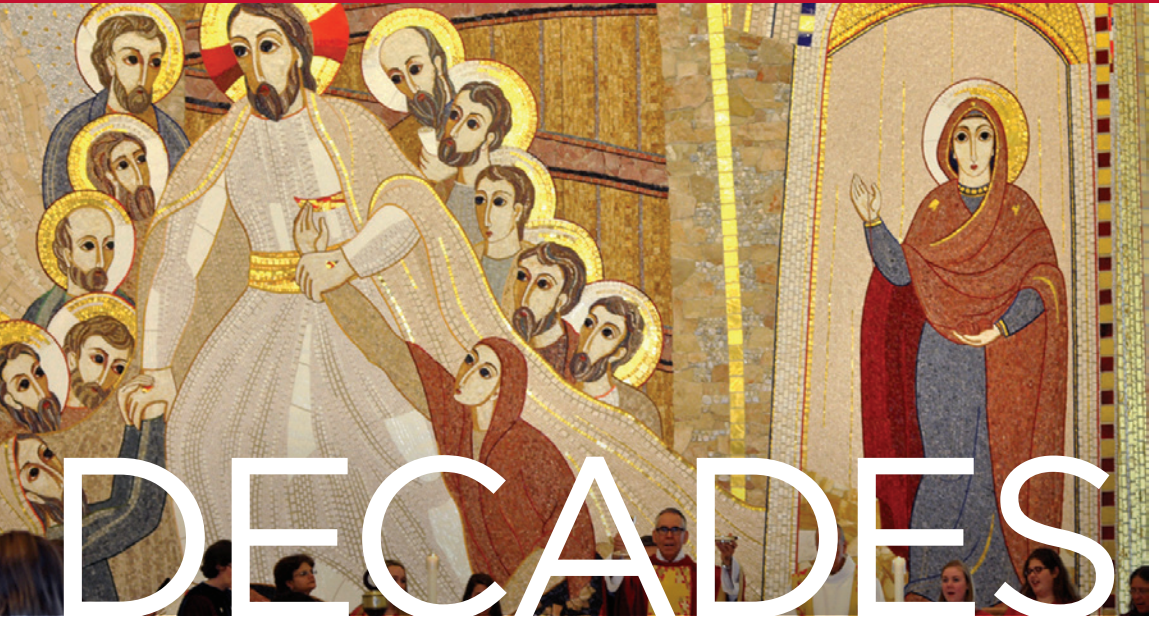
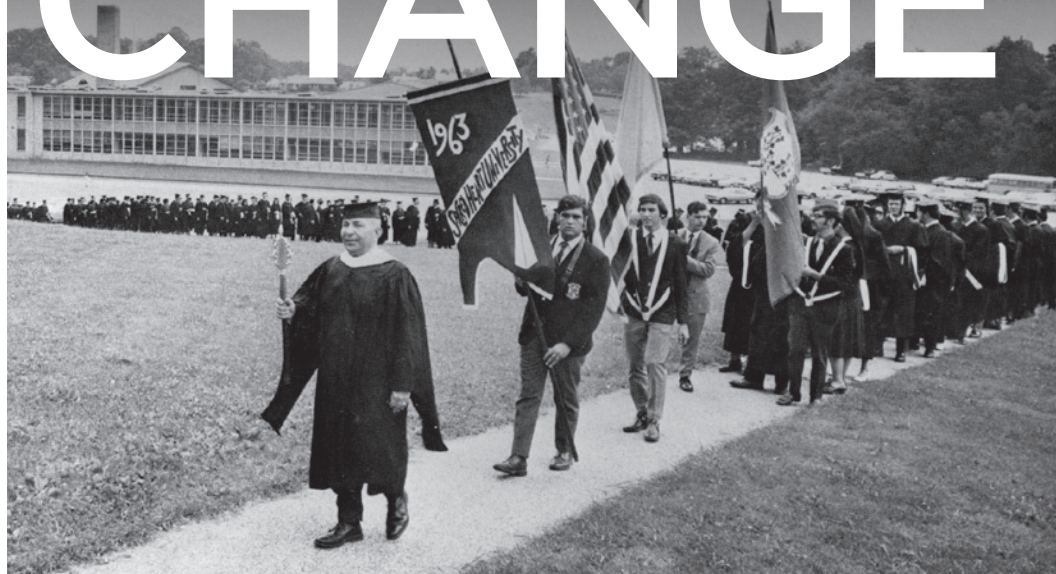


# Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2014 :: IN THIS ISSUE :: 02 FROM THE HEART 08 THEN & NOW 14 ALUMNI BY DECADES 28 LORIS: CT PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR



## DECADES OF CHANGE



50 *never looked*  
SO GOOD



:: FROM THE PRESIDENT :: IN HIS WORDS ::



*There are pages filled with the accomplishments of our esteemed faculty—whether they are receiving awards and grants or publishing books—and our talented, creative and generous students.*

This is the second of three issues commemorating the 50th anniversary of our University. As we head toward graduation, I continue to encourage you to join the celebration—both through the stories and photos inside this issue and by coming to campus for one (or more) of the events we have planned to celebrate this exciting milestone. You can find the list of events at <http://www.sacredheart.edu/50thcalendar>.

Inside this issue, you will find a pictorial entitled “Then & Now” that shows the many ways the University has changed since it opened in 1963. There is also a feature on the current activities of some of the alumni who have graduated in each of the past five decades, as well as a story on the Croffy family—a legacy family that has sent generations of students to Sacred Heart.

It’s not all about the past, however. We have exciting things to celebrate in the present as well. For example, Michelle Loris, professor of English and psychology, was named Connecticut Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. She was selected from more than 350 top professors in the United States. You will also see a page on the football team’s NEC championship. And we awarded an honorary doctorate to Rabbi Abraham Skorka,



Sacred Heart  
UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1963-2013

author, teacher, biophysicist and confidant to Pope Francis, at a special academic convocation and a posthumous doctorate to President Emeritus Thomas Melady during a special memorial Mass in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

These are some of the highlights you will find in this issue. There are pages filled with the accomplishments of our esteemed faculty—whether they are receiving awards and grants or publishing books—and our talented, creative and generous students. Please enjoy the history we have put together for you, and I hope to see you on campus very soon.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John J. Petillo".

John J. Petillo, Ph.D.  
President

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#### ON THE COVER

Then & Now: take a look back to see how far SHU has come.

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Opinions expressed in this publication may not necessarily reflect those of Sacred Heart University, its faculty or administration.





## Features



### Catching Up with Alumni Then and Now

What does it mean to be a Sacred Heart alumnus? We spoke with alums graduating in every decade back to the sixties to find out what paths they've traveled since graduation day.



### SHU Honors Rabbi Skorka

As author and biophysicist Rabbi Abraham Skorka received an honorary doctorate from SHU this year, President John J. Petillo said, "Your presence and your words are teaching moments for us." Discover just how true that is.



### Profile of a Lifelong Student

Michelle Loris, associate dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, was recently named Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation. Find out why her colleagues describe her as "the human dynamo."

## Departments

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Insider information on achievements, events and people, from and around campus.

### 49 ADVANCING SHU

Moving the University community forward with gifts, giving and advancement.

### 54 ON THE FIELD

The latest on SHU athletic successes, developments and special events.

### 60 CLASS NOTES

Catch up with old friends: who's doing what and where they are now.



## New Trustees Bring Welcome Business Experience

Sacred Heart University welcomes the addition of two members to its Board of Trustees who bring a wealth of business experience: Daniel J. McCarthy, president and chief operating officer of Frontier Communications Corporation, and Thomas L. Rich, president and chief executive officer of the F.D. Rich Company.

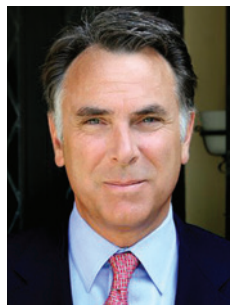


### Daniel J. McCarthy

Frontier Communications offers broadband, voice, satellite video, wireless Internet data access, data security solutions and more for businesses, home offices and residential customers nationwide. Headquartered in Stamford, Frontier has approximately 13,900 employees based in the U.S. McCarthy has been its president and COO since April 2012

and was executive vice president and COO from January 2006 to April 2012. He headed field operations from December 2004 to December 2005 and was senior vice president, Broadband Operations, from January 2004 to December 2004.

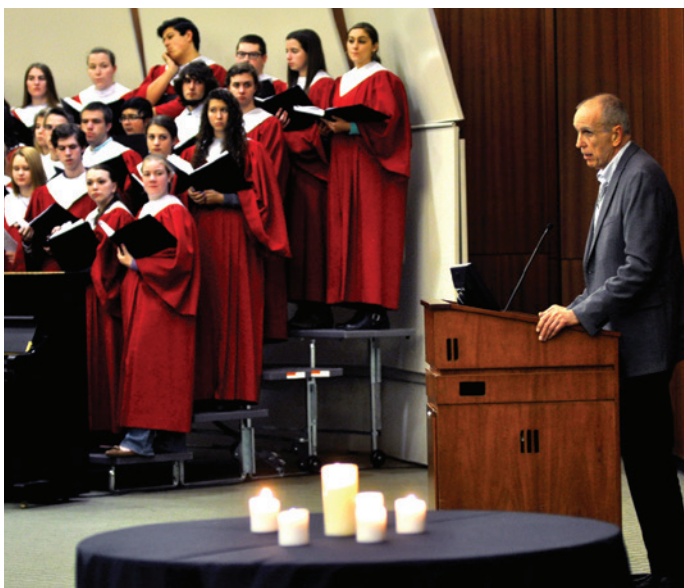
McCarthy has been with Frontier Communications since 1990, when he joined its Kauai, Hawaii, electric division. He has managed numerous operations and sectors within the company and around the country. He earned a bachelor's degree in marine engineering from the State University of New York Maritime College at Fort Schuyler and holds a master's in business administration from the University of Phoenix. He and his family reside in Newtown and are active parishioners of St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church.



### Thomas L. Rich

The F.D. Rich Company is a real estate development company founded in Stamford over a century ago. Since 1960, as sole redeveloper of Stamford's Urban Renewal project, the company has transformed the downtown area into a cosmopolitan center that has become a model for cities across the nation.

Rich is a graduate of the School of Management at Boston University where he served as president of the class of 1980. A native of Stamford, he also graduated from Westhill High School. He is president of the Rich Foundation, which supports many community arts, education, health care and social service organizations in Stamford. He previously served as president of the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Stamford, and on the boards of the Visiting Nurses and Hospice Care of South Western Connecticut and Stamford Center for the Arts. He was an advisory board member of the Stamford Youth Foundation. ☞



Father Tony Ciorra reflects during the Kristallnacht commemoration.

## 75th Anniversary of Kristallnacht Commemoration

On November 6, the Sacred Heart community commemorated the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht—the 48-hour period in November 1938 in Germany when 1,000 synagogues were burned or otherwise damaged; about 7,500 Jewish businesses were looted; Jewish hospitals, homes, schools and cemeteries were vandalized; at least 91 Jews were killed; and approximately 30,000 Jewish men were arrested. A full house in University Commons watched the documentary movie *Defiant Requiem*, the story of a group of Jewish prisoners—most doomed to die in the gas chambers at Auschwitz—who performed Verdi's *Requiem* before the very Nazis who had condemned them to death. Following the film, the audience heard from distinguished conductor and artistic innovator Murry Sidlin, whom the film depicts bringing a full orchestra and the Catholic University of America's chorale ensemble—along with surviving members of Rafael Schächter's chorus—back to Terezin to perform the *Requiem* in tribute to those who had sung it there before. The crowd was also treated to moving musical performances by the SHU Choirs. ☞



## Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Kennedy Assassination



From left are Professors Gary Rose, Charlotte Gradie, Julie Mujic and Thomas Curran.

SHU commemorated the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy with two special events. The first was a documentary film on Kennedy's foreign policy, followed by a discussion led by Thomas Curran, professor of history, who teaches a course on the Vietnam War. The next morning, the University sponsored two panel discussions hosted by program organizer Professor Gary Rose, chair of the Department of Government and Politics. The first panel consisted of Professor Curran, who again discussed Kennedy's foreign policy on Vietnam; Professor Julie Mujic, who covered Kennedy and the Civil Rights movement; and Professor Charlotte Gradie,

who examined Kennedy's handling of the Cuban Missile Crisis. The second panel featured Professor Brian Stiltner, who discussed Kennedy's role as the first Catholic president; James Carl, dean of the Isabelle Farrington College of Education, who focused on Kennedy's education policies; Professor Patrick Morris, who shared some of the conspiracy theories around the assassination; and Professor Roberta Staples, who shared her personal memories of the dark days following Kennedy's assassination. Sacred Heart further commemorated the anniversary by ringing the chapel bells at 12:25 p.m. on November 22. ☞



Students carry the college flags.

