Founder’s Day

March 25, 2009

William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center
Founder's Day

March 25, 2009

William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center
2009 Recipients

45 Years
Douglas J. Bohn, M.S.
Senior Research Associate
Institutional Research

40 Years
Edward G. Donato, M.A.
Adjunct Associate Professor of History
College of Arts & Sciences
Paul Siff, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of History
College of Arts & Sciences

35 Years
Roberta L. Staples, Ph.D.
Professor of English
College of Arts & Sciences
Albert Wakin, C.A.S.
Instructor of Psychology
College of Arts & Sciences

30 Years
Sandra Honda, M.S.
Associate Professor of Computer Science
College of Arts & Sciences
Kathleen O. Kingston, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Mathematics
College of Arts & Sciences
Robin McAllister, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of English
College of Arts & Sciences
Jacqueline T. Rinaldi, Ph.D.
Director, Jandrisevits Learning Center
Adjunct Professor of English
College of Arts & Sciences
Julie B. Savino, M.A.T.
Dean of University Financial Assistance
Mary Ann Valovcin, M.S.
Adjunct Associate Professor of English
College of Arts & Sciences

25 Years
Ralph Lim, M.B.A.
Interim Dean, John F. Welch College of Business
Associate Professor of Economics and Finance

20 Years
James M. Barquinero, M.S.
Vice President for Enrollment Planning and Student Affairs
Joel W. Block, Ed.D.
Visiting Assistant Professor of Physics
College of Arts & Sciences
Susan J. Kanuch, A.A.
Academic Department Assistant
John F. Welch College of Business
Rosemary G. Lague, C.A.S.
Adjunct Associate Professor of English
College of Arts & Sciences
Michael D. Larobina, J.D., LL.M.
Associate Professor of Management
John F. Welch College of Business
Elizabeth Luckie, B.S.
Director of Divisional Budgets
Enrollment Planning & Student Affairs
Co-Head Softball Coach
Paul K. Madonna, Ed.D., J.D.
Visiting Professor of Government and Politics
College of Arts & Sciences
Julianne Pavia
Program Assistant
College of Education & Health Professions
Carylanne Rice-Ehalt, M.Ed.
Director, Upward Bound
Diana G. Varay
Administrative Secretary
Residential Life
15 Years

Eid A. Alkhatib, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Chemistry
College of Arts & Sciences

Jill E. Angotta, M.S.
Director of Special Services
Jandrisevits Learning Center

Andrew J. Bramante, M.S.
Adjunct Instructor of Chemistry
College of Arts & Sciences

Daniel S. Christianson, Ed.D.
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Education
College of Education & Health Professions

Addlie E. Dennis-Manson
Manager, Public Safety

Michael J. Emery, Ed.D.
Professor and Chair, Physical Therapy & Human Movement, Associate Dean of the College of Education & Health Professions

Arthur T. Gerckens, B.S.
Manager, Mail and Duplicating Services

Michael J. Guastelle, M.Ed.
Senior Associate Athletic Director & Head Women's Tennis Coach
Athletics – Intercollegiate

John J. Halapin, C.A.S.
Adjunct Instructor of Education
College of Education & Health Professions

Dolores L. Jennings
Office Manager, Stamford Campus

Ann D. Kelly, M.B.A.
Business Unit Manager
Information Technology

Paul A. Litwinovich
Chief Engineer, WSHU

Scott M. Lupo, B.S.
Assistant Supervisor, Public Safety

Ann M. Miron, A.S.
Director of Corporate & Community Relations
Institutional Advancement

Pilar Munday, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Modern Foreign Languages
College of Arts & Sciences

Stephanie J. Neborsky, C.A.S.
Adjunct Instructor of Education
Griswold Campus
College of Education & Health Professions

Phani Papachristos, M.S.
Instructor of Mathematics
College of Arts & Sciences

Michele R. Peloso, B.A.
Assistant to the Dean
Alumni & Community Relations Coordinator
College of Education & Health Professions

Jeffrey P. Pietrangeli, M.A.T.
Assistant Dean of University Student Financial Assistance

Stephen E. Rubin, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Education
College of Education & Health Professions

Mary Trefry, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Management
John F. Welch College of Business

Keith L. Tucker, B.A.
Director, Student Financial Assistance, Loan Coordinator

Ebong U. Udoma, B.A.
Senior Reporter, WSHU

Joe Utterback, D.M.A.
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Music
College of Arts & Sciences
Program

Master of Ceremonies
Robert M. Hardy, M.A.
Vice President for Human Resources

Tribute to Faculty & Staff
4 Heart Harmony
John Michniewicz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Music
Director of the Academic Music Program

Congratulatory Remarks
Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D.
President

Honoring of Service Award Recipients
Robert M. Hardy, M.A.

