. And her DNP project at Villanova may help other nurses adopt a new proactive approach to preventing falls in the aging population.

Dr. Cuttino is researching ways to screen for mild cognitive impairment (MCI), an established risk factor in falls. She will present her work at the National Nurse Practitioner Symposium in July, advocating for using the Montreal Cognitive Assessment tool to improve the identification of residents who are at risk for falls in the long-term-care setting.

"Unlike dementia, people with MCI are able to negotiate the instrumental activities of daily living, such as driving, working or banking. Most people who develop MCI are never identified until their symptoms become more prominent," Dr. Cuttino notes.



deputy for LCS/Frigate (N96E) on the Chief of Naval Operations staff in the Pentagon.

John M. "Jack" Kolmansberger '89 VSB has been named board president of the Association for Accounting Marketing. Kolmansberger currently serves as chief marketing officer at Herbein + Co. Inc.

Robin Ward '89 MA published her sixth book, *Count on TCU: Fun Facts From 1 to 12*.

1990s

**CLASS OF 1991
25th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

**CLASS OF 1996
20th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

John S. Harrobin '90 VSB has been appointed chief marketing officer of NBCUniversal's Content Innovation Agency.

Tracy Setlock Brala '90 VSB joined Comcast as executive director of Customer Experience for Xfinity WiFi. Brala is president of the Villanova University Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Edmond Campbell Jr. '91 VLS, a partner at Campbell Rocco Law LLC, spoke at the National Business Institute's Practical Guide to Zoning and Land Use Law in King of Prussia, Pa.

Judith A. Harris '91 LLM was featured as a guest on Laurie A. Siebert's weekly NPR program, *Your Financial Choices*.

Capt. Mark C. Kester, USN, '91 CLAS recently assumed command of the Center for Information Dominance Unit Hampton Roads, Virginia Beach, Va.

John C. Shinnors '91 CLAS was appointed senior director for International Contracts in the Global Procurement Department of Automatic Data Processing in Paris.

Michael R. Clancy '92 VSB, director of Financial Planning at Drexel University College of Medicine, presented "The Financial Aspects of Medical School" to Villanova University pre-med students.

William F. Sweeney Jr. '92 CLAS was named special agent in charge of the FBI's Philadelphia field office.

Daniel E. Cummins, Esq., '93 CLAS, a partner with Foley, Comerford & Cummins, was awarded second place in the Weekly Newspapers Category of the 36th annual William A. Schnader Print Media Awards for his article in the *Pennsylvania Law Weekly*, "Automobile 'Black Box' Information Ruled Admissible in Criminal Case Column."

Lori Gildea '93 VSB joined Tandem Diabetes Care, a medical device firm, as vice president of Sales in San Diego.

Matthew E. Haggerty '93 CLAS, '05 MBA, CEO of Times-Shamrock Communications and publisher of *The Times-Tribune*, was honored at the Champion of Youth Reception 2015.

Gregory J. Hauck '93 VSB, '98 VLS joined Pepper Hamilton LLC as a partner in the Commercial Litigation practice group in the Philadelphia office.

James A. Meszaros '93 VSB was designated by the Supreme Court of New Jersey as a civil trial attorney and was admitted to the Florida State Bar. He also was recently named a master in the Brennan-Vanderbilt American Inn of Court and a lifetime member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

Esteban J. Nunez '93 VSB has been named executive director of the Girl Choir of South Florida.

Cynthia Dennis Ward '94 VLS was profiled in the *Lansing State Journal's* article, "Cynthia Ward: 'Not Everyone Sees the World as I Do.'"

Michael Moyer '94 VLS participated in the National Business Institute's conference "Estate Planning From A to Z," Nov. 9 and 10, 2015.

Cmdr. Barbara Mullen Joe, USN, '94 CON was inducted as a fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners in June 2015. She is the prior consultant to the US Navy Surgeon General for Family Nurse Practitioners and is currently assigned to the Washington Navy Yard. She married Christopher Joe in 2014.

Henry Wallmeyer '94 VSB was named president and CEO of the National Club Association.

Michael A. James '95 LLM was promoted to partner at PwC US.

Linda M. Anderson '96 LLM spoke at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's conference "Elder Law Update."

Cmdr. Todd M. Boland, USN, '96 CLAS recently completed a successful Aviation Command tour with VR-64 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey. He is now working as Reserve Branch Chief for Headquarters USPACOM on Oahu, Hawaii.

Ryan McDonough Rost '96 CLAS, '98 MS has been named Villanova University's Title IX Coordinator.

Mike Muchowicz '96 CLAS published the book *Becoming Pratholic: Part Protestant, Part Catholic—A New Twist on Christianity*.

Stephanie Winegrad '96 VLS, partner at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP, was appointed a council member and a member of the executive committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section.

Lisa S. Wren '96 VLS was promoted to partner at Clark Hill.

Michael Engle '97 CLAS, a partner of Greenblatt, Pierce, Engle, Funt & Flores LLC, recently spoke on a special two-part CLE titled "PA Grand Jury Practice: Investigating and Indicting."

Robert Freedenberg '97 LLM joined the Harrisburg, Pa., law firm of SkarlatosZonarich LLC.

Stacey Katen Reddy '97 CLAS welcomed a girl.