## U.S. News & World Report: SHU Named Among Top Colleges for Undergraduates and Veterans

In its 2014 edition of *America's Best Colleges*, U.S. News Media Group has placed Sacred Heart University 33rd among the top master's-level colleges and universities in the North. The rankings, which include more than 1,400 schools nationwide, are available online and in the September issue of *U.S. News & World Report* magazine. The University was also recently ranked among the best in The Princeton Review's "The Best 378 Colleges: 2014 Edition," "Best in the Northeast" and "The Best 295 Business Schools: 2014 Edition."

*U.S. News and World Report* also included Sacred Heart on its inaugural list of the "Best Colleges for Veterans," naming the University among 234 colleges selected from those that participate in federal initiatives helping veterans and active service members apply, pay for and complete their degrees. SHU was ranked in the top 10 for regional universities in the North. ☞





## New Graduate Center Opens in Stamford

Sacred Heart University celebrated the grand opening of its new Stamford Graduate Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 22. Guest speakers included then Stamford Mayor Michael Pavia and President John J. Petillo. This fall, SHU significantly expanded its presence in Stamford and Fairfield County by launching new graduate degree programs and additional courses, moving into new classroom space in the center of the city and increasing its involvement and outreach within the Metro- and Stamford-area region and business communities.

The new Stamford Graduate Center is located in Landmark Square, within walking distance of the city's Transportation Center and near Stamford's many downtown assets. It offers students access to many of Sacred Heart's existing

programs traditionally available at its main campus, including digital marketing and human resource management degrees offered through the John F. Welch College of Business; film and television—the first and only master's degree of its kind in Connecticut—offered through the College of Arts & Sciences, and the Isabelle Farrington College of Education's popular cohort certification program in educational leadership and administration.

"We are excited to increase our presence in Stamford. The new Landmark Square location offers greater options for our graduate students while giving us an opportunity to build on an already strong relationship with the Stamford community," said Petillo, who expects the Center to continue to grow.

SHU previously offered continuing education initiatives, limited



undergraduate classes and corporate training in Stamford, in space located in the Riverbend section of the city. But the University's expanded offerings, explained Provost Laura Niesen de Abruna, vice president for Academic Affairs, include the new communication graduate programs and other classes. They feature a hybrid learning approach combining online and face-to-face evening and Saturday classes. An additional goal, she stressed, is to provide easier access for working students and professionals living in Fairfield County, as well as commuting students from New York City, Westchester and western and southern Connecticut.

"Beyond these dynamic, appealing and contemporary communication degrees, four out of five existing programs will be accessible immediately or in the coming year at the new Stamford Graduate Center, making it a hub for students who may find it difficult to commute to our Fairfield campus or attend day classes," de Abruna said. "Sacred Heart University already has established a strong reputation for its service orientation, focused learning, internships, economic development and educational outreach with local businesses and communities. This isn't just an off-site campus—we will offer accelerated, modular and creative programs that maximize opportunities for convenience and value, interact extensively within the region and will be a beacon for working adult students."

Pavia reflected that as a graduate of Sacred Heart, it is exciting to see the new Stamford Graduate Center in the heart of the city. "I am constantly hearing from people who are looking to improve their skills and increase their value in the workplace. At the same time, I hear from companies that are looking for workers with certain skills. Sacred Heart will fill that niche and create a synergy that will be valuable for all involved," he said.

In addition to the MBA program that will be offered in Stamford, new graduate programs are another example of Sacred Heart's innovation, responsiveness to changing marketplace demands and efforts to creatively meet students' educational needs, said John Chalykoff, dean of the WCOB. "The



OPPOSITE PAGE Stamford Graduate Center at Landmark Square. ABOVE During the official opening, a ribbon-cutting ceremony took place. From left are John F. Welch College of Business Dean John Chalykoff, Vice Provost for Special Academic Programs Mary Lou DeRosa, Trustee Linda McMahon, President John J. Petillo, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Laura Niesen de Abruna and then Stamford Mayor Michael Pavia.

Welch College of Business is excited to be offering two of its flagship master's programs—digital marketing and human resource management (HRM)—and a doctorate in business administration in finance in Stamford," Chalykoff said. "Stamford is a hub for digital marketing in Connecticut. This region has a concentration of small and large firms with HRM educational requirements, and our new Graduate Center also is the perfect location to serve the southern Connecticut and New York area with an applied doctorate in finance, which we anticipate offering beginning in 2014."

Other degree work available through the Stamford Graduate Center will include a master's degree in teaching. Coursework in teacher preparation and literacy specialist programs is also available, and a doctorate in educational leadership (Ed.D.) is planned for the future. The Landmark Square location offers 10,000 square feet of classroom, conference and administrative space. ☞



## College of Business Offers Global Collaboration Experience

As part of SHU's goal to increase global awareness campus-wide and a desire to prepare graduates for a global economy and worldwide interaction, the WCOB is collaborating with the School of Business Administration of Bangkok University, Thailand, and the MBA program at the University of Saint Joseph, Macau, China, to kick off the Global Experience Project.

Under the direction of John Chalykoff, dean of the WCOB, undergraduate students will collaborate with their colleagues overseas to develop a business process to issue. In return, they will receive a database system to support the issued business process. At the graduate level, cross-cultural virtual teams will develop a course project involving the research of global leaders in the U.S. and China. "Our goal as a business program is to develop our students into the next generation of leaders who are globally aware and globally confident," he says. ☞

John F. Welch College of Business student Steve Arther works on the Global Experience Project through Skype with Bangkok University student Sathita Jamsang.



## Students Turn Out for Fresh Check Day

Between 300 and 350 Sacred Heart students turned out for the school's first-ever Fresh Check Day on September 28. The event—created to bring awareness to mental health resources and coping strategies on college campuses—featured food, entertainment, therapy dogs, chair massages, interactive displays, great raffle prizes and more. “Fresh Check Day is not your typical suicide prevention event. It creates a positive atmosphere that is not usually associated with mental health programming,” said Mary Jo Mason, director of the Counseling Center, adding that 119 students participated in formal depression screenings while many more were evaluated through casual “check-in” conversations.

Sacred Heart is one of the first campuses in the Northeast to offer a Fresh Check event, drawing student volunteers from Active Minds, the Social Work Club, the Student Wellness Education and Empowerment Team, the Gay-Straight Alliance, Residential Life and more. ☺



## Grad Student Brings Innovation to Metro-North Railroad

Caitlin Timoney, a student in SHU's master's of environmental science and management program, was a winner recently in a competition among interns in Metro-North Railroad's Environmental Service and Compliance Department. Her team of nine interns won a contest looking for innovative ideas to improve customer service and save money with their “EnergyMiser” concept. EnergyMisers, which cost \$200 apiece, can be attached to each of the 179 vending machines at Metro-North stations and put the machines into sleep mode when not in use, saving energy and money as well as improving the machines' lifecycle and need for maintenance. ☺



Graduate student Caitlin Timoney, third from right, with her team and former MTA Metro-North Railroad President Howard Permut. From left are interns Scott Silverman, Nikita Ramsaran, Christian Higgins, Jenna Patterson, Clayton Brancato, Metro-North President Howard Permut and interns Eli Eisenstadt, Caitlin Timoney, George Mateo and Patrick Shirley.

## University Hosts Northeast Regional Ethics Bowl

With more than 180 undergraduate students, 52 judges and moderators, 26 teams, 19 different schools and nearly 10 hours of competition, just the logistics associated with hosting the November 23 Northeast Regional Ethics Bowl could make your head swim, not to mention the challenging philosophical conundrums being debated. In the end, a team from Providence College claimed victory over a feisty group from Schenectady, New York's Union College.

“The cases are all based on real-life situations, like the ethics of burying the Boston Marathon bomber on public grounds, or whether pet owners should eat meat,” explained Professor June-Ann Greeley of the Theology & Religious Studies Department at SHU, who served as the Bowl's regional coordinator. ☺



# Thomas Melady, SHU President Emeritus, Dies

The Sacred Heart University community is mourning the passing of President Emeritus Thomas Patrick Melady, who served as the University's president from 1976 to 1986. Melady passed away on January 6 at the age of 86.

"The passing of Thomas Melady brings great sadness to me personally and to the entire Sacred Heart community. I have known Tom for more than 25 years, including as a board of trustees member during his tenure as president. He was a forward-thinking visionary who led Sacred Heart as it emerged from a local commuter school to an acclaimed regional university," said Sacred Heart University President John J. Petillo. "His impact continues to be evident in Sacred Heart's current success as well as in its reputation as a caring, inclusive community where all are treated with respect and dignity."

Melady served as an American ambassador under three presidents and as a sub-cabinet officer for a fourth, and remained active in foreign affairs and international relations throughout his career. Since 2002, he had served as senior diplomat in residence at The Institute of World Politics in Washington, D.C.

After his graduation from high school, he served in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1947, then graduated with a bachelor's degree from Duquesne University in 1950 and went on to earn a master's and a doctorate from The Catholic University of America. He taught at St. John's, Fordham University and George Washington University during his career.

A former consultant for the National Urban League in New York and chairman of Seton Hall University, he was appointed by President Richard M. Nixon as ambassador to Burundi in 1969, senior adviser to the U.S. delegation to the UN General Assembly in 1970 and ambassador to Uganda from 1972 to 1973. He was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to serve as assistant secretary for post-secondary education. In 1989, he was appointed by President George H.W. Bush as ambassador to the Holy See.

Melady was an authority on Afro-Asian and Central European affairs. He is the author of 16 books and hundreds of articles. He has received honorary doctorates from 30 universities and has been honored by six countries.

Among his survivors are his wife Margaret and two children.

A funeral Mass was conducted January 13 at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle in Washington, D.C. A special memorial Mass was held in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit at SHU on January 29, during which Melady was honored with a posthumous honorary doctorate. The citation was read by SHU Trustee Brian Hamilton '87, who was



President Melady in 1980.

mentored by Melady during his time as a student at Sacred Heart.

In conferring the Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, President Petillo talked about Melady's vision and commitment during his 10 years leading SHU. "We honor his service and dedication to his country, his scholarly publications, his years of dedicated teaching and positive impact on all whose lives he touched. Sacred Heart University brings great honor to itself today by honoring Thomas Patrick Melady," Petillo said. ☞



## Problem-Solving Lab Supports Business and Community Growth

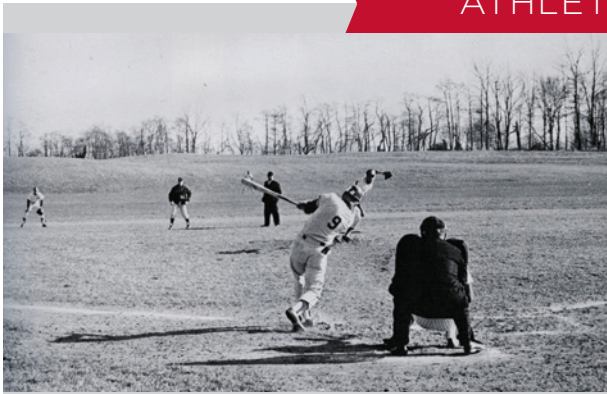
SHU has announced plans to launch an interdisciplinary experiential learning program designed to expose students to business problems requiring real-time applied solutions. The program will target community organizations and businesses interested in building growth, increasing marketing opportunities and enhancing public perception. The John F. Welch College of Business launched the Problem-Based Learning Lab effective January 2014 and is currently seeking corporate and community partners to submit potential projects for fall 2014 and beyond. ☞

Professor Josh Shuart, right, works with students as part of the Problem-based Learning Program.

# THEN & NOW

Fifty years has brought many changes to Sacred Heart University. It has emerged from a small commuter school to an internationally recognized University with approximately 6,400 students. There are new buildings, new programs, graduate degrees and much more—and the growth continues. The following pages depict just a few of the changes at SHU over the past 50 years.