Closing Prayer

Faculty & Staff Award Recipients

Eid A. Alkhatib, Ph.D.
Associate Professor Eid Alkhatib founded and directed the environmental science program. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in general and environmental chemistry, instrumental analysis and experimental design in addition to coordinating the general chemistry classes and labs. His involvement with his students in environmental chemistry has produced several publications in peer-reviewed journals. He earned his Ph.D. in environmental engineering from the University of Rhode Island.

Jill E. Angotta, M.S.
The University’s first director of special services, Jill Angotta joined Sacred Heart as an adjunct instructor of English at the old Stamford campus. She oversees services for 269 undergraduate and graduate students, both full- and part-time, who have documented disabilities. These conditions cover a broad spectrum including hearing impairment, learning disabilities and bi-polar disorder. She holds a Master of Science degree in education from the University of Bridgeport.
Andrew J. Bramante, M.S.
Andrew Bramante is an adjunct instructor in chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences. Professionally, he has been an infrared spectroscopist, a nuclear magnetic resonance scientist, and a fluorescence applications specialist. An educator at Greenwich High School, he has also taught at Bernard Baruch College. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in chemistry from Fordham University.

Daniel S. Christianson, Ed.D.
Daniel Christianson came to Sacred Heart as a full-time assistant professor of education after 35 years in the public schools, including 25 as a Westport middle school principal. For 10 years, he taught, supervised student teachers, and worked in the internship program. He earned his Ed.D. in educational administration from Teachers College at Columbia University. Today, as an adjunct professor of education, he continues to supervise student teachers and lead the student teaching seminar. He also helps conduct admissions reviews for graduate applicants.

Addlie E. Dennis-Manson
Manager of Public Safety Addlie Dennis-Manson began her SHU service as a public safety officer and dispatcher. She assists the director with administrative and operational duties and manages and implements safety and security functions for the University community. A candidate for a degree in sociology, she is an advocate for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Michael J. Emery, Ed.D.
Professor and chair of the Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences Department Michael Emery is associate dean of the College of Education and Health Professions. He earned his Doctor of Education degree from the University of Vermont. He assists faculty of the college with grant applications, clinical practice, and faculty development and advises the Council of Graduate Students.
Arthur T. Gerckens, B.S.
Art Gerckens earned his bachelor's in English from Sacred Heart University, where he is manager of the mail and duplicating center. He joined SHU as a public safety officer. He oversees all incoming and outgoing mail for the University as well as its duplicating services and satellite copiers. He is also the president of the Association of College and University Mail Services and industry co-chair of the Fairfield County Postal Customer Council among other professional duties.

Michael J. Guastelle, M. Ed.
Senior Associate Athletic Director and Head Women's Tennis Coach Mike Guastelle earned his bachelor's in sports management and his master's in athletic administration from Springfield College. He oversees the day-to-day operations of the department and its teams and has direct supervision of 10 men's athletic programs. He was named 1997 Coach of the Year and has led the men's and women's tennis teams to championship play. The women's team has been an ITA All-Academic Team for seven straight years.

John J. Halapin, C.A.S.
John Halapin, an adjunct instructor in the Isabelle Farrington School of Education, teaches both undergraduate and graduate students. He specializes in computers in education, both online and in the classroom. He has worked with others in the education department to develop and enhance such courses. With his brother Bob Halapin, he is working on a book tentatively titled Why Some Dyslexics Still Can't Read.

Dolores L. Jennings
As office manager for the Stamford campus, Dolores Jennings manages the daily operation of this satellite, directing room schedules and the room rental program and coordinating special events. A one-time secretary at the Stamford campus, she is also involved in the University's Center for Financial Education.
Ann D. Kelly, M.B.A.
Business Unit Manager for the Information Technology Department Ann D. Kelly joined the University as an administrative assistant. She earned her Master of Business Administration degree from Sacred Heart in 2001. She assists in the management and control of the operating and capital budgets within IT. She also provides an internal control function, assuring compliance with all University requirements regarding control of resources, records, and accountability.

Paul A. Litwinovich
WSHU Public Radio’s Chief Engineer Paul Litwinovich spent 12 years in the telecommunications power supply industry as a design engineer before joining the WSHU staff on a part-time basis. He has been responsible for developing WSHU’s physical plant from a single-station facility to a three-station multi-studio group with 10 transmitter sites. He helped create the station’s important web presence and is certified by the Board of National Radio Examiners and holds an FCC commercial radio license.