Nancy Peterson '97 VLS, vice president and general counsel of AlliedBarton Security Services, recently was named one of five new board members of The Forum of Executive Women.

Ben Sanchez '97 VSB recently was re-elected commissioner of Ward 7 in Abington Township, Pa. Sanchez is a practicing real estate attorney and teaches land

use law at the Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law.

Valorie Golin Daley '98 VSB married Donald Harry Daley. The couple recently welcomed a boy.

Stacey Jones '98 CLAS married Todd Leutholt.

Derek A. Wassink '98 COE joined the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., office of Thornton Tomasetti as a vice president in its Structural Engineering practice.

Devon Bremer '99 MS recently was appointed senior education specialist at The Commonwealth Medical College in Scranton, Pa.

Shannon Broderick '99 CLAS and **Denis Broderick '09 MS** welcomed a girl.

Joseph Fitzpatrick '99 CLAS is assistant US attorney and public affairs officer for the US Attorney's office in Chicago.

John B. Grendi '86 VSB has joined the global management consulting firm Alexander Proudfoot as executive vice president.

Matthew C. Marquardt '86 COE, of Urban Engineers Inc., has been named chairman of the board of directors of the Penjerdel Council. Marquardt is senior vice president and chief operations officer for the aviation, site and land development; facilities design and construction; and rail and transit practices. He is a registered professional engineer in 10 states, and has served or is serving as a board member of American Council of Engineering Companies of Pennsylvania, American Society of Highway Engineers and Villanova University Engineering Alumni Society.

Carolyn B. DiGiovanni '87 VLS was promoted to partner at Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin.

Michael J. Holston '87 VLS, executive vice president and

general counsel of Merck & Co., was elected to the Pro Bono Partnership board of directors.


Brian McGeoug '87 CLAS joined Chatham Wealth Management as a managing director-financial adviser in Chatham, N.J.

Michael Morgan '87 COE was named Civil Engineer of the Year by the North Jersey Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Morgan is a vice president and business unit manager of Gannett Fleming, South Plainfield, N.J., office operations.

Ann Marie Schiavoni '87 CLAS, '93 MS is the chairperson of the Guidance Department at Hamilton High School North, Hamilton, N.J.

Thomas W. Perez '88 VSB welcomed a girl.

Capt. Michael P. Doran, USN, '89 CLAS completed his tour as commanding officer of USS Cape St. George (CG 71) and reported to his next assignment as the



VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

Join fellow Villanovans for the annual St. Thomas of Villanova Day of Service
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

Celebrating its 11th year, the Day of Service serves as the central component of the annual St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration, a multiday event that highlights the University's mission and ideals. The Day of Service engages thousands of students, faculty, staff, alumni and families in projects throughout Greater Philadelphia, and alumni chapters throughout the country.

Contact your chapter leader or visit alumni.villanova.edu to learn more.

Visit www.villanova.edu/stvc for more information on the St. Thomas of Villanova Celebration and the Day of Service.

Jennifer J. Riley, Esq., '99 CLAS, '01 MA, owner of the Law Offices of Jennifer J. Riley, spoke at the “Young Women Rising: Igniting Our Voices” symposium, sponsored by the Souderton Area School District in Pennsylvania. She is a co-author of *Custody Law and Practice in Pennsylvania*, and has published and presented nationally on the use of technology in family law.

Rebecca A. Young '99 VLS spoke at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's conference “LGBTQ Issues for Foster Care and Homeless/Out-of-Home Youth.”

2000s

**CLASS OF 2001
15th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

**CLASS OF 2006
10th Reunion
June 9-12, 2016**

Nicole Douglass Lyons '00 VSB has been promoted to partner at WithumSmith+Brown.

Marisa Fiordalisi Campion '00 CLAS welcomed twins.

Dawn L. Jackson '00 VLS published her first book, *Break These Chains*, and released her first children's book, *Blaire Bear and Her Magic Mop*.

Alexander S. Kasendorf '00 VLS was promoted to partner at Alpert, Barr & Grant APLC in Encino, Calif.

Chris Mairs '00 CLAS married Sarah Donaldson.

Edward McLaughlin '00 CLAS and **Amy Smith McLaughlin '99 CLAS** welcomed a girl.

Kathy Olsen '00 CLAS has joined Nonprofit Finance Fund as vice president of Underwriting, Financial Services.

Rebecca Savage Waddell '00 VLS joined the Philadelphia office of Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman.

Marianne Connolly Lauber '01 CLAS, '07 MS welcomed a boy.

Edward S. Goldis '01 VLS was promoted to partner at Feldman Shepherd Wohlgelemer Tanner Weinstock & Dodig.

Sarah Holbrook Fryxell '01 CLAS welcomed a girl.

David Seidman '01 VLS was promoted to partner at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel.

Kristopher Carter '02 COE was named co-chair of the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics for the city of Boston.

Steve Cusano '02 VLS has joined Larsson & Scheuritzel PC.

Greta Kropp Gilbode '02 CLAS and **Michael Gilbode '99 MS** welcomed a girl. Greta is also a member of the Villanova University Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Emma Ricci Epes '02 VSB was promoted to partner at Ernst & Young LLP.

Nicole Saitta Gill '02 CLAS, '05 MA joined Stradley Ronon's Litigation group in the firm's Philadelphia office.