## ATHLETIC FIELDS

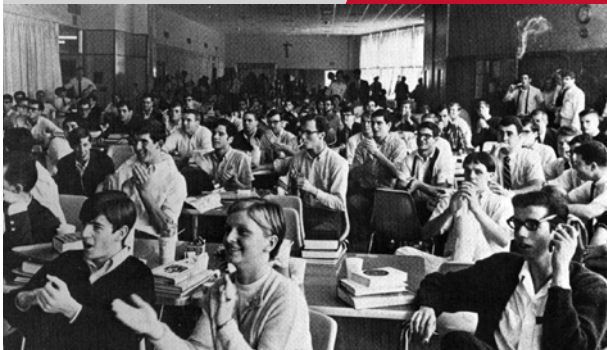


Pioneer Park

## BOOKSTORE



## CAFETERIA



63's



## CHAPEL



Old Chapel



Chapel of the Holy Spirit

## CLASSROOMS



Schine Auditorium

## COMMENCEMENT



## COMPUTER LAB





# THEN & NOW

## EDGERTON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



## HAWLEY LOUNGE



The University's original library was housed in what is now Hawley Lounge.



## RYAN MATURA LIBRARY



## MASCOT

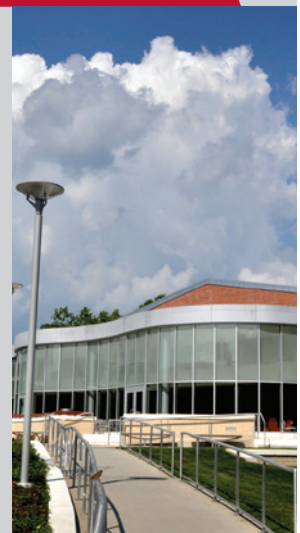


Bucky



Big Red

## UC ATRIUM





PUB



Chubby's



Red's

QUAD



OUR PRESENT



Linda E. McMahon Commons



Campus Field

OUR FUTURE



Renderings of Sacred Heart's new academic building currently under construction







Professor Stephen Scarpati teaches an MBA class.

## Welch College of Business Among Princeton Review's Best Business Schools

The Princeton Review has named the John F. Welch College of Business (WCOB) an outstanding business school. The education services company features the school in the new 2014 edition of its book, *The Best 295 Business Schools* (Random House/Princeton Review). According to Robert Franek, Princeton Review's senior vice president for publishing, "We are pleased to recommend the WCOB to readers of our book and users of our site, [www.PrincetonReview.com](http://www.PrincetonReview.com), as one of the best institutions they could attend to earn an MBA."

John Chalykoff, dean of the WCOB, acknowledges that the University benefits from an ideal location for business education at the heart of one of America's busiest corporate centers. "We have been able to attract a first-rank faculty of experienced practitioners and respected educators, and our students have ready access to mentoring opportunities and internships literally right at their door."



## Renowned Movie Producer Hausman Talks with Film Students

Legendary film producer, Michael Hausman, visited the Stamford campus November 18 to discuss filmmaking with graduate students in the film and television master's program. Hausman has been a film producer for more than 40 years, with credits including *Brokeback Mountain*, *The People vs. Larry Flynt*, *The Firm* and *Amadeus*. He was a guest of Visiting Assistant Professors Damon Maulucci and Justin Liberman, both of whom graduated from the Columbia University School of the Arts, where Hausman teaches. ☞

Legendary film producer Michael Hausman talks with FTMA students.



Students enjoy Brazilian music by the Joe Carter Trio in the Mahogany Room.

## Second Celebration of International Education Week

The Second Annual Celebration of International Education Week took place from November 11 through November 14. International Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. Events at SHU included free henna tattoos daily, foreign films, dance lessons, lectures and more. The week's activities were sponsored by the Office of Global Affairs, English Language Institute, Office of Graduate Admissions and Office of International Admissions. *The Motorcycle Diaries* film was sponsored by the Foreign Languages and Cultures Department.



## Online Programs Sparking Enrollment Growth

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but Sacred Heart University is one 50-year-old that continues to embrace new technologies and practices leading to explosive enrollment growth. One very powerful magnet is SHU's online program offerings. SHU now offers the RN to BSN program as a fully delivered online degree program. The University has also gone from offering complete bachelor's degree programs online to offering master's degrees online in various majors. The result? In just three years, the number of students pursuing degrees online through SHU has gone from a mere 30 to over 700. ☞



## IN MEMORIAM



### Alvin Clinkscales, 1932-2013

The Sacred Heart community is mourning the passing of Alvin Clinkscales in November. During his 42 years as a staff member at this University, Alvin touched the lives of many students, faculty, staff, parents and alumni. He first joined the University as director of Financial Aid and assistant vice president for Community/Minority Affairs. Most recently, he served as special assistant to the executive director of University Financial Assistance, where he reviewed and maintained articles on higher education costs, enrollment and business services.

Alvin provided support not only in financial areas for scholarship athletes, but also as a mentor for personal and athletic concerns. An all-state player at Central High School in Bridgeport, he was eventually drafted by the New York Knicks but chose instead to play with the Harlem Globetrotters. He was truly a special person, and we at Sacred Heart were blessed to have him as a member of our community for so long. Funeral services were held at the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

## Community Mourns the Deaths of Beloved Former Trustees and Regents Board Members

### Former Trustee J. Edward Caldwell, 1927-2013

Members of the Sacred Heart community are mourning the passing of former trustee Edward Caldwell, age 86, who passed away on October 9. He was a U.S. Army Veteran of World War II and served as a state senator, representing the 23rd District of Bridgeport from 1958 through 1974, when he was elected state comptroller. The state's longest-serving state comptroller, he also served as corporate counsel for the City of Bridgeport and president of the Bridgeport Board of Fire Commissioners. He was a member of the St. Charles Holy Name Society, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Knights of Columbus, the American Legion and Fairfield Prep Latin Scholars.

Many people remember him for his love of music and his beautiful tenor voice. He was one of the founding members of the Fairfield University Glee Club, serving as tenor soloist, and sang in many church choirs and barbershop quartets. Until his passing, he sang with the Coastal Chordsmen Barbershop Chorus.

### Former Trustee Fred J. Meyer, 1931-2013

Fred J. Meyer, 82, passed away on December 27. He was a member of the Sacred Heart Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2008 and was named trustee emeritus upon his retirement from the board. He received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Sacred Heart in 1981 from then-president Thomas Melady.

At the time of his death, Meyer served on the Board of Directors of Novartis Corporation in New York City. He was special adviser in the executive office of Omnicom Group, Inc. from 2000 to 2003; vice chairman of Omnicom Group from 1998 to 1999 and chief financial officer there from 1988 to 1998. He also served as senior vice president/chief financial officer for CBS, Inc. from 1982 to 1988 and previously worked for Wander Ltd. in Berne, Switzerland, and Sandoz, Inc. in New Jersey and Connecticut.

### Bernard L. Shaw, 1945-2013

Bernard L. Shaw, who served on Sacred Heart's Board of Regents from 2005 to 2009, died on December 17 at the age of 68. He was a former San Francisco police officer who became the bodyguard and husband of Patricia Hearst, granddaughter of William Randolph Hearst.

Shaw was born in San Francisco on September 3, 1945. He attended the University of San Francisco and served in the Army. He began working for the Hearst Corporation in 1983 and was Hearst's vice president for corporate security at the time of his death.

# alumni by the DECADES

BY HOLLY ROBINSON

What does it mean to be a Sacred Heart alumnus? With new buildings, Division I athletics and expanded academic offerings, the University has earned an international reputation for excellence. A conversation with alums from every decade reveals one commonality: Sacred Heart not only gave them the tools for professional success, but a community where they developed lifelong friendships and the perspective to live richly rewarding, balanced lives.

## '60s THE SIXTIES

Experiences in New Brunswick, N.J., he imports residential and commercial decorative light fixtures from Italy and Spain to distribute throughout North America. His undergraduate studies in accounting helped him understand the nuts and bolts of business. He also held down several jobs to put himself through school.

"Those opportunities built character, personally and professionally," he says. "My business today allows me to utilize each discipline I've learned throughout my career: accounting, marketing, engineering and manufacturing." Attending the University today is an entirely different experience than it was 50 years ago, he acknowledges. "Back then, most students lived at home, and we all parked on the lawn (and got stuck more than once). But a vision has certainly materialized, and everyone connected to it should be very proud."

**DAVID BOISVERT '67** hasn't strayed far from Sacred Heart. For the past 35 years, he and his wife have lived just two miles away in Easton, witnessing the University's growth firsthand. Today, as president and owner of Illuminating

For Bridgeport native **ERNIE LISI '68**, having an affordable Catholic university spring up nearby—especially one as young, vital and exciting as Sacred Heart—"knocked me out. I was so grateful to be there." A double major in history and philosophy, he says he "fell in love with learning there, even though I had no idea what I wanted to do other than be a lifelong student, and maybe that's what I ended up doing."

He might be right. After graduation, Lisi pursued a master's in American studies from Fairfield University and doctoral studies at St. Louis University. He returned to Connecticut to work as a trainer with Home Equity, Inc., a relocation firm, and taught part-time in SHU's MBA program. "It was a wonderful experience to blend academics with working in a business setting," he says.

Now retired, he lives in Florida with his wife Judy and volunteers at a prison and at an educational facility for migrant workers. "Sacred Heart had a seminal influence on my life, giving me a love of learning that has gone with me everywhere."

Of course, probably the most life-changing event at Sacred Heart had nothing to do with academics, Lisi hastens to add—it was meeting his wife, an English major, in one of his creative writing classes. "That was the single best thing that happened to me at Sacred Heart," he says. Ernie and





ERNIE AND JUDY LISI '68

**JUDY (TARINELLI) LISI '68** were engaged by January 1969 and married the following September.

Judy Lisi, who is now president and CEO of the David A. Straz, Jr., Center for the Performing Arts in Tampa, Florida—the couple moved to Florida for her job—has directed more than 40 productions and written six plays. After earning a master's degree in theater and communication arts from St. Louis University and discovering that she loved being on stage, she did doctoral work in theater at the University of Minnesota and later studied opera at the Juilliard School of Music and with the Metropolitan Opera. Prior to moving to Florida, she was executive director of the Shubert Performing Arts Center in New Haven.

"It was never my dream to pursue a performing arts career," says Judy Lisi, who was in the second year of her novitiate when she began taking courses at Sacred Heart to complete her bachelor's degree in English and met Ernie.

The University was an exciting place to be in the '60s, she adds. "I had been cloistered at a time when most women were still wearing white gloves and stockings. By the time I came out of the convent, women were wearing long hair and jeans. I felt like an alien, but Sacred Heart couldn't have been a better place for me to be. The University attracted very high-quality people because it was an experiment in Catholic education, and the atmosphere was so open. My whole world opened up."

When **ANTHONY DADDONA '69** decided to go to Sacred Heart with friends from high school, "we all said we'd go there just for a year, but we fell in love with the community and stayed," he recalls. He left Sacred Heart with a sociology degree, uncertain about his future. "We didn't have any career counseling back then at Sacred Heart, but the liberal arts education we got opened the way to our careers. The faculty taught us to be independent thinkers who could collaborate with others, accepting change and creating change where it's needed." SHU was one of the first Catholic colleges run by lay people, he notes, "and they were ahead of their



DAVID BOISVERT '67

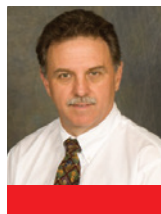


ANTHONY DADDONA '69

photo courtesy of the Stamford Advocate/Kathleen O'Rourke

time in their approach to educating the whole person."

Daddona pursued a career in education, earning higher degrees and working his way up through the Norwalk School District as a high school teacher, guidance counselor, principal and deputy superintendent, his current position. "Sacred Heart laid the foundation for my future success," he says. "I'm glad to see that the spirit of independent thinking and the nature of a close community at Sacred Heart haven't changed."



As **DR. WILLIAM BRADBURY '78** begins winding down his cardiology practice, he's

reaching out to the SHU community to "find a way to reconnect, maybe by bringing students interested in health care and medicine together with physicians, or by helping out as a mentor." He's inspired to do this because he found his own mentors at Sacred Heart. "In a bigger school, I would have gotten lost," he says. "When I first went to college, I was immature. I had no idea what I wanted or what I was going to do."