Scott M. Lupo, B.S.
Initially a part-time dispatcher at Sacred Heart, Scott Lupo earned his B.S. in criminal justice from the University of New Haven. He is an assistant supervisor in the Public Safety Department. As a certified EMT, he has responded to numerous emergencies on campus. In compliance with the Clery Act, he produces a yearly public safety handbook and has created guides for campus fire safety and other emergencies. He is a member of the University’s Alcohol and Other Drugs Coalition to curb at-risk behavior.

Ann M. Miron, A.S.
Ann Miron came to Sacred Heart as a public relations assistant. As director of corporate and community relations, she helps to market the University’s mission locally and regionally and to advance Sacred Heart’s relationships in the community. An A.S. graduate of Charter Oak State College, she is a principal liaison with the state’s elected officials. She has a well known leadership role each year in putting on major Sacred Heart events such as the Discovery Dinner, the Founder’s Day ceremony, and the Pioneer Open.
Pilar Munday, Ph.D.
Pilar Munday joined Sacred Heart as an instructor; today, she is an associate professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages in the College of Arts and Sciences. She earned her Ph.D. at New York University. Among numerous milestones, she coordinated the Spanish language program for a decade; started the study abroad option in Granada, Spain; and was an advisor for La Hispanidad. She is the author of 30 Days to Great Spanish and co-author of 2000+ Essential Spanish Verbs.

Stephanie J. Neborsky, C.A.S.
Stephanie Neborsky is an adjunct instructor at the Griswold campus of the Isabelle Farrington School of Education. She is a graduate of Sacred Heart and of Eastern Connecticut State University and is a fourth grade teacher at Canterbury Elementary School, where she is also a cooperating instructor for student teachers. A state finalist for Teacher of the Year, she has been an educator for 37 years and co-teaches Sunday school with her husband. At Sacred Heart, she specializes in children’s literature and language arts.

Phani Papachristos, M.S.
Mathematics instructor and academic advisor Phani Papachristos holds bachelor's and master's degrees in math, both from Southern Connecticut State University. She joined Sacred Heart as an adjunct instructor. She is assistant coordinator of the University’s math lab, supervises peer tutors, plans schedules, and teaches several math workshops. She also tutors physically and mentally challenged students and is an academic advisor for freshman nursing students.

Michele R. Peloso, B.A.
Michele Peloso earned her bachelor’s degree from Sacred Heart University. She is the administrative assistant to the dean of the College of Education and Health Professions and is the alumni and community relations coordinator for the college. She was initially the administrative assistant to the vice president of public affairs. In addition to managing the dean’s office, she is the liaison to a number of persons and agencies within the campus community. She also builds relationships with college alumni and with numerous clinical partners. Among other duties, she is working closely with the American Red Cross to develop CPR courses for students, alumni and others.
Jeffrey P. Pietrangeli, M.A.T.
Jeff Pietrangeli joined Sacred Heart as a student accounts cashier. He currently serves as the assistant dean of undergraduate student financial assistance. He earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry and his master's in teaching from Sacred Heart. He supervises the awarding of aid to undergraduates in their sophomore through senior years.

Stephen E. Rubin, Ph.D.
Stephen Rubin is a graduate of New York University, City University of New York, and Brooklyn College from which he earned a bachelor's, two master's and a Ph.D. He is an associate professor in the Isabelle Farrington School of Education, director of its Educational Leadership & Administration program and a certification officer. He works to develop and direct educational leadership efforts, including the accelerated weekend programs, and he is a director of the certificate of advanced study in administration. SHU's Educational Leadership Program certifies more candidates for state licensure than any other university in the state, and administrator candidates score higher on state exams than those in any other school.

Mary Trefry, Ph.D.
Mary Trefry earned her Ph.D. in organization psychology at Columbia University and joined Sacred Heart as an adjunct instructor in the MBA program. She is an associate professor and chair of the Management Department. She received the University's Discovery Award in 2000 and the Council of Graduate Students Leadership Award in 2003. She also won the SHU Teaching Excellence Award the following year. She has served as SHU's MBA director and the academic liaison for the MBA program in Luxembourg, where she usually teaches one course a year.

Keith L. Tucker, B.A.
Keith Tucker is the University's director of student financial assistance and loan coordinator. He earned his associate's in accounting from Johnson & Wales College and his bachelor's degree in Spanish from Sacred Heart. He began his service here as a credit collections manager. He processes all federal and private student loans for the University and speaks to present and incoming parents at orientations. In addition, he counsels students on their borrowing options and their responsibilities.
Ebong U. Udoma, B.A.