Andrew Schmidt '02 VSB and **Meaghan Frawley Schmidt '02 VSB** welcomed a boy.

Dean C. Seman '02 VLS was promoted to partner at Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton Fires & Newby.

Nick Tedesco '02 CLAS has been named to *The Chronicle of Philanthropy's* first-ever 40 Under 40.

Jean Marie Bellotti Westervelt '03 CLAS welcomed a boy.

Miguel J. Chamorro '03 CLAS co-authored the cover article of *The Florida Bar Journal's* September/October 2015 edition, “No Rachmones: The Dynamics of Florida's Pay-to-Play Eviction Litigation.” Chamorro is a senior associate at the law firm of Lydecker Diaz LLC in Miami.

Michael E. Lindner '03 COE welcomed a girl.

Daniel V. Madrid '03 VLS was promoted to partner in Fox Rothschild's Real Estate practice group in the firm's Princeton, N.J., office.

Karin Nastawa '03 CLAS married Nicholas Ruffini.

Joe Rich '03 VLS, a partner at Cozen O'Connor, recently relocated from the firm's Philadelphia office to the firm's Miami office.

Christopher Driscoll '04 MPA married Kathryn Krupa. Also,

he was recently elected to the Millersville University Alumni Association Board.

David J. Falcone '04 VLS was promoted to partner at Saul Ewing.

Matthew B. Ginsburg '04 VLS was promoted to partner at Dechert.

Andrew S. Kadish '04 VLS, president of Capreit Inc., was honored by *Real Estate Forum* as an Emerging Multifamily Leader and appeared in the magazine's September issue.

Cosmo F. Terrigno '04 MA had his contract as headmaster of Woodland Country Day School extended through June 2018. At the end of his term, Terrigno will have served as headmaster for 14 years, earning him the distinction of the headmaster with the longest tenure throughout the school's 59-year history.

Beth L. Weisser '04 VLS was promoted to partner in Fox Rothschild's Litigation practice group in the firm's Philadelphia office.

Adam L. Fernandez '05 LLM was promoted to partner at Wisler Pearlstone.

Gregory W. Fox '05 VLS was promoted to partner at Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin.

Mariel J. Giletto '05 VLS joined the New Jersey law firm Parker McCay as chair of the Business and Corporate Department.

Robert Madayag III '05 VLS was promoted to partner at Lee & Hayes PLLC in the firm's Atlanta office.

Crystal Stine '05 CLAS, '06 MA has been named general editor at (in)courage publishing and event partnership with LifeWay, and is responsible for managing editorial content. Stine will lead the organization's first devotional publishing project.

Marissa Williams Barone '05 VSB and **Frank Barone '06 VSB** welcomed a boy.

Lt. Michael Erwin, USN, '06 COE and **Angelica Duran Erwin '07 CLAS** welcomed a boy.

Christopher C. Fallon III '06 VLS was promoted to partner in Fox Rothschild's Litigation practice group in the firm's Atlantic City office.

Evan J. Foster '06 VLS was promoted to partner at Saul Ewing.

Jim Gillin '06 VSB, '08 MBA welcomed a boy.

Joseph Gushue III '06 VLS was promoted to partner at Volpe and Koenig PC.

Nicole Halle Hakim '06 CON and **Christian Hakim '06 VSB, '07 MBA** welcomed a boy.

Danielle Ko '06 VSB, '07 MS and **Brian Gaspar '07 COE** welcomed a girl.

Lauren Murdza '06 VLS was promoted to partner at DLA Piper.

Priya Prakash Royal, Esq., '06 VLS and **Jeremy D. Royal '06 MA** welcomed a girl. Priya currently manages her law firm, the Royal Law Firm PLLC, in Washington, D.C., with offices in New York City and Philadelphia. Jeremy is a project manager at the Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C.

William G. Roark '06 VLS presented a Pennsylvania Bar Institute webinar regarding the proposed Pennsylvania Medical Cannabis Act.

Lauren P. Schulman '06 CLAS married Jeffrey Bullian.

Lauren W. Taylor '06 VLS was promoted to partner in Fox Rothschild's Real Estate practice group in the firm's Warrington, Pa., office.

Courtenay Dunn '07 VLS was awarded both the American Bar Association's Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity's Outstanding Liaison Award and the Young Lawyer's Division Liaison of the Year

Award for her work on behalf of LGBT social and legal equality.

Robert Pencek '07 COE graduated in May 2015 from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania with a master's degree in Finance.

Meaghan Petetti Londergan '07 VLS was promoted to partner at Freeman Mathis & Gary LLP.

Jeffrey S. Wagner '07 CLAS recently received the Rookie of the Year and President's Club awards for his role as business development manager in Los Angeles for Allergan's Facial Aesthetics division. Wagner also recently married Lori Soukis.

John F. Walko '07 VLS, of Hamburg, Ruben, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin, spoke at the Montgomery County (Pa.) Zoning Officers Association luncheon.

Michael P. Zanan '07 VLS was promoted to partner at Cozen O'Connor.

Oscar P. Abello '08 CLAS was announced as an Equitable Cities Fellow for Next City.

Bryan P. Franey '08 VLS participated in the Environmental Law Career Panel at the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law.