# '70s

## THE SEVENTIES

# alumni by the DECADES

He was good at math, so he majored in chemistry—and that’s when everything clicked. “As I moved up the ladder of sciences, I found a passion for learning. I was in a small school with very dedicated, supportive teachers who knew a lot of us weren’t coming in as scholars, but they helped us find that scholarly behavior.”

Following graduation, he worked as a hospital orderly, continued taking science courses and found a research position, all of which led him to medical school at the University of Connecticut and opening a cardiology practice.

“Sacred Heart has been well managed,” he observes. “I like the growth of the programs and the way the heads of the schools have done such a great job of connecting with the community to find opportunities for students.”

## '80s THE EIGHTIES

she decided to stay at Sacred Heart. “I needed the security and familiarity it offered me,” she says. Then, in March of sophomore year, her mother died of cancer. “As difficult as it was, since I had such good relationships at SHU, I was able to continue my studies. The support I was shown by my professors allowed me to finish my education without taking a leave of absence.”

She majored in English with a minor in education, intending to become a teacher, but that, too, changed. “Because of my age

**PATTY JOHNSON '80** knows firsthand how life can change in an instant. Her original intent was to attend Sacred Heart for a year before transferring to a Boston college. A month before sophomore year, however, her father died in a car accident, and

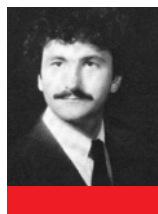


PATTY JOHNSON '80

and what had happened in my personal life, I was starting to look at the world differently. My English courses and the professors opened my eyes.” Along the way, she was developing leadership skills and building her confidence not only through academics, but through her work with the Student Activities Office and her participation in Beta Delta Phi sorority. She became the first female president of the Interfraternity/Sorority Council and has fond memories of Cabaret, basketball games and the mixers.

For the past 16 years, Johnson has been at Pitney Bowes Inc. (PBI) as the director of Corporate Governance and assistant secretary. “I appreciate the similar values shared by PBI and SHU,” she says. “Both organizations are community-focused, encouraging and helping their employees and students develop skills to give back to their communities.

“SHU is able to offer so much to students now,” she reflects, “including dormitory life, the wonderful campus center, athletic center, student center and the beautiful chapel.” However, she’s pleased to note that some things have remained consistent, including the commitment of SHU, its students, faculty and alumni to the community. “There is a true sense of caring for others and knowing you can make a difference at SHU.”



**CLARENCE BASTARACHE '84** says he “never could have imagined the road that led me to where I am today,” noting that he began his education with a health degree from Quinnipiac University and worked as a respiratory therapist at Bridgeport Hospital before enrolling at Sacred Heart as a

computer science major. Upon completion of his degree, he was recruited on campus by People’s Bank, which began his career in information technology that then led to increasingly higher technology leadership positions with various Fortune 500 companies, including chief information officer for Mercedes-Benz Credit, Daimler-Chrysler Capital and Pitney Bowes Capital. He is currently a senior technology adviser for Cerberus Operations & Advisory Co., a subsidiary of Cerberus Capital, a multibillion-dollar private equity company, where he advises equity investors and existing portfolio companies on complex technology issues and strategies.

“Giving back after graduation came easy,” Bastarache says. In addition to his day job, he returned to Sacred Heart, serving as an adjunct professor for eight years and teaching a variety of computer science courses. He has worked with and hired many of his former classmates and students through the years and still enjoys mentoring young IT professionals in their career endeavors. It’s one of the reasons he makes a point to attend the computer science alumni receptions whenever he can. “It keeps me connected to the computer science program and people at SHU, like Domenick Pinto and Sandy Honda, who were great mentors to me in my career,” he says.





JOHN LYDON '95



CHRISTY ASHLEY '97



Like Bastarache, for **KEVIN SWEENEY '87**, being a Sacred Heart alum gives him “an immediate personal and professional connection to others who went to school here.” A recruitment relationship manager for Allegis Group Services, he manages a team that hires talent in the areas of risk

management, data science, global banking and business analytics for American Express. “When I see Sacred Heart University on a resume, I know this person achieved something great, made wonderful acquaintances and had a terrific experience,” he says.

During his own undergraduate studies, Sweeney loved the energy, passion for learning and small classroom size at SHU that afforded him opportunities to build deeper relationships with his professors and fellow students. “I felt like I could be myself, explore my spirituality and also develop my business and entrepreneurial skills,” he says. He also had an exceptional opportunity to intern at a large corporation in Stamford, where he learned business skills and realized “the power of networking and building relationships, which ultimately propelled my career into global recruitment and human resources. My experiences at SHU helped shape me as a person and gave me a global, humble and heartfelt view of the world, where I knew we could all make a difference.”

Even as a child growing up in Boston, **JOHN LYDON '95** had an entrepreneurial spirit. “I knew I’d own my own business someday,” he says. Drawn to Sacred Heart because of the business school’s reputation, he earned a scholarship and arrived determined to work hard and show his gratitude for having the chance to go to college. “One of the most rewarding experiences I had was joining Habitat for Humanity and helping to build a home for a family in need,” he says.

As a football player, athletics played “a massive role in my

success,” adds Lydon, who now owns NYC Views Realty Corp. and buys and sells investment properties nationwide for his clients. He is also part owner of a restaurant group that owns Bounce Sporting Club and Vero Restaurant in New York City. “The coaches and the sport itself taught me that no man is greater than the whole. Learning how to succeed as part of a team has helped me in every business venture thus far.”

**CHRISTY ASHLEY '97**, now an assistant professor of marketing at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C., says that Sacred Heart played a big role in helping her become “a better decision-maker in general and provided a foundation for becoming a leader

and a scholar.” A psychology major, she says that some of the SHU experiences she valued most were the ones she had on Dance Team. “I was easily the least talented dancer on the team, but I loved it,” she says.

Ashley also enjoyed being a resident assistant and her involvement in student government. “I grew a lot as a leader over my four years at Sacred Heart, and that growth process is ongoing 15 years later. Overall, the experiences I had were special because of the people I shared them with and because it was a safe environment to try out different things, which helped me find a career that I love.”

She now lives near New Bern, N.C., with her husband, Jay Oliver—whom she met when both were working on their doctorates at the University of Rhode Island—and their two children, Julianna, age 2, and newborn son Johnathan. She keeps up with other alums through social media. “I think of my classmates and friends from Sacred Heart often, and my life is better because I experienced college with them.”

# '90s THE NINETIES

# alumni by the DECADES



As a freshman, **ALEXIS DIONNE '02** had her heart set on being a radiologist and started taking science classes despite “a horrible experience with high school chemistry.” Then she landed in Gary Rose’s “Intro to American Government” class and got hooked on political science. “Professor Rose’s engagement with his students and his passion for the subject are unparalleled,” she says.

Her interest in political science led her to intern on two local political campaigns as an undergraduate, and then, in 2004, to work as deputy campaign manager for a candidate running for parliament in Canada’s federal elections. However, her most formative undergraduate experience was the semester she spent in Luxembourg. “SHU is so fortunate to have a campus there,” she says. “I had the most amazing spring semester in the Grand Duchy. That was my first trip overseas, and I grew there in ways I never imagined. I lived with a local family and saw places I’d only dreamed about.”

Her visit to Krakow, Poland, led her to fall “head-over-heels in love with the city,” and she vowed to return. “After I graduated from SHU, I did just that. I returned to Krakow to earn a master’s degree at the Center for European Studies at Jagiellonian University. Had I not spent that semester in Luxembourg and made that visit to Krakow, my life would be quite different.” She is pleased by the growth in opportunities to study abroad for Sacred Heart students. “My time in Luxembourg truly fueled my interest in international education,” she says. “I hope every student who wants to go abroad has that opportunity. It changed me in the best way possible, and I owe that to Sacred Heart.”

Today, Dionne lives in Washington, D.C., and works with the Fulbright Program at the U.S. Department of State. The Fulbright Program is an international exchange program that brings students and scholars to the U.S. from nearly every other country and also

sends U.S. students and scholars abroad. In her role, she has met many Fulbright scholars, including SHU alumna Kelly Leather, who went to Albania two years ago. She and her fiancé just welcomed a daughter, Amelia, who Dionne describes as “a delight!”

As the creative director at North American Power, a retail energy company in Norwalk, **PAUL WRONSKI '03** develops marketing concepts, copy



**PAUL WRONSKI '03**



**NICOLE FIORENTINO '08**

## '00s THE AUGHTS

and design for the company’s print and digital campaigns. “I’m always amazed by how many SHU alums I come across in business in a wide variety of roles,” he says. “We alums are making it in one of the most competitive job market areas in the country.”

With his lifelong love of drawing, he naturally found his way into Sacred Heart’s graphic design major. “Equally helpful from a career standpoint were the writing skills and the reinforcement of professional techniques I received at SHU,” he says.

His participation in activities through music and residential life led Wronski to make many lifelong friends on campus and gave him skills he could use post-graduation. “I learned a tremendous amount about leadership, as well as the skills and techniques to influence others and work quickly toward a common goal,” he says. “I left Sacred Heart knowing who I was as a person.”

Best of all? When he married his wife Liz last year, two of his groomsmen were good friends he’d made at Sacred Heart.

For occupational therapist **NICOLE FIORENTINO '08, '11 MSOT**, one of her most formative Sacred Heart experiences was studying abroad in Rome. Experiencing the culture and lifestyle of Italy “is something I will always remember,” she says. “Nothing can compare to having an onsite art class in the middle of the Coliseum!”

She also enjoyed her work-study position with undergraduate admissions, because she was able to share her experiences and help prospective students, while growing her own professional and interpersonal skills. Being a member of Greek Life as a sister of Zeta Iota Lambda “also taught me things I would take with me years after SHU. I gained confidence with my public speaking





TAARIQ CAYNE '10



PATRICIA SKRZYPEK '13

and networking skills, developed efficient time management skills and gained the knowledge and experience to run a successful organization. Most importantly, being a sister taught me how important it is to have a passion and enjoy life with strong, healthy and genuine relationships,” she says.

Today Fiorentino is an inpatient occupational therapist at St. Charles Hospital on Long Island. “I work with pediatric and adult clients to regain the skills needed for daily living,” she says, adding that she recently got engaged and bought a home with plans to marry in October 2014. “SHU definitely taught me things about myself that I wouldn’t have imagined,” she reflects. “I learned that life is about more than just your everyday routine. It’s important to have fun and to know what you’re most passionate about.”

When he was recruited to run track at Sacred Heart, **TAARIQ CAYNE '10** toured the campus. After that, “my mind was pretty much made up,” he says. “The scenery was beautiful, everything was modern and up-to-date, and there was a focus on using technology.”

Originally planning to pursue a career in physical therapy, he began as a science major, switched to psychology by sophomore year, then “had a bit of a freak-out” when he realized that wasn’t for him either. Luckily, a stop in the Career Development office led him to identify business as a strength. “I declared a major in business, economics and finance and never looked back,” he says.

In addition to running track, he joined the Finance/Economics Club, volunteered with the MAACS program and VITA and held several internships at large corporations. “Being so active enabled me to learn time management skills that helped me get to this point today,” says Cayne, who is currently a securitization analyst

for American Express Company. “Additionally, my internships helped me fill the knowledge gaps between what I was learning in class and how things worked in the real world. As I reflect back, though, I realize the most formative moments at Sacred Heart came from spending time with my various professors and gaining advice based on their experiences.”

**PATRICIA SKRZYPEK '13** says Sacred Heart was the perfect place for her to pursue her interest in nursing, a lifelong dream since her brother’s health issues required him to be hospitalized as a child. Beyond that, she was also able to broaden her personal perspective and professional skills through a dizzying list of activities and friendships. “I was a resident assistant, in Campus Ministry and in the Student Nurses Association,” she says. “I also took three spring break trips through Habitat for Humanity, traveled to Ireland and went to Jamaica and Guatemala on mission trips.”

The mission trips were life-changing, she says. “Those experiences gave me a different perspective on how to care for people. When I went to school, I wanted to branch out and find out who I was. SHU made it easy for me to be involved in multiple things and succeed at that.”

Today she’s a nurse in the pediatric intensive care unit at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt in Nashville, but she eventually plans to go back to school for her master’s degree and become a nurse practitioner. “There’s a lot to look forward to,” she says. “Sacred Heart set me up for success in life.”