Ebong Udoma is the Connecticut State Capital reporter at WSHU Public Radio. He earned his bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Bridgeport. He has covered state politics for many years. His reports have included famous corruption trials, Connecticut’s part in three presidential elections, and state legislative issues. As part of NPR’s diversity initiative, he worked the national news desk in Washington. He has received honors from the Connecticut Associated Press and the Society of Professional Journalists.

Joe Utterback, D.M.A.

A native of Kansas, Joe Utterback received his undergraduate and graduate degrees in piano performance at Wichita State University and his doctorate in musical arts from the University of Kansas. He is an adjunct assistant professor of music in the College of Arts and Sciences. He serves as the director of music and is the organist and choirmaster at the Stratford Congregational Church. He has published and recorded hundreds of works and has received American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers honors annually since 1991. His musical venues have included Harvard University, St. Patrick’s Cathedral, and the lobby of the Empire State Building.

James M. Barquinero, M.S.

Jim Barquinero joined the University in 1989. As vice president for Enrollment Planning and Student Affairs, he oversees nine departments. Under his leadership, the University’s enrollment has more than doubled while admissions standards have significantly increased. In the early 1990s, he spearheaded the planning and implementation of the residential life program which has become a key factor in attracting and retaining students. He led the feasibility study yielding the transition of the University’s intercollegiate athletic program to Division I and the subsequent expansion of the program to one of the largest Division I programs in the nation with 31 varsity sports. Passionate about the “SHU Brand,” he continuously seeks opportunities large and small to promote it: from logos, sweatshirts and banners to successful efforts at improving the University’s external rankings and third-party endorsements. He earned his bachelor’s degree in economics and business from St. Anselm College and a master’s degree in human services administration from Antioch University.
Joel W. Block, Ed.D.
A visiting assistant professor of physics in the College of Arts and Sciences, Joel Block is an alumnus of The Citadel. He earned degrees from Southern Connecticut State University and Wesleyan University and his Doctor of Education degree from the City University of Los Angeles. His teaching interests include astronomy, tropical ecology, and geology. Other courses include Science and the Bible, and the Human Community and Scientific Discovery for the Core Curriculum.

Susan J. Kanuch, A.A.
Sue Kanuch is the academic department assistant for management in the John F. Welch College of Business. She earned her associate in arts degree from Sacred Heart University. Initially a student accounts representative, she supports the management, marketing and sport management faculty as well as adjunct faculty, and she is responsible for the annual induction of business students into the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society.

Rosemary G. Lague, C.A.S.
Rosemary Lague is a graduate of Boston College and Trinity College, where she earned her master’s degree and her sixth year certificate. She is an adjunct associate professor of English in the College of Arts and Sciences. She teaches in the Core Curriculum.

Michael D. Larobina, J.D., LL.M.
Michael Larobina teaches both undergraduate and graduate students as an associate professor of management at the John F. Welch College of Business. He is a graduate of both the University of Bridgeport and Fordham University, and he holds both a juris doctor degree and a master’s of law. He teaches domestic and international business law. He formerly chaired the Management Department, and he is now the chair of the University Academic Assembly’s faculty affairs committee.
Elizabeth Luckie, B.S.
Elizabeth “Bippie” Luckie is director of budgets for Enrollment Planning and Student Affairs and co-head coach of the softball team. She is a graduate of Sacred Heart and was initially an assistant athletic director and head softball and volleyball coach.

Paul K. Madonna, Ed.D., J.D.
Paul Madonna is a visiting professor of politics and government in the College of Arts and Sciences and retired vice president for finance and administration. He earned his doctoral degree from the Teachers College at Columbia University and his juris doctor degree from the Touro Law College. He has been active in the University’s master plan and construction projects, its laptop and technology programs, and in financial growth and planning.

Julianne Pavia
Julianne Pavia is a program assistant in the Physical Therapy Department. She joined the Sacred Heart staff on a part-time-basis in the Political Science Department. Today, she assists Dr. Michael Emery in managing the financial accounts and coordinating all purchases and payments for the Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sports Science programs. She provides administrative support to faculty, staff and graduate students and assists both the Student Physical Therapy Association and the Council of Graduate Students.