Joseph A. Iannuccilli '08 VSB was promoted to vice president, Business Development Officer in Asset Based Lending, for TD Bank.

James Ronan '08 MA authored the book *Living Dangerously: The Uncertainties of Presidential Disability and Succession*.

Eileen Salimbene '08 VLS was promoted to partner at Cozen O'Connor.

Sharon Timmel '08 CLAS has been named development manager for the New England Foundation for the Arts.

Stephen Bates '09 MBA is director, Advanced Analytics, for OSISoft, with a global focus on NATO, the Combatant Commands in Europe and Pacific, and the Corps of Engineers worldwide.








Meghan A. Kelly '09 VSB married **Daniel J. Davidson '08 VSB**.

Kathleen Murphy '09 CLAS, '12 VLS, an assistant district attorney for Kings County, N.Y., is prosecuting a gun trafficking case in which eight men and women from three states are charged in a 541-count indictment with conspiracy and other charges.

Rohan Udeshi '09 COE, '12 MS married Priya Turir.

Class Notes Publication Policy: Villanova University accepts submissions of news of professional achievements or personal milestones for inclusion in the Class Notes section of *Villanova Magazine*. Concise submissions can be emailed to alumni@villanova.edu; submitted to the online Class Notes at alumni.villanova.edu; or sent by mail to Kate Wechsler, Villanova Magazine, Alumni Office, Garey Hall, Villanova University, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085. Digital photos should be 300 dpi, JPEG or TIFF format, and at least 3 by 5 inches. (Please note that we are no longer accepting headshots.) *Villanova University reserves complete editorial rights to all content submitted for Class Notes, and posts and publishes listings in as timely a fashion as possible as space permits.* Reasonable steps are taken to verify the accuracy of the information submitted, but the University cannot guarantee the accuracy of all submissions. Publication of achievements or milestones does not constitute endorsement by Villanova University.

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FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16 GOAL

TOGETHER WE ARE **GREAT**

FOR THE GREATER GREAT™
THE VILLANOVA CAMPAIGN TO
IGNITE CHANGE

2010s

CLASS OF 2011
5th Reunion
June 9–12, 2016

Louis G. Fiorilla '10 VLS joined the law firm of Burr & Forman LLP.

Cristine Mikkelsen '10 VSB married **Brian Burns '10 VSB**.

Tara Powers '10 CLAS married **Charlie Gillespie '10 CLAS**.

Samantha Ronan '10 CLAS married Alec Bleday.

Max Stendahl '10 CLAS married **Meredith Davisson '10 VSB**.

Heather Zanon Fugazy '10 CLAS received her doctorate in Dental Surgery from New York University College of Dentistry. She recently married **William Fugazy '10 CLAS**.

Kristina Benza '11 CLAS, CEO of County Fabricators LLC, recently was announced a winner for the Milli Awards.

Colleen Caufield '11 CLAS married **Christopher Pack '10 CLAS**.

Lindsay Hanifan '11 VLS moderated the Eighth Annual Toby L. Dickman Seminar Oct. 20, 2015.

Meghan Price '11 CLAS, '15 VLS, assistant district attorney, was sworn in to the Delaware County District Attorney's Office in Pennsylvania.

Stephen J. Vitabile '11 CLAS, '14 VLS joined Hill Wallack LLP in Princeton, N.J., as an associate in the Trial and Insurance Defense and Community Associations practice groups.

Thomas M. Duncan '12 VLS participated in the Environmental Law Career Panel at the Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law.

Jessica Patch '12 VLS joined Hermes, Netburn, O'Connor & Spearing PC as an associate on the Asbestos and Product Liability team.

Justin H. Brown '13 LLM participated in the National Business Institute's conference "Estate Planning From A to Z."

Taylor Coon '13 VLS joined the law firm of Nutter McClennen and Fish LLP in Boston.

Laura DiFrancesco '13 VLS joined Stradley Ronon as an associate in the firm's Malvern, Pa., office.

Margaret Hattori-Uchima '13 PhD gave a podium presentation, "Chuukese Migrant Women in Guam: Perceptions of Barriers to Health Care," based on her Villanova Nursing dissertation research, at the Transcultural Nursing Society's Conference, held in Charleston, S.C., in October 2014. Dr. Hattori-Uchima is dean of the University of Guam School of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Bradley P. Lehman '13 VLS has joined Reger Rizzo & Darnall LLP as an associate in the firm's Wilmington, Del., office.

Arrthi Manohar '14 VLS has joined Martin Law.

Aaron Moore '14 CLAS, '15 MA recently launched a political consulting firm, Lexington Political Solutions.

Charlotte Ahern '15 CLAS is working as a full-time volunteer at Solve, in Hillsboro, Ore.

Mary Bianco '15 CLAS is a full-time volunteer with Jesuit Volunteer Corps and is working at United Against Human Trafficking in Houston.

Michelle Garofalo '15 CLAS is a full-time volunteer with Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest at the Downtown Emergency Service Center in Seattle.

Sarah Garwood '15 VSB is a full-time service volunteer at St. John's College High School in Belize City, Belize, with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Heather Hayes '15 VLS, assistant district attorney, was sworn in to the Delaware County (Pa.) District Attorney's office.