# '10s

## THE TENS



# Rabbi Abraham Skorka Receives Honorary Degree



**RABBI ABRAHAM SKORKA, AUTHOR, TEACHER** and biophysicist, was honored at a special academic convocation at Sacred Heart University on Wednesday, October 30, 2013. During the ceremonies, Skorka was presented with a doctorate of theology, *honoris causa*. Father Anthony J. Ciorra, assistant vice president of Mission and Catholic Identity at the University, read the citation.

Ciorra shared the story of Pope Francis telephoning his good friend Rabbi Skorka the night before the papal ordination. “They trapped me here in Rome, and they won’t let me come home,” the Pope-elect told Skorka.

Skorka serves as rector of the Seminario Rabínico Latinoamericano (Latin American Rabbinical Seminary) in Buenos Aires and also as rabbi of the B’nai Tikvah community there. He holds a Ph.D. in chemistry from the Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA), as well as honorary doctorates from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Argentina and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Skorka established the Jewish law programs at UBA and the Universidad del Salvador, a Jesuit institution in Buenos Aires. He is also the author of several books and many articles on religious themes as well as biophysics. The first English edition of one of his more recent books, *On Heaven and Earth: Pope Francis on Faith, Family and the Church in the Twenty-First Century*, was co-authored with then-Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio, now Pope Francis, and published in April 2013.

In welcoming Skorka to Sacred Heart, President John J. Petillo said, “You are our brother upon this journey of faith. Your presence and your words are teaching moments for us. We welcome you with open arms and embrace you gladly.”



TOP From left are President John J. Petillo, Rabbi Abraham Skorka and Trustee James T. Morley during a special convocation in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit in October. ABOVE The Liturgical Choir performed during the convocation.

Skorka expressed gratitude to the University community for honoring him and for giving him the opportunity to participate in Sacred Heart’s 50th anniversary celebration. In addressing the congregation, he spoke about the importance of dialogue—in particular, the kind of interfaith dialogue that he regularly shares with the Pope. “I have felt the obligation to be the witness that it’s possible to do something relevant, to give fresh blood and new life to interfaith dialogue on the basis of affection and love,” he said of their interactions.

He added, “I disable all my formal structures when I speak with him. The message is beyond words . . . it is something so deep, so special for us—him and me—but which we try to share through acts. Bergoglio speaks more through his acts than with words.”

**TO READ THE COMPLETE VERSION OF SKORKA’S** planned remarks on “Faith and Reason,” go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/skorkaremarks>.



# Sacred Heart to Introduce *New Degree Programs*



**NEW!**

## *Performing Arts Major Launches in Fall 2014*

The Department of Communication and Media Studies will begin offering a concentration in performing arts beginning in the fall of 2014. The new concentration is linked to the media arts major.

“Fairfield and the surrounding area is a major hub for the performing arts, and the interests of our students reflect that passion,” says Lori Bindig, assistant professor of Communication and Media Studies.

In the new major concentration, students will have opportunities to focus their studies on the disciplines of theater, dance and music. Coursework will cover options as varied as acting, dance history and American music. In addition, private lessons will be available for focusing on voice or specific musical instruments.

“The concentration in performing arts will allow students to develop their own natural talents and gifts in music, dance or theater,” Bindig says. “It will also place those disciplines in the context of the wider media world, so students will graduate with a holistic understanding of how the industry works, whether it’s on stage, behind the stage or in the production offices.”

In addition to coursework, students in the concentration will be able to earn credits by participating in the University Choir, band, theater productions and Dance Ensemble. “This program will provide the opportunity to combine a love of performance with the knowledge of critical and analytical skills that will result in performances with more depth and intention,” says Debbie Danowski, associate professor and chair of the Department of Communication and Media Studies.

The new major concentration will join the other concentrations in the media arts major—journalism, film and television and media. Danowski notes that the wide range of studies in the department will allow performing arts majors to gain a valuable background in ancillary skill sets. “There will be exciting opportunities to combine arts presentations with video and photography skills to add more outlets for performances,” she says. ☺

**NEW!**

## *Degree to Launch in Speech-Language Pathology*

The College of Health Professions will inaugurate a new master’s degree program in speech-language pathology. Aiming for a start in fall 2014, the program is designed to require five terms of study to be completed in two years.

“The physical therapy and occupational therapy programs in SHU’s College of Health Professions place graduate students in various agencies throughout the state, and we kept hearing from them that there was a shortage of speech pathologists,” says Rhea Paul, a professor of speech-language pathology and director of the new program. “We became convinced that a third program in the state would be valuable to our students, our clients and the University.”

Sacred Heart will be the only university in the state offering degrees in occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech-language pathology. “Those are the three related allied medical professions, and we’ll have them all in one school,” Paul says. “That means we will have the opportunity to do a lot of pre-service interprofessional education that really isn’t present in other programs in Connecticut.”

The demand for speech-language pathologists is high nationally and across the state. “About 60 percent of speech-language pathologists work in schools, and schools are finding it very difficult to fill all the positions because of increased demands for these services in autism and literacy programs,” Paul says.

Two new professors have been hired for the program, and three more will be added. Though the master’s program is not anticipated until fall, some undergraduates are currently enrolled in prerequisite basic science courses to prepare them for the graduate work. ☺






## Faculty Brass Quintet Makes Concert Debut



“The idea was really simple,” explained director of bands Keith Johnston. “We needed a group of professionals—working musicians—who wanted to work with the students, teach them, play together and form a genuine professional ensemble.” And so the Faculty Brass Quintet was born, with Walker Beard and Damon Coachman on

trumpet, Kevin Lam playing the French horn, Jason Bouchard on the tuba and Johnston himself sliding the trombone. They performed their first concert November 15 in the Schine Auditorium, becoming the region’s only professional resident ensemble on a college campus. 

## Missa Gaia

On November 9, the combined choirs presented *Missa Gaia*, the Earth Mass, a program designed to celebrate creation.



Soloists Aidan Shine and Lily DiPaola



Kyle Church



# The Theatre Arts Program's Fall 2013 Season



*BOEING-BOEING* — 1: From left are Rachel Proffitt, Erin Dugan, Declan Lynch, Megan Telford, Abigail Wooster and John Coletta. 2: John Coletta, Abigail Wooster, Declan Lynch and Rachel Proffitt. 3: John Coletta and Megan Telford; *EDGES* — 4: From left are Dan Murphy, Haley Tanella, Michael Kenny and Lindsay Shea. 5: Michael Kenny, Lindsay Shea and Dan Murphy; *PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD* — 6: Alex DeChino. 7: Thomas Burke and Katherine Boeglin. 8: From left are Sarah Klaum, Colleen Crowley, Lauren Pelland, Thomas Bovino, Thomas Burke, Lindsay Clouse, Alex DeChino and Katherine Boeglin.



## 2013–2014 Speakers

SEPTEMBER 2013



After reading *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* over the summer, members of the incoming freshman class heard from two members of the Lacks family—Henrietta’s great-granddaughter, **Victoria Baptiste**, and her daughter-in-law, **Shirley Lacks**—on September 11. Sponsored by the Student Affairs Lecture Series.



Associate Professor of Education **Ed Murray** joined Newbery Honor Award-

winning author **Patricia Reilly Giff** to discuss “The Wonderful, Wild Women of Children’s Literature” on September 16. Sponsored by the Isabelle Farrington College of Education and part of the 50th Anniversary Lecture Series.



Vice President for Mission and Catholic Identity **Michael W. Higgins** provided insight into

Sacred Heart’s beginnings on September 23. He also touched on the last 50 years since SHU’s founding and theorized about the next half century, noting the ongoing demand for a Catholic presence in higher education.



**Srinivas Thiruvadanthai**, director of research and managing director of the

Jerome Levy Forecasting Center in Mt. Kisco, N.Y., spoke on “The Misguided Hysteria about Sovereign Debt” on September 24 as part of a forum presented by the Economics and Finance Department.



“The Impact of Health Care Reform on Connecticut Hospitals” was the topic of a

forum on September 25. Speakers were **John Murphy**, president and CEO of Western Connecticut Health Network, and **Susan Davis**, president and CEO of St. Vincent’s Health Services. Sponsored by the College of Health Professions and part of the 50th Anniversary Lecture Series.

OCTOBER 2013



A forum titled “God’s Heart Has No Borders” focused on religion and immigration with speakers **Bishop Nicholas Dimarzio**, bishop of Brooklyn and chair of the Bishops’ Committee on Migration; **William Sweet**, director for the Centre on Philosophy, Theology and Cultural Traditions at St. Francis Xavier University; and **Stephane Kirven**, assistant professor of criminal justice at Sacred Heart. Sponsored by the Office of Mission and Catholic Identity and the Human Journey Colloquia Series.



Author **Chris Herren** talked about his book, *Basketball Junkie*, on October 2. Part of the Student Affairs Lecture Series.



Scientist, musician and author **Jaron Lanier**, who coined the term “virtual reality,”

discussed “Who Owns the Future?” on October 9. Part of the 50th Anniversary Lecture Series on Libraries.



**Richard Yamarone**, senior economist for *Bloomberg Brief: Economics*, spoke to students

about careers on Wall Street on October 10.



Author and 2011 National Humanities Award winner

**Andrew Delbanco**, the current Mendelson Family Chair of American Studies and Julian Clarence Levi Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, gave a talk titled “What Is College For?” on October 16.



**Elizabeth Gilbert**, author of *Eat, Pray, Love*, discussed her novel, *Signature of All Things*, on

October 18. Part of WSHU’s Join the Conversation Series.



Former General Electric CEO **Jack Welch** spoke with business students and

faculty members at an invitation-only event on October 23 moderated by President John J. Petillo. In addition to lively

discussions on the government shut-down, the Affordable Care Act, the impact of technology and more, Welch offered advice on building a career and entrepreneurship.



Actress **Mitzi Gaynor** took to the Edgerton stage for a conversation with ECPA

Executive Director **Jerry Goehring** on October 27. Part of the 50th Anniversary American Legends Series.



**Mary Borba**, senior vice president of Human Resources at Boehringer Ingelheim USA,

discussed strategies for providing women around the world with leadership skills on October 28 during the fall semester’s Welch MBA Forum.



Author **Wally Lamb** discussed the writing process and his novels, including *She’s Come*

*Undone* and *We Are Water*, on October 29. Part of WSHU’s Join the Conversation Series.



University of Notre Dame **Professor Brian S. Collier** gave a lecture on “Save Our Schools,

Save Our Country, and Save Your Family,” on October 30. Part of the Hesburgh Lecture Series and the 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series.





## Gooden Shares Tales of Baseball and Addiction

Former Major League Baseball pitching phenom Dwight Gooden, facing at left, was on campus September 18 for a panel on “Talking Baseball and Beyond.” Joining him was SHU’s Executive Director of Athletics Bobby Valentine. The discussion was moderated by Ellis

Henican, who co-authored Gooden’s new book, *Doc: A Memoir*. It was part of the 2013–2014 Student Affairs Lecture Series and was sponsored by the Graham Foundation of Connecticut, Inc.



Retired  
**Lieutenant  
Colonel Dick  
Hoyt**, who has  
competed, along  
with his son Rick,

in over 1,090 athletic events despite the fact that Rick was born a spastic quadriplegic with cerebral palsy, gave a lecture entitled “Together You Can Do Anything!” on October 30. Part of the Student Affairs Lecture Series.

### NOVEMBER 2013



**Graham Russell  
Gao Hodges**, the  
George Dorland  
Langdon, Jr.,  
Professor of  
History and

Africana & Latin American Studies at Colgate University, spoke about Thomas Jefferson’s betrayal of a good friend in a talk titled “Tadeusz Kosciuszko and the Black American Revolution” on

November 13. Sponsored by the Polish Studies Fund.

### DECEMBER 2013



Actress Joan  
Crawford’s  
daughter,  
**Christina  
Crawford**, spoke

about “Surviving Mommie Dearest” on December 2. Part of the Edgerton’s American Legends Series.



Danbury Hospital  
Director of  
Global Health  
and medical  
missions veteran  
**Majid Sadigh**

discussed the global impact of health issues in remote parts of the world and the importance of developing proactive initiatives on December 13. Part of Sacred Heart University’s 50th Anniversary Colloquia Series and sponsored by the School of Nursing.





## Beauvais Honored by the Connecticut Nurses Association

Calling nursing a vocation that requires only a healing heart, mind and touch, Audrey Beauvais, SHU assistant professor and director of the undergraduate nursing program, was bestowed with the prestigious Josephine A. Dolan Diamond Jubilee Award for her contributions to nursing education. The Fairfield native was given the award by the Connecticut Nurses Association at their annual convention on October 23.