Carylanne Rice-Ehalt, M.Ed.
Carylanne Rice-Ehalt has served as director of Sacred Heart University’s Upward Bound program for 20 years. She has served more than 1,300 students and family members and received close to four million dollars in continuous federal funding. She holds an M.Ed. in counseling consultation from Keene State University and a multi-field bachelor’s degree from Central Connecticut State University. Upward Bound works to provide a productive educational outreach program that focuses on academics, personal counseling, cultural enrichment, college selection and retention for disadvantaged and at-risk Bridgeport high school students.
Diana G. Varay
Initially a part-time secretary, Diana Varay is an administrative secretary in the Residential Life office, where she provides support for four professionals, six graduate assistants and more than 70 undergraduate paraprofessionals. She is also closely involved with student housing assignments and fields numerous inquiries from parents, students and outside parties concerning residential life.

Ralph Lim, M.B.A.
Ralph Lim, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business, recently served as interim dean of the John F. Welch College of Business. He is an assistant professor of economics and finance and was an officer and president of the University Academic Assembly.

Sandra Honda, M.S.
Sandra Honda is an associate professor in computer science in the College of Arts and Sciences. She earned her master's degree in computer and information science from the University of Hawaii. She teaches undergraduates and graduates, advises students, leads workshops, presents at conferences, and helps with student employment efforts.

Kathleen O. Kingston, Ph.D.
An assistant professor of mathematics in the College of Arts and Sciences, Kathleen Kingston joined Sacred Heart University as an adjunct instructor. She earned her doctorate in pure and applied mathematics from the Stevens Institute of Technology.
Robin McAllister, Ph.D.
An associate professor of English, Robin McAllister earned his Ph.D. in comparative literature at Princeton University. He joined Sacred Heart as an adjunct professor of basic studies and is today an associate professor of English in the College of Arts and Sciences. He specializes in literature and writing.

Jacqueline T. Rinaldi, Ph.D.
Jackie Rinaldi began her service to SHU as an adjunct instructor in the basic studies program. As the director of the University’s Jandrisevits Learning Center, she oversees faculty tutoring efforts, the Classroom Learning Assistants (CLA) program, and the online program for writing assistance. She earned a Ph.D. in English from the University of Connecticut and has published her work in several journals. She has presented numerous papers nationally and internationally. She teaches academic writing and literary expressions of the human journey and specializes in writing dealing with the narratives of illness.

Julie B. Savino, M.A.T.
Dean of University Financial Assistance Julie Savino joined Sacred Heart as assistant director of financial aid. Twice an alumna of Sacred Heart, where she earned her bachelor’s in accounting and her master’s in teaching, she coordinates all functions of the Office of Student Financial Assistance, managing $87.5 million in aid and an applicant base of 11,000. Among numerous honors have been the Bunny Calabrese Outstanding Commitment and the Joseph Grau Outstanding Service awards from Sacred Heart.

Roberta L. Staples, Ph.D.
Initially an adjunct instructor for the University, Roberta Staples earned her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She is an academic advisor and professor of English in the College of Arts and Sciences. She helped create the Common Core English course. Named a Davis Fellow, she worked to integrate the teaching of the disciplines involved in the Core. She has taught courses ranging from the Arthurian legends to Tolkien, from drama to fantasy.
Albert Wakin, C.A.S.
An instructor of psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences, Albert Wakin worked in public education for 30 years and also taught in graduate programs at the University of Bridgeport and Southern Connecticut State University for 16 years. He earned an M.S. and a C.A.S. from Fairfield University and SCSU respectively. He is a College of Arts and Sciences liaison to University College and to the Isabelle Farrington School of Education.

Edward G. Donato, M.A.
An adjunct associate professor of history in the College of Arts and Sciences, Ed Donato earned his master's degree in history from Providence College and joined the history faculty here before eventually becoming associate dean of University College. He was an advisor to part-time students, evaluated transfer credits, and crafted plans of study. As the advisor to the University College Council, he managed the Life Work Experience Portfolio process and devised schedules for numerous University College programs.

Paul Siff, Ph.D.
A doctoral graduate from the University of Rochester, Paul Siff is an associate professor of history in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Douglas J. Bohn, M.S.
Doug Bohn is a master's alumnus of Marquette University and a doctoral alumnus of Sacred Heart University, where he received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 2007. Initially a math instructor at SHU, he was a mathematics professor for seven years and the University registrar for 36 years and assistant vice president for Academic Affairs. He "retired" in 2007 and is now an assistant in Institutional Research, where he knows as much about the University's mission and history as any of the computers.
Alma Mater

1. Hail to thee, our Alma Mater, Pioneers are we.
2. Alma Mater, grant us wisdom, Heart and mind renew.

1. Sacred Heart's proud sons and daughters Stand in unity.
2. Love and Truth, her guiding vision. Hail to S-H-U.

CHORUS

Swell the chorus, praise her glory, On our fields and in these halls.

Loyal hearts proclaim her story, Red and White o'er all.

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