Brendan Krovatin '15 CLAS is working with Catholic Charities of Spokane in Spokane, Wash., through Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest.

Joe Lenz '15 CLAS is working with Jesuit Volunteer Corps at Xavier High School in Chuuk, Micronesia.

Tiffany R. Marini '15 VLS joined the Philadelphia office of Burns White.

Makenzie Miller '15 CON will be working as a registered nurse with the Augustinian Volunteers in Chicago.

Giovanna Nelkin '15 CLAS is volunteering at Ss. Peter and Paul Jesuit Warming Center in Detroit through Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Lilly Rizzo '15 CLAS is volunteering at Okanogan Behavioral HealthCare in Omak, Wash., through Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest.

Nicholas A. Vadino '15 VSB was selected by Citizens Bank for its Commercial Banker Development Program.

Kristin Williams '15 MA is volunteering with Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest at St. André Bessette Catholic Church in Portland, Ore.

In Memoriam

1930s

Frank P. Ermilio, MD, '38 CLAS, July 31, 2015.

Rene Cailliet, MD, '39 CLAS, March 14, 2015.

1940s

James E. Flood '41 COE, July 4, 2015.

The Rev. James E. Hannan, OSA, '41 CLAS, July 27, 2013.

Louis A. Schneider '41 COE, Aug. 24, 2015.

Thomas J. McKimney '42 CLAS, Oct. 8, 2015.

Samuel J. Burruano '43 COE, July 24, 2015.

Raymond F. Adams '45 COE, Oct. 8, 2015.

The Rev. James G. Ryan, OSA, '46 CLAS, April 29, 2015.

Edward L. Milde '47 VSB, Nov. 4, 2015.

The Rev. Robert E. Steinman, OSA, '47 CLAS, June 15, 2015.

Leonard G. Makowski '48 VSB, Aug. 10, 2015.

Carl J. Annas Jr. '49 VSB, Dec. 18, 2015.

Vincent P. Deasey '49 CLAS, Feb. 26, 2015.

Leo J. Dodd '49 COE, Dec. 31, 2015.

George J. Guida '49 CLAS, Sept. 7, 2015.

Thomas J. Myer Jr. '49 VSB, Sept. 9, 2015.

James J. O'Shea '49 COE, Oct. 25, 2015.

Harry J. Schmidt '49 VSB, July 16, 2015.

1950s

George H. Barnes '50 CLAS, Sept. 7, 2013.

Joseph T. Brogan Jr. '50 VSB, July 26, 2015.

William E. Caufield '50 COE, Aug. 6, 2015.

Wallace A. Dietrich '50 VSB, Dec. 5, 2015.

Eugene J. Feeney '50 COE, Sept. 23, 2015.

Edgar C. Le Blanc Jr. '50 CLAS, May 17, 2015.

The Rev. Neil J. McGettigan, OSA, '50 CLAS, Nov. 18, 2015.

John F. Currie '51 COE, Feb. 5, 2014.

Joseph F. Friend '51 CLAS, Jan. 1.

Charles E. Hemler Jr. '51 COE, Oct. 17, 2015.

David A. Hetzel '51 COE, April 13, 2015.

George J. Schuster '51 COE, Oct. 8, 2015.

John J. Fitzpatrick '52 VSB, June 24, 2015.

John J. Holland Jr. '52 VSB, July 27, 2015.

John J. Kelly '52 VSB, May 29, 2015.

John "Jack" Leahy '52 VSB, Nov. 6, 2015.

Harry J. Mason '52 VSB, July 8, 2015.

Ralph V. Robb '52 COE, June 30, 2015.

Brian A. Wummer, MD, '52 CLAS, May 19, 2015.

Francis M. Alter '53 VSB, June 29, 2015.

James H. Glavin '53 CLAS, Jan. 2.

Charles W. Keeler '53 VSB, Oct. 13, 2015.

Thomas L. Kennedy '53 CLAS, June 5, 2015.

C. Eugene McLaughlin '53 VSB, Nov. 23, 2015.

James J. Mooney '53 VSB, Oct. 29, 2015.

James J. O'Keefe '53 VSB, June 12, 2015.

C. Alan Rowe '53 CLAS, '68 MA, Nov. 5, 2015.

James D. Tomlin '53 VSB, May 28, 2015.

John Francis Fuoco '54 COE, June 28, 2015.

John F. "Jack" Gaffney '54 VSB, '57 VLS, Oct. 27, 2015.

Charles W. Gattas '54 VSB, May 11, 2015.

Francis P. Gehring '54 COE, May 21, 2015.

Joseph H. Kenney '54 CLAS, Dec. 13, 2015.

Silvestro F. Reali '54 VSB, Aug. 30, 2015.

Raymond Rigney '54 VSB, Sept. 9, 2015.

Thomas S. Farragher Jr. '55 VSB, Dec. 31, 2015.

The Rev. Joseph A. Jordan, OSA, '55 CLAS, '59 MA, Aug. 20, 2015.

James F. Malloy '55 COE, Oct. 17, 2015.

Joseph A. McLaughlin '55 CLAS, Nov. 27, 2015.

Joseph R. Sadowski '55 VSB, Oct. 16, 2015.

James Jim A. Sassa '55 VSB, Sept. 18, 2015.