This award recognizes innovations and achievements in areas of improving the quality of the educational experience, enhancing the learning environment and conceiving new analytical approaches. Beauvais' 23-year nursing career includes positions in academia, in the insurance industry and as a practicing nurse. She has worked at Sacred Heart University since 2006, where she has been a visionary professor and nurse educator. ☞

## Nursing Faculty Collaborate on First Textbook for Practitioners

Professors Susan DeNisco and Julie Stewart recently published a textbook for nurse practitioners, *Role Development for the Nurse Practitioner*. Designed to show students, practitioners and administrators what is needed for an empowering work environment, role satisfaction and opportunities for improved patient outcomes, it is the first textbook to focus solely on nurse practitioner roles. ☞



Professors Julie Stewart and Sue DeNisco

## Linda Strong Appointed President of Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses



Linda Strong, director of Sacred Heart's RN-BSN and RN-MSN programs and of the SHU Emergency Reserve Corps, has been elected president of the Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses (CAPHN). She is only the second academic to assume the role in the 10-year history of the organization. CAPHN was formed to promote the health of populations through collaborations between public practices and academia. ☞



## StaffCenterStage

+ FROM THE HEART +

### Art Gerckens Earns 2013 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award

Art Gerckens '76 was awarded the 2013 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award by the Hartford Diocese for his role in saving St. Michael School of Derby. The school was in danger of closing because of declining enrollment and insufficient financial resources, but Art led a group of dedicated parents in creating a five-year financial plan to boost enrollment and stabilize the school's finances.



From left are Hartford Archbishop Henry J. Mansell, Art Gerckens, St. Mary-St. Michael School Principal Linda Coppola and Hartford Archdiocese Superintendent of Catholic Schools Dale R. Hoyt.





## Robin Danzak Receives Fulbright Grant

Professor Robin Danzak of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology was recently



awarded the Fulbright Junior Research Award. This research-based award is one of the core Fulbright Scholar awards for recipients in the early stages of their careers. Danzak, who earned a doctorate in 2009, will work in Italy's University of Padua, conducting a research project on the bilingual writing of Italian middle-school students studying English.

"Now that the idea of having a Fulbright is a reality, I am so excited to actually go to Italy and collaborate on this project. The University of Padua is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Europe," said Danzak. ☞

## Rhea Paul Elected VP of the Association for the International Study of Child Language

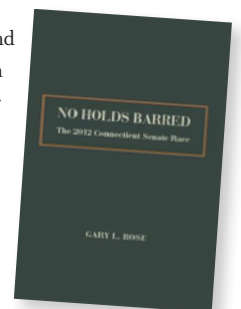


Professor Rhea Paul, chair of the Speech-Language Pathology Department in the College of Health Professions, was elected vice president of the International Association for the Study of Child Language (IASCL). The Association promotes international, interdisciplinary cooperation in the study of child language. ☞



## Professor Rose Publishes Book on Bitter 2012 Senate Race

Professor Gary Rose, chairman of Government and Politics, tackled the partisan and pricey 2012 election for one of Connecticut's senate seats in his latest book, *No Holds Barred: The 2012 Connecticut Senate Race*. The book, released in August by Academica Press, chronicles the bitter race between former WWE executive Linda McMahon and three-term congressman Chris Murphy. ☞



## Professor Brian Stiltner is Guest Expert on MSNBC

Brian Stiltner, chair of the Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies Department, was a guest of Melissa Harris-Perry on MSNBC in November. They discussed the rising number of Catholic hospital systems and the impact of Catholicism on how these hospitals deliver health care. ☞





Professor Michelle Loris teaches modern American fiction.



## Michelle Loris Named Professor of the Year

By Timothy Deenihan

Michelle Loris may very well be the most dedicated student you will ever meet. Vividly recalling her first days on campus, she tells of discussions with professors in the cafe long after class had finished. She's old school: thrilled to have been invited to a book discussion at a professor's home or serving at a Catholic outreach event in Harlem and the South Bronx. Or protesting the war. Or marching on Washington.

She was in Washington this past November, in fact, though admittedly not to march. It was then that the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, together with the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, recognized Loris as the Connecticut Professor of the Year. The freshman year she so vividly remembers may have been 40-odd years ago, and the war in question may have been Vietnam, but still, Michelle Loris—*Doctor* Michelle Loris, associate dean of the College of Arts & Sciences—is the eternal student at heart.

"Sacred Heart University is the place where learning and education transformed my life," she says. "It is the place to which I have dedicated my professional life, even as I continue my own learning—because a really good teacher never stops learning."

After her undergraduate time at SHU, she was awarded a teaching fellowship at McGill University in Montreal. She earned her doctorate in

American literature from Fordham and then tenure back home at Sacred Heart. Even fully credentialed, her desire to continue actively learning was insatiable. Having studied human nature from a literary point of view, she turned now to the scientific, and—while carrying a full teaching course load at Sacred Heart—began working toward her doctorate in clinical psychology at Antioch.

For Loris, art and life are best viewed through each other's glass. It's a talent for which she is famous among the students and faculty alike. "[She] is able to get inside of the characters' heads," notes Kimberly Nania, English major and four-time Loris veteran. Clinical analysis of fictional characters may seem like a purely academic exercise, but consider the authentication it provides of an author's insight into the human condition. "In this manner," Nania says, more than in any other literature class she has experienced, "Dr. Loris creates understanding and empathy in her students."



It's an echo of her passion for questions over answers. At a time when education is becoming increasingly—and one might argue, *necessarily*—vocational, Loris willfully chooses to celebrate the journey over any prescribed destination. “I’m a great adviser for students who are still undecided in their majors or careers—I never had a plan,” Loris admits. “I loved learning, and I let that be my guide.”

Indeed, her love of the journey made her the perfect candidate to spearhead the school's Common Core Chairs Committee in 2006 and ultimately to develop the University's Human Journey, a four-part core requirement for all degree-seeking students involved with Sacred Heart—whether full-time, part-time, on campus or online. The classes directly consider “the four core questions of enduring human meaning”: What does it mean to be human? To live a life of meaning and purpose? To understand and appreciate the natural world? And to form a more just society for the common good?

The challenges facing the development of such a curriculum are almost unimaginable. “It was one thing to have this argument within the same discipline—historians debating from the perspective of social history, for instance,” she wrote for the quarterly *Liberal Education*. “But the argument took on gale-force-wind proportions when we tried to bring all the disciplines together.”

To navigate the conflicting passions of gifted academics dedicated to the values of their own fields would require someone whose own values embodied, as her colleague Tom Forget wrote when recommending her for the award, “the best of academic life: an abiding and reverent commitment to student learning, a lively and curious mind, an open and generous spirit and a compassionate and loving heart.” He concluded, “Dr. Loris is a sterling example of the life of the mind, lived for others.”

Her selfless commitment to the questions, to questioning, to inspiring learning and embracing its ambiguous nature proved resoundingly successful. The Human Journey Common Core has been recognized time and again on a national scale for its breadth, depth and standard. In 2012, Loris won a prestigious Lilly Fellows Network Exchange Grant to showcase the curriculum for faculty and administrators from colleges and universities across the country. The response was overwhelming. Approximately four times the typical number of attendees for such an event made the journey to Sacred Heart to take part.

Though her greatest legacy to the University may well be the Human Journey, it is by no means the only string in her bow. “In her 40-year career at Sacred Heart,” says Jeffrey Cain, chair of the Department of English, “Professor Loris has probably done more than any other single person to advance the Arts & Sciences curriculum.” She initiated the Human Journey Colloquia Series to complement the core curriculum and open its benefits beyond the students to the entire Sacred Heart community. As a scholar, she has more than a dozen peer-reviewed publications in both literature and psychology and more than 40 juried presentations at academic conferences. As a clinician, she continues to work in psychological trauma, helping an array of patients, from veterans and victims of sexual abuse and trauma to survivors of the 9/11 attacks. She has served the University specifically on numerous committees, guiding the course of the school's growth and development. It is easy to see why she was introduced at the University's Founder's Day celebration as a “human dynamo.”

These accolades and accomplishments only reflect her commitment to the institution. Her award, however, recognizes her as more than a part of the machine. It commends her lifelong work as a teacher, the fruits of which are scattered over decades of students' lives, both past and present.

Students like Jennifer Sant Anna, who will tell you Loris “has literally changed my life,” inspiring her to enter the education program at Sacred Heart and follow in her mentor's footsteps. Or alumni like Felicia Carlini and Andrew Houghtalen, who remember Loris' ability to elevate the student effortlessly through conversation and expectation.

For Michelle Loris, the perpetual student, being named Professor of the Year is certainly an honor, but her attention humbly remains on the journey. “Learning transforms you,” she says. “SHU's motto is *Unleashing Minds and Inspiring Hearts*—that is true. That is what happens when we teach and learn—we become more fully human, more fully alive, more fully able to know, love, be, feel, give, do . . . What could be more important?” ☞



ABOVE TOP College of Arts & Sciences Dean Seamus Carey, right, presents Connecticut Professor of the Year Michelle Loris with her award from the Carnegie Foundation and CASE during a special congratulatory reception on campus on November 19.

ABOVE BOTTOM All of the Professors of the Year posed for a group photo at the reception in Washington, D.C., in November. Michelle Loris is seated fourth from the left.





### Luxembourg Commencement 2013

Sacred Heart University held its 22nd Commencement for students earning master's degrees and professional certificates at the University's campus in Luxembourg on December 13. The American Ambassador to Luxembourg, His Excellency Robert A. Mandell, gave the Commencement address.

ABOVE LEFT Welch College of Business Dean John Chalykoff addresses graduates during the ceremony.

## StudyAbroad

+ FROM THE HEART +



### New "Cities by the Sea" Program Offers Rich Mix of Science and Culture

Five students gained insights in the field of coastal management and were introduced to Geographical Information System software while being immersed in the rich culture of two of Europe's most unique cities last summer as part of "Cities by the Sea," the University's first marine science study abroad program.

The faculty-led program was conducted in July and included a visit to Venice, Italy, and a stay in Kiel, Germany. The students also spent a night in Austria. The course was designed and developed by John Rapaglia, an assistant professor of biology, and was offered through the Office of Global Affairs. The cost of the course for participants was partially offset by a group study visit award from the prestigious German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The five Sacred Heart students who participated in the inaugural trip included four undergraduates and one graduate student.

Sarah DeWolf '15, a 19-year-old from Newington, a double major in biology and psychology, called the program "easily the most valuable and unforgettable experience I've ever had. It taught me a lot about the human experience and what it means to be a part of the world, rather than a bystander."

For more information about SHU's wide variety of study abroad opportunities, visit the program website at [www.sacredheart.edu/academics/studyabroad](http://www.sacredheart.edu/academics/studyabroad).



Atop Monte Verena



From left are Jocelyn Rivas, Alison Marchione, Matt Cole, Professor John Rapaglia, Sarah DeWolf and Christina Giglio on the Ponte degli Alpini in Bassano del Grappa, Italy.





## Breaking Barriers: OT Students Travel to Guatemala

Five occupational therapy graduate students took part in an international service learning trip to Santa Maria de Jesus Village in Antigua, Guatemala, in October. The interprofessional journey included students from both the physical therapy and nursing programs, allowing them to share their practical knowledge and use their education and techniques.

During this extraordinary, inspiring trip, students evaluated and treated children and adults with a variety of diseases, birth defects, deformities, spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy and developmental delays. The group also distributed sneakers to children at a clinic in Santa Maria de Jesus.

“The trip comes ahead of their fieldwork in the second semester, and I am always amazed at what they know and what they gather from the trip. It really is a valuable experience for them in many ways,” said Professor Jody Bortone, chair and director of the Occupational Therapy Department at Sacred Heart. “It’s truly a hands-on experience and an opportunity to serve others who are very much in need.”

For master’s student Danielle Nicoletti, the experience allowed her to grow professionally and strengthened her desire to work with underserved populations. “I now have clinical experience working one-on-one with a patient,” she said. “I was able to evaluate and provide treatment for the first time, and my confidence has increased drastically.” Working with an interdisciplinary team with other physical therapy and nursing students allowed them to “share our knowledge and come up with interventions together, broadening each other’s views and skills,” she added.

Another highlight for Nicoletti was engaging with a worldwide organization called Hope Haven International (HHI), a group that aids people with disabilities. HHI receives donations of new and used wheelchairs, wheelchair parts, raw materials, financial support and other items. “We had the chance to fundraise before the trip so we could donate the chairs and then had the opportunity to build and fit the chairs to 24 children,” she said. In addition, the OT Capstone group identified a need to develop a pictorial manual on how to prevent pressure sores and how to use the wheelchairs patients were given.

For Kelly Sasso, a second-year master’s student, distributing the sneakers at Santa Maria de Jesus was a powerful moment. “We gave one little boy a pair of shoes that had a heel that lit up when he walked,” reflected Sasso. “When he finally saw the lights, his face lit up, too, and he ran around the facility stomping his feet and showing everyone his new shoes. We coined the term the ‘sneaker smile,’ because the smiles on their faces were like nothing I’ve ever seen.”

Nicoletti and Sasso’s travel was partially supported by a generous gift from Ellie and Lorie Weinstein. Lorie Weinstein is a former SHU faculty member, and Ellie is an occupational therapist. The Weinstains created an award to offer support to two occupational therapy students each year who engage in international service learning or fieldwork. ☺

ABOVE Nursing student Ashley Lapolla, left, and OT student Audrey Novak talk with Guatemalan children about proper tooth-brushing techniques during their trip last fall.





## Sociology Course Surveys Homeowners for Habitat for Humanity Chapter

This past fall, the Department of Sociology introduced students to another side of community service, conducting background research to help Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County provide affordable housing for Bridgeport-area families.

A large component of the course “Housing and Homelessness in the United States” is working with Habitat to survey owners of the homes the charity has helped build. Students designed and administered the survey and presented the findings to Habitat. “The project with Habitat not only enhanced the learning experience in the classroom, but also performed an important service outside of the classroom,” says Gerald Reid, professor of sociology and associate dean of SHU’s College of Arts & Sciences. ☞

ABOVE Iris Cordero Taylor brings the students for a tour inside one of the Habitat houses that was under construction last fall. AT RIGHT Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County’s Director of Family Services Cordero Taylor, facing at center, takes students in Sociology Professor Gerald Reid’s “Housing and Homelessness in the United States” class on a tour of Habitat homes in Bridgeport.



## Students Sleep Outdoors to Raise Funds for Habitat for Humanity

There was nothing traditional about this campout: cardboard boxes for shelters, relay races, a deejay spinning tunes and a dance instructor teaching salsa. For that matter, the campsite on a patio outside a dining hall wasn’t very remote either. But the Habitat for Humanity (HFH) Sleep Out created some old-fashioned fun while raising funds to help families without their own adequate shelters. Conducted by Sacred Heart’s HFH chapter overnight on October 18, the annual fall event drew a mix of about 100 students, alumni, advisers and graduate students. ☞

Students gather on the 63’s patio for the Habitat Sleep Out fundraiser.





During CURTIS Week, Volunteer Programs Graduate Assistant Tabitha Kayembe helps to put together food donation bags at the Daughters of Charity in Bridgeport.



Students, from right, Kyle Blake, Paula Traver and Kelly Simpson serve dinner at Prospect House in Bridgeport as part of CURTIS Week.

## Thirteen Students Participate in Annual CURTIS Week Program

Thirteen Sacred Heart students spent January 8–12 participating in the University's CURTIS Week program before heading back to classes for the spring semester. CURTIS Week, which stands for Community Understanding & Reflection Through Inner-city Service, honors the Most Reverend Walter W. Curtis, second Bishop of Bridgeport and founder of the University. This annual program is sponsored by Enterprise Rent-a-Car.

"The goal of CURTIS Week is to encourage understanding among all people throughout the world, beginning here at home," said Megan Houlihan-

Aceto, associate director of the Office of Volunteer Programs and Service Learning, which sponsors the program. Houlihan-Aceto participated in the program along with the students.

The immersion program includes both cultural and service activities and focuses on the issues of social justice and multiculturalism that perpetuate poverty. This year's events included work at the Bridgeport Rescue Mission, Alpha Community Services YMCA, Prospect House, Caroline House, Daughters of Charity, CES Rise Program and Habitat for Humanity. The students also had a chance to see the financial disparity evident in Bridgeport neighborhoods, learn to salsa dance, experience various cuisines and attend church services of several different cultures. ☺

## Jail N' Bail Fundraiser Nets \$5,300 for Special Olympics

Sacred Heart's Jail N' Bail fundraiser recently raised \$5,300 for Special Olympics of Connecticut. John Kichinko, assistant supervisor in Public Safety and the event's organizer, was grateful to all who good-naturedly participated in the event—whether they filled out a warrant or went to jail. He was especially impressed with the Residential Life team, which quickly raised \$800 of their \$1,000 bail. He also thanked the Bridgeport, Fairfield and Trumbull Police Departments, the Trumbull Police Cadets and the Public Safety Departments at Fairfield University and Southern Connecticut State University for their assistance.



Executive Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Bobby Valentine was a good sport about being arrested for charity.

## Students Help Light Up Bridgeport "Lighthouse"

The Office of Volunteer Programs and Service Learning has received \$709,906 from the City of Bridgeport to run educational programming through the city's Lighthouse Program that enriches students beyond what they might receive at home or during regular school hours. The funding supports both summer and academic year programs.

In a partnership that dates back to 1998, the University will coordinate and manage educational and recreational programs at six Bridgeport educational centers: Bryant, Columbus, Discovery Magnet (both before and after school), Geraldine Johnson, Madison and John Winthrop (both before and after school). The 15-year-old alliance involves 15 to 20 undergraduates who will work toward reaching 650 of the city's at-risk elementary pupils. ☺



Student Tom Barcia '16 works with students in the Lighthouse Program at the Discovery Interdistrict Magnet School in Bridgeport.



As part of the volunteerism element of the Upward Bound program, students Charlene Byron and Chris Nieves work on sorting donations at St. John's Church and Family Center in Bridgeport in December 2012.

# After 25 Years, Upward Bound Is Still Helping Kids Succeed

By Chris Nicholson

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In 1989, Sacred Heart University launched Upward Bound, a federally funded program designed to help disadvantaged students complete high school and enter and succeed in college. Since then, the program has helped more than 1,500 Bridgeport students acquire the academic and soft skills they need to earn a degree in higher education. More than two thirds of these students were the first in their family to do so.

The University hired Carylanne Rice-Ehalt as the program's original director and handed her the task of introducing Upward Bound on the Sacred Heart campus. After 25 years, she still directs the program, helping local students enhance and improve their academic performance in high school while motivating them and providing the knowledge, information, confidence and skills needed so that a postsecondary education becomes a viable option instead of a dream.

"The administrative component is just one small facet—the job encompasses much more than that," she says. "I take on the roles of counselor, teacher, disciplinarian, and sometimes I am the shoulder to cry on. And though I've been doing it for 25 years, I'm still learning every day. Each student has a different story to tell, and there are many chapters. What works well with one student does not necessarily translate to others. Therefore, recognizing individual needs allows staff to provide more in-depth service to each student."

Upward Bound is a national initiative born from the Higher Education Act of 1965. It funds more than 900 nationwide college

prep programs, mostly housed at universities. During the academic year, Rice-Ehalt has a full-time student coordinator, a part-time administrative assistant and a paraprofessional staff of eight to 12 undergraduate tutors and workshop consultants who work with the students on Saturdays bimonthly. For the six-week summer component, which operates from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily, approximately 10 faculty members teach high school subjects as well as college classes.

"The goal we all share is to increase the rate at which students perform, complete high school and not only go on to college, but graduate within four to six years. Therefore, our relationship does not end with high school graduation; it is ongoing. We stay in contact with many of our alumni," Rice-Ehalt notes.

The key—and the philosophy behind SHU's program—is the effort to involve much more than academics. "The reason we've been so successful—and it sounds like a cliché, but it's true—is that we develop a relationship with every student," Rice-Ehalt says. "I need to know them better than what we can learn from a report card. Therefore, we spend a lot of time just talking with the students and



learning what their interests and fears are, their family life, career aspirations and, more importantly, what they want their lives to be like in the future. The more information we have on a student, the better service we can provide both academically and emotionally.”

Rice-Ehalt also teaches the students the importance of social skills. “I’m a firm believer in old-school manners,” she says. “We continually work on the important social skills that matter not only in Upward Bound but in life, such as a firm handshake, eye contact, attire, attitude and making the right choices.”

Upward Bound participant Elijah Woodley, a Bridgeport senior who attends Emmett O’Brien Technical, can tell you all about that. “Carylannne is more of a mother figure to some of us,” he says. “She’ll get on us for little things like using good grammar, and if we’re slipping in school, she’ll ask what’s going on and she’ll help you fix it. She’s helped me grow up.”

Those feelings are echoed by Charlene Brown-McKenzie, a member of the program’s first graduating class in 1991 who went on to earn her bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University and her MSW from Columbia. She says that Upward Bound changed her life.

“Carylannne allowed us to believe that with commitment and the support of the institution, we would be able to change our circumstance,” says Brown-McKenzie, who now works at Georgetown as executive director of the Institute for College Preparation and associate director of the Center for Multicultural Equity and Access. “She motivated us to be connected as a cohort,



Upward Bound program alumna Charlene Brown-McKenzie, right, receives the Connecticut Trio Achiever Award in November 2013. Director Carylanne Rice-Ehalt was there to congratulate her.

and she focused us on how we could transcend the socioeconomic challenges of our communities to be able to go to college and be productive citizens.”

For Rice-Ehalt, hearing from Upward Bound alumni about their successes in life is the part of her job that makes her smile most. She says, “There are days I walk away shaking my head, and I feel like I haven’t gotten through to all of my students. I never understood and I will never support the theory that if you help only one student, it’s worth it. No way! I want a lot more. We don’t always have all success stories, but that’s what makes this program so vital. Deep down we have at best effected change in all our students. And that’s a positive start.”

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ABOVE LEFT At the 1990 banquet are, from left, Eileen Bertsch, Alvin Clinkscales, Bob Ehalt, Upward Bound Director Carylanne Rice-Ehalt and Martin Sebourne. ABOVE RIGHT Summer component faculty and Upward Bound staff celebrate during the annual banquet in 2012. Clockwise from far left are Sue Tomasko, Missy Pinto, Martin Sebourne, Upward Bound Director Carylanne Rice-Ehalt, Vin Wynne, Upward Bound Administrative Assistant Kathy Garzillo, Dave Constant, Upward Bound Student Coordinator Emma Sanchez, Mary Greenan, Marty Isenberg, Sunwha Chapman and Denise Green.

## Pioneer Spirit

### FROM THE DESK OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



From what we hear and see, Sacred Heart students are working hard and challenging themselves to respond to the needs of our ever-changing diverse world.

I am pleased to report that much has been accomplished by the alumni association board, including additional discounted insurance programs with more options and increased benefits.

Additionally, we established new member nomination and selection protocol and welcomed three new members to our organization. As you can see below, Mike, John, and Dave join us from diverse professional backgrounds and class years and we look forward to their involvement.

One of my favorite parts of serving on our Alumni Association is working with members of Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow—a student organization, established to help students develop a connection with alumni. A representative from their group updates the board through “The Pulse of the Heart”—a simple check-in to see how current Pioneers are enjoying their time on campus. From what we

hear and see, Sacred Heart students are working hard and challenging themselves to respond to the needs of our ever-changing diverse world, as many of us also did.

Every time I make the trip back to Sacred Heart, I grow prouder as I watch the school where we came to learn and grow, expand its reach within the community and beyond. If you haven't been back to campus in a while, I invite you to come back, and stop any student to take his or her “pulse.” I assure you, you'll be impressed.

If a visit to campus isn't in your plans, stay tuned to our website and Facebook page to see what events might be coming to your area. We'd love to welcome you back to SHU.

Hail to SHU,

Cheryl Janus '01, '03 MAT

## New Board Members Named



### Dave Howe '75

A graduate of Notre Dame [Boys] Catholic High School of Fairfield, Dave Howe received a bachelor's degree in business administration from SHU, an MBA from

the University of New Haven, and a master's in communication from Fairfield University. He returned to SHU in 1977 as a business professor, and after leaving the University, was employed by the former D. M. Read Co. as purchasing manager and assistant to the vice president of Operations. In 1982, he joined the sales organization of Lorillard, Inc. Howe currently serves in leadership roles on a multitude of boards in the greater Fairfield region. “I am truly delighted to have been selected to serve as a member of the Board of the Alumni Association. I thoroughly enjoyed my years of study and instruction and look forward to participating in the University's 50th Anniversary celebrations,” he said.