Vincent R. Cahill '56 VSB, June 29, 2015.

Mary T. Christiansen '56 CON, Aug. 3, 2015.

Charles W. Gibley '56 CLAS, Oct. 25, 2015.

John C. McMenamin '56 VSB, Oct. 8, 2014.

John C. Murphy '56 VSB, July 5, 2015.

Paul P. Budniak '57 CLAS, June 13, 2015.

Dolores G. Donnell '57 CON, Oct. 21, 2015.

Michael J. Dougherty '57 VSB, Nov. 27, 2015.

PLAYWRIGHT ON THE RISE

Brie Knight '14 MA was selected as the winner of the third annual Sue Winge Playwriting Competition, a yearly playwriting competition for Villanova students, alumni, faculty and staff, for her play *Pancake Queen*. Knight's work was sparked by an assignment she received in a class taught by Professor Michael Hollinger '89 MA. The play was inspired by Nancy Green, a former slave who became the first model and spokesperson for Aunt Jemima brand syrup and pancake mix. "The support and belief in the Villanova Theatre Department and the University at large is so powerful and meaningful to me," says Knight, who has worked with a group of alumnae to launch the Philadelphia Women's Theatre Festival. A staged reading of her winning play will be held at Villanova this spring.



William H. Logan III '57 VSB, Oct. 25, 2015.

Henry F. Miller '57 COE, Oct. 15, 2015.

Richard "Dick" Schleicher '57 COE, Jan. 13.

William J. Byrnes '58 COE, July 3, 2015.

Paul J. Esling Jr. '58 COE, June 26, 2015.

Michael K. Flood '58 CLAS, June 3, 2015.

Raymond T. Macko '58 VSB, Aug. 28, 2014.

Louise C. Milloy '58 CON, Oct. 12, 2015.

Daniel A. Retacco '58 VSB, Sept. 14, 2015.

Paul W. Rombaut '58 COE, July 13, 2015.

John A. Severance '58 VSB, Sept. 18, 2015.

John E. Cahill '59 CLAS, May 14, 2015.

Paul L. Coppa '59 COE, Oct. 25, 2015.

Elizabeth S. Harding '59 CON, Jan. 7, 2015.

John G. Lindroth '59 CLAS, Aug. 16, 2015.

Thomas R. Marrero '59 MS, Dec. 2, 2015.

William R. McNerney '59 VSB, Dec. 1, 2015.

William J. Snow '59 VSB, April 3, 2015.



VILLANOVA LOSES A BELOVED COMMUNITY MEMBER

Stephen R. Merritt '78 CLAS, dean of Enrollment Management, passed away Nov. 11, 2015. A Villanovan since the 1970s and a staff member for 25 years, Merritt created personal connections with prospective students, welcoming many new Villanovans into the community. It was only one of the many contributions that Merritt made to the University during his career.

Merritt earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Villanova and returned in 1990 as director of Undergraduate Admission before assuming the role of dean of Enrollment Management, a position he held for 17 years.

Under his leadership as dean, financial assistance and student scholarship opportunities expanded significantly, and the services provided through the Office of the Registrar were dramatically upgraded. Villanova saw an increase in the talent and diversity of the undergraduate student population, which helped raise the national profile of the University. Merritt's legacy and impact on Villanova can be seen in the accomplishments of students from the Class of 1994, the first cohort of students he worked to recruit as director of Admission, through the incoming Class of 2020.

As dean of Enrollment Management, Merritt oversaw the offices of University Admission, Financial Assistance, University Outreach and the Registrar. However, his positive influence was felt far beyond those areas. Merritt was a key member of the community who provided wisdom and insight that helped guide many departments across the University, including his work with Student Life and University Advancement to establish the Parents Program at Villanova and as an integral member of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

"As an alumnus, employee and Villanova parent, Steve was committed to the University and its mission, and willingly gave of his time and expertise," says University President the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, '75 CLAS.

John R. Thompson '59 VSB, July 3, 2015.

1960s

Sister Dorothy D. Cotterell '60 MA, July 19, 2015.

James L. Jose '60 COE, Dec. 30, 2015.

William R. Menges '60 MS, Nov. 2, 2015.

Joseph M. Sullivan '60 VSB, July 28, 2015.

Alan B. Willig '60 CLAS, '65 MA, Sept. 26, 2015.

Robert G. Englebach '61 COE, May 14, 2015.

Francis J. Fajella '61 CLAS, Sept. 6, 2015.

Richard C. Jensen, Esq., '61 CLAS, Sept. 27, 2015.

Joseph S. Agolino '62 CLAS, July 3, 2015.

Catherine A. Casey '62 CON, Oct. 14, 2015.

John "Jack" Leasure '62 VSB, Dec. 25, 2013.

James A. McGrath '62 VSB, Sept. 25, 2015.

Joseph V. Romanelli '62 COE, May 5, 2015.

Sister Virginia Sampson (Sister Helen Lucy) '62 MA, Sept. 28, 2015.

Francis X. Cotterall '63 VSB, Nov. 15, 2015.

Sister Juliana Hazuda, RSM, '63 MA, Sept. 24, 2015.

Monsignor Joseph P. Herron '63 MA, August 18, 2015.

Peter T. O'Malley, Esq., '63 VLS, May 25, 2015.