### John Ruzicka '06

Originally from Northampton, PA, John Ruzicka currently resides in Norwalk. He graduated from Sacred Heart in 2006 with a

double major in sports management & business administration. He currently works for WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) in Stamford and has had the opportunity to travel the world for various events over his 7½ years there. In his free time, he volunteers with social media and fundraising efforts for the Fairfield County Sports Commission. Ruzicka joined the board because he wanted to stay involved with the university. “I'll often attend a home basketball game and will come back during Alumni Weekend for the football game; it's a great time to reminisce with old friends and professors,” he said.



### Michael Koosa '01

During Mike Koosa's time at SHU, beginning in 1997, he actively participated in a variety of organizations including Campus Ministry, Choir,

Habitat for Humanity and the Drama Club. He earned a bachelor's degree in computer science, and was honored with the Medal of Excellence at graduation. He currently serves as senior application manager at MediaSpace Solutions in Wilton and has worked at various software companies over the past 12 years. He met his wife, Darlene '01, '05 MAT, at SHU and they are proud of parents of 7-year-old, identical twin boys, Gabriel and Michael. Koosa is honored to be a member of the Alumni Board and looks forward to furthering alumni relations and supporting his alma mater.



# 1967 VS 2013

122 in 1967      1,171 in 2013



TOTAL DEGREES AWARDED

## ATHLETICS

6      31

PROGRAMS

DIVISION I PROGRAMS

## TELEPHONE NUMBER

EDison 203-9-6046      371-7999

100% COMMUTER      54% RESIDENTIAL

# THEN & NOW

## BACHELORS AWARDED

1967      2013

16	BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	89
6	ACCOUNTING	55
2	PSYCHOLOGY	98

35,000

## LIBRARY VOLUMES



128,640

107

FACULTY MEMBERS



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FULL- & PART-TIME FACULTY

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CAMPUSES (AND ONLINE!)

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## DEGREE TYPES OFFERED

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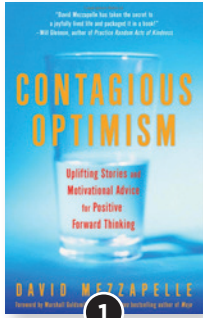


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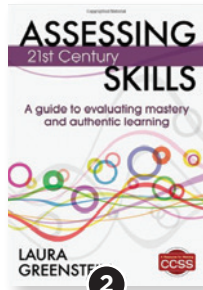
DOCTORATE, MASTERS, BACHELORS & ASSOCIATE

WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE OVER **35,000** ALUMNI

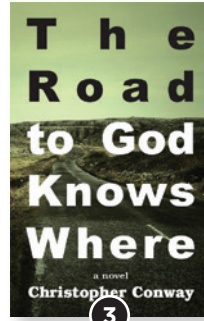
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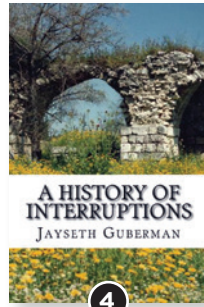
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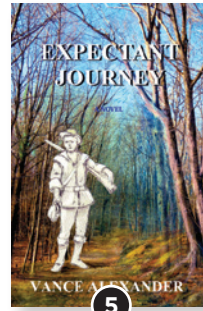
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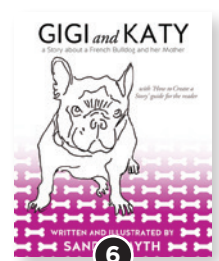
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### **Contagious Optimism**

David Mezzapelle & Alan Malizia '73  
PUBLISHER: Viva Editions 2013

*Contagious Optimism* includes stories and parables of amazing life turnarounds from real people worldwide. A compendium of encouragement, *Contagious Optimism* also includes advice and guidance from business leaders, visionaries and professionals. Nowadays, many people have lost confidence in themselves and the world around them due to personal hardship along with economic and political uncertainty worldwide. *Contagious Optimism* shows readers that it's possible to find the silver lining in every cloud.

2

### **Assessing 21st Century Skills: A Guide to Evaluating Mastery and Authentic Learning**

Laura Greenstein '98 6th Year  
PUBLISHER: Corwin 2012

The Common Core State Standards clearly define the skills students need for success in college and the 21st-century workplace. The question is: How can you measure student mastery of skills like creativity, problem solving and use of technology? Laura Greenstein demonstrates how teachers can teach and assess 21st-century skills using authentic learning experiences and rigorous, varied assessment strategies. Based on the best ideas of renowned experts in education, this book

provides a framework and practical ideas for measuring thinking skills, actions and living skills.

3

### **The Road to God Knows Where**

Christopher Conway '92  
PUBLISHER: Ogham Art 2012

For American Jimmy Dwyer, the mission to spread his recently deceased father's ashes off the majestic Cliffs of Moher on the west coast of Ireland sets in motion a journey of reflection. He travels far north to the town of Killybegs, his family's ancestral home, in search of his estranged older brother Jack, in hopes of bringing him home to be with their ailing mother. Jimmy's trip up the foreboding coast forces him to reflect on the bittersweet memories of his childhood family vacations to Ireland. With doubts of the future of his family, Jimmy looks to the shadows of the past for answers. *The Road to God Knows Where* is the first book in *The Killybegs Saga*.

4

### **A History of Interruptions**

Jayseth Guberman '81  
PUBLISHER: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform 2012

*A History of Interruptions* is a debut collection of poetry focusing on peace, history, the Middle East, language, love, remembrance and redemption. Jayseth Guberman's poetry has been published in

the USA, Canada, New Zealand, Europe and Israel. He is listed in the *Directory of American Poets & Fiction Writers* and *Who's Who in America*, as well as the *International Who's Who in Poetry*. Jeremy S. Garber, the former poetry editor of *Reconstructionist* magazine, has written that "... Guberman . . . is unselfconsciously familiar with broad aspects of Jewish literature, rituals and history which inform his felicitous imagery. . . Guberman writes lyrical love poems with a bittersweet Jewish taste. Unlike many American Jewish poets, his concerns extend beyond the narrowly religious, political or sentimental." Professor Norman Simms of the University of Waikato (New Zealand) has written that the "... poems . . . are so rich and deep with significance. It is a book that deserves to be read by many and also deeply many times."

5

### **Expectant Journey**

Vance Alexander (The Pen Name of F. Vance Fazzino '08)  
PUBLISHER: Galassia Press, LLC 2012

The year is 1801; Jared Browne is a handsome young man, born of a mulatto slave and a wealthy Connecticut plantation owner. Unusual for the time, his father treats him with the same love and respect as his son Elijah, born to his white wife, Aphra. She is a cruel, greedy narcissist intent on Jared's demise. An overheard and misunderstood conversation puts Jared on the run to Canada in search of freedom. On the

way, he is able to sustain himself in the harshest environment of the New England woods. His vast knowledge of flora and faunas keeps him well fed on his trek. Many incomparable and harrowing experiences along the way change his outlook toward his fellow man. Although saddened by his situation, he is never bitter or resentful. If he is able to reach his goal, Canada, can he live as a truly free man?

6

### **Gigi and Katy**

Sandra Smyth '99 MARS  
PUBLISHER: Xulon Press 2013

*Gigi and Katy* is a true story about two French bulldogs. The message of the story is about worth. All individuals have value because of what they contribute to our lives by just being who they are. Gigi's mother Katy, besides being a good pet, has a career as a well-trained pet therapy dog. Gigi has a compromised immune system, which causes her to have severe allergies that keep her from being a show dog or a pet therapy dog. Gigi's worth is her spirit and the joy she brings to her owners who have no children. At the end of the story, readers are invited to write a story about their own pets on pages provided. Components of what makes a good story and an outline for creating a story are included.

### **ARE YOU AN AUTHOR?**

For more information on the Alumni Collection visit: [www.sacredheart.edu/collection](http://www.sacredheart.edu/collection)



# You Sent Big Red Around the World!



Big Red is ready to hit the road, plane and train with YOU! Take Big Red with you wherever you are traveling, and help us get him around the world and back, spreading Pioneer Pride along the way.

Snap some photos with Big Red exploring and email them to us at [alumni@sacredheart.edu](mailto:alumni@sacredheart.edu) and we'll post them in future magazines. Be sure to include the names of those pictured and your location. We can't wait to see where Big Red has been!

Gabrielle Scozzari '14 and Frank Scozzari '16 in Paris last December.



Christina Ries '09, '10 MAT in downtown Las Vegas.



Big Red at North Mountain in Phoenix, courtesy of Nora Beeson, aunt of current student Brianna Sullivan.



## EVENTS & HAPPENINGS



### 1 — SIGMA TAU OMEGA REUNION

Sigma Tau Omega fraternity celebrated its 45th anniversary on October 26, 2013.

### 2 — WEBINAR: THE SECRET WEAPON IN YOUR JOB SEARCH TOOLBOX: RECRUITERS

Sara Faliveno '96, executive recruiter, shared her knowledge and expertise on how best to work with and alongside recruiters in your job search. The Alumni Career Webinar Series is a joint effort by the Office of Career Development and Placement and the Office of Alumni Relations.

### 3 — DARIO MELENDEZ VISIT TO CAMPUS

Alumnus Dario Melendez '08 gave advice to students in the Media Studies discipline. Melendez is a studio anchor for ESPN on Highlight Express on ESPNNews and SportsCenter.



### 4 — SAFE HALLOWEEN

Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (STAT) hosted children of the community, alumni and faculty/staff on campus for a safe trick-or-treating event. In its third year, the event had over 150 costumed guests. Several other student organizations partnered with STAT to decorate classrooms and pass out candy.

### 5 — BIG RED'S BIRTHDAY BASH

Over 75 Alumni and their families returned to campus to celebrate Big Red's Birthday as the men's basketball team took on Wagner College.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Alumni Authors Showcase

#### Series: Meet the Authors

Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m.  
Schine Auditorium

### Young Alumni Boston Reception

Sunday, March 30, at 1 p.m.  
Harpoon Brewery in Boston

### Alumni Day of Service

Saturday, April 12  
Campus Breakfast Kickoff

### Media Studies Alumni Reception

Friday, April 25, at 6 p.m.  
Schine Auditorium

### 20th Anniversary Celebration for the

#### Men's and Women's Tennis Teams

Saturday, May 10  
University Commons

### New Jersey Alumni Reception

Thursday, June 19  
Watchung, N.J.

TO REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS AND/OR VIEW THE FULL EVENTS CALENDAR, visit <http://alumni.sacredheart.edu/>

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY ALUMNI CAREER WEBINAR SERIES

### The Secret Weapon In Your Job Search Toolbox: RECRUITERS

Join us in the third installment of the Alumni Career Webinar Series to learn about how recruiters can be your best ally in your job search. Presented by Sara Faliveno '96, Executive Recruiter for Hester Hester Partners, LLC.

**Thursday, October 24th | 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.**  
45 minutes, 15 minute Q&A.

**FREE!**  
Register online now at <http://alumni.sacredheart.edu>  
Open to all students and alumni.

Sacred Heart University  
For more information, contact [alumni@sacredheart.edu](mailto:alumni@sacredheart.edu) or [alumni@sacredheart.edu](mailto:alumni@sacredheart.edu)



## ALUMNA JOANNA LEONE DISCUSSES BOOK AND MEMORIES



It was an extraordinary day. As I drove on Madison Avenue in Trumbull and up Buck Hill Road in Easton to Park Avenue the other day, the maroon and gold leaves looked beautiful. Returning to my alma mater, Sacred Heart University, gave me such a deep feeling of joy and sense of accomplishment. Ever since I had been invited to be a guest speaker during the University's 50th Anniversary celebration, my mind and heart had been filled with so many good memories.

I remembered debate practice and the team spirit that existed among the members of the Debate Society. I still remember my debate coach, Gary Rose, telling us to "bring back hardware" (trophies). So I fought hard at my debates and was the first debater to end up in a final round against Columbia University.

I recalled the long hours of studying, completing group projects and the sigh of relief as I handed in my last exam before the Christmas break. There is always the memory of the spring break vacations to Florida after so many long days of taking notes, attending lectures and writing term papers. My college days

at Sacred Heart University were a mixture of a quality learning environment, professors who