Paul H. Rosedale '63 VSB, April 13, 2015.

Enrico J. Bovera '64 COE, Nov. 25, 2015.

Joseph A. Cortese '64 VSB, Aug. 16, 2015.

John E. Gastley '64 VSB, June 26, 2006.

Joseph A. Marinari '64 COE, '81 MS, May 14, 2015.

William H. Spanfelner '64 VSB, Nov. 26, 2014.

J. Norman "Norm" Ballantine '65 VSB, Oct. 18, 2015.

John C. Casey '65 CLAS, April 7, 2015.

Paul E. Cox '65 VSB, June 5, 2014.

Robert M. Strong '65 COE, July 7, 2015.

Henry A. Tate '65 CLAS, Aug. 11, 2015.

David H. Boyle '66 VSB, Dec. 4, 2015.

Daniel P. Casullo, DMD, '66 CLAS, Oct. 3, 2015.

Brian J. Dougherty '66 CLAS, Sept. 30, 2015.

Carol Egan McKeon '66 CON, March 14, 2014.

James R. Schleck '66 COE, July 3, 2015.

Maryann Snyder '66 MA, July 1, 2015.

Joseph M. Tobin '66 VSB, Dec. 19, 2014.

Peter J. Brown '67 VSB, Aug. 1, 2015.

Thomas E. Fromhartz '67 MA, Oct. 4, 2015.

Sister M. Anne Patricia Mullen '67 MA, Aug. 9, 2015.

Nicholas D. Remy '67 COE, April 30, 2015.

Laurence D. Taylor '67 COE, Oct. 2, 2015.

Joseph F. Yatzyn '67 COE, Aug. 18, 2015.

James S. Neary '68 CLAS, Oct. 19, 2015.

Kevin T. Smith '68 VSB, Aug. 17, 2015.

Ronald S. Stadelmeyer '68 COE, Jan. 16, 2015.

Lawrence A. DiSipio '69 CLAS, '72 VLS, July 31, 2015.

Paul C. Espel '69 CLAS, Dec. 7, 2015.

Paul E. Gallagher '69 VSB, July 6, 2014.

Johnny Jones '69 CLAS, Sept. 2, 2015.

Thomas L. Reed '69 COE, June 8, 2015.

Wayne A. Wiggins '69 VSB, Oct. 30, 2015.

1970s

Thomas J. Cahill '70 COE, '78 MS, May 26, 2015.

Joseph T. Hess '70 VSB, May 30, 2015.

Stanley L. Lawrynowicz '70 CLAS, July 30, 2015.

The Rev. Rick Curry, SJ, '71 MA, Dec. 19, 2015.

Charles J. D'Agostini '71 CLAS, Oct. 10, 2015.

James L. Fay '71 CLAS, Nov. 19, 2015.

Joseph J. Hughes '71 MA, Dec. 24, 2015.

Michael D. Mahoney '71 CLAS, July 16, 2015.

Joseph J. Santoro '71 CLAS, Nov. 23, 2015.

Alice R. Beltz '72 MS, Oct. 27, 2015.

Calvin S. Crawford '72 CLAS, Dec. 9, 2015.

The Rev. Charles J. Faul '72 CLAS, Sept. 29, 2015.

Sister Marie Suzanne Friel, RSM, '72 MA, Dec. 4, 2014.

John P. Gillin '72 VSB, June 7, 2015.

Stephen M. Hazel '72 CLAS, May 17, 2015.

Harry B. Lamb '72 VSB, April 11, 2014.

Lee J. McFadden '72 MS, May 27, 2015.

John M. Russell '72 MS, Dec. 23, 2015.

Brian J. Douglas '73 CLAS, Nov. 29, 2015.

Thomas F. Fetterman '73 COE, Aug. 23, 2015.

Sister Marian Ingellis, MPF, '73 MA, Oct. 29, 2015.

Ronald V. Letko '73 CLAS, Oct. 11, 2015.

Anthony F. Dreisbach '74 COE, '77 MS, Nov. 13, 2015.

Ethel M. Jensen '74 MA, Nov. 5, 2015.

Terrence L. Carlin '75 VSB, Nov. 16, 2015.

Walter F. Greenfield '75 VSB, Feb. 10, 2015.

Leo T. Kabatt Jr. '75 VSB, Aug. 6, 2015.

Thomas F. Kopach '75 MA, April 8, 2015.

James J. Clossick '76 MA, Nov. 29, 2015.

Charles P. Collins '76 COE, July 25, 2015.

Brother Blase G. Corso '76 MS, Nov. 24, 2015.

Ted Moore '76 VSB, Oct. 10, 2015.

John T. Petras '76 CLAS, June 12, 2015.

John B. Rankin '76 MS, Nov. 7, 2015.

Febere Williams '76 MS, Feb. 12, 2015.

Warren Marty Bowden '77 MA, Aug. 14, 2015.

Clayton C. Hayden '77 CLAS, Oct. 1, 2015.

David K. Ricciardi '77 VSB, Aug. 1, 2015.

William Van Belle '77 COE, Dec. 16, 2014.

Mark M. Cordes '78 VSB, July 24, 2015.

John E. Sullivan '78 VSB, March 11, 2015.

Lynn G. Zeitlin '78 VLS, Sept. 10, 2015.

Sister Bernadette Washy '79 MS, Aug. 22, 2015.

1980s

Shirley L. Boasmond '80 MA, Nov. 17, 2014.

Brian F. McNamee '80 CLAS, Dec. 23, 2015.

Steven M. Clevenger '81 MA, Dec. 6, 2015.

Jane Francis Geary '81 VSB, Dec. 2, 2015.

Susan Gilpin '81 MA, Sept. 19, 2015.

George L. Kaercher '81 COE, Sept. 8, 2015.

Booker T. Amerson '82 MS, July 13, 2015.

Sister M. Josene Harowicz '83 MA, Dec. 5, 2015.

John F. Freeman Sr. '84 CLAS, Nov. 7, 2015.

Sister Catherine R. Platt '84 CLAS, Nov. 18, 2015.

Laura Maykish Sheehan '85 VSB, July 31, 2015.

Michael R. Donohue '86 VSB, Nov. 11, 2015.

Linda Piccoli Ruttenger '86 VSB, March 24, 2013.

Leonard J. Diana Jr. '88 VSB, June 7, 2015.

Laura Pizolato Nolte '88 CLAS, Sept. 20, 2015.

Joseph E. Cabbage '89 COE, Dec. 21, 2015.

Kevin B. Fynes '89 CLAS, Nov. 23, 2015.

1990s

Richard P. Doran Sr. '91 COE, Oct. 8, 2015.

Gerald P. Haley '91 VSB, May 10, 2010.

Elizabeth H. Martin '91 MS, Nov. 17, 2015.

Joseph Genuardi '92 VSB, Sept. 23, 2015.

David H. Hajek, Esq., '92 VSB, June 19, 2015.

Carolyn M. McCormack '94 CLAS, Dec. 7, 2014.

Carrie Mace Forsythe '98 CLAS, '04 MS, Oct. 1, 2015.

2000s

Karen S. Naylor '00 MA, Nov. 28, 2015.

Kevin P. White '00 VSB, Dec. 14, 2015.

Brian J. Kadunc '02 VSB, Sept. 12, 2015.

2010s

Jessica A. Rose '11 CLAS, Oct. 9, 2015.

John W. Murray '13 MA, Nov. 22, 2015.

Faculty & Staff

Lucien Roland Roy, Dec. 28, 2015.

Jean Louis Heck, PhD, Feb. 5.

ALEX MARTINS

Alex Martins '86 VSB, president and CEO of the NBA's Orlando Magic, talks to Villanova Magazine about how the alma mater he loves and supports tipped off his career.

What is your role with the Magic?

I'm responsible for the company's 215 employees, and I oversee operation of the entire organization, on both the basketball and the business sides. That includes everything from ticket sales and season-ticket services to corporate partnerships, business strategy and basketball operations.

What are your major accomplishments?

From a competitive standpoint, I'm proud that we went from inception of the team to the NBA finals at one of the fastest paces in NBA history. For a young organization to reach the NBA finals in 1995 after just six years and to have reached that pinnacle again in 2009 is quite an accomplishment. From a business perspective, we oversaw the approval, design and construction of the Amway Center, a new, state-of-the-art arena that opened in 2010. It was a significant, community-wide effort.

Why Villanova?

I chose Villanova because of the reputation of the business school, but I didn't know exactly what career I wanted to pursue in the business field. The University had a bigger role in my career than I could have anticipated. I had a work-study job in the Athletic Department's information office all four years at Villanova. I was working there in 1985 when Villanova won the national basketball championship. The experience of working closely with the staff in the information office during that exciting time opened my eyes to a potential career in sports.

How did Villanova help your career?

After graduation, Dave Coskey, a former member of the Athletic Department office who was then working for the Philadelphia 76ers, hired me to work part time for that organization. While there, I met Pat Williams, who was the general manager of the 76ers at the time. He ultimately went to Orlando to secure a new NBA franchise, and he invited me to interview for a job as the director of Publicity and Media Relations. I got the job, and that launched my career. In addition, the core values that I learned at Villanova have carried through the rest of my life, personally and professionally. I use principles of truth and integrity to guide my everyday business activities and decisions.

Why do you stay so involved with Villanova?

I owe a debt of gratitude to the University that gave me so much opportunity and opened the door for my career in professional sports. If it were not for the outstanding business education and the opportunity to work in the Athletic Department while I was there, I would not be sitting in the seat of responsibility that I am in today. ■



SNAPSHOT

A native of Kearny, N.J., Alex Martins has been in professional sports management for 27 years, spending most of that time with the Orlando Magic. He and his wife, Juliet, have two daughters, Sophia and Gabrielle.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Was a member of the staff that established the Magic franchise in 1989 and, at age 25, was the youngest public relations director then in the NBA; helped launch a minor league hockey team and a WNBA team; worked for the NFL's Cleveland Browns and the NBA's New Orleans Hornets (now Pelicans)

EDUCATION

Bachelor's in Business Administration from Villanova; MBA from the University of Central Florida

INVOLVEMENT AS VILLANOVA ALUMNUS

Member of the President's Club and the Athletic Campaign Committee; supporter of For the Greater Great®: The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change

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- Charlotte and James V. O'Donnell '63 Center for Professional Development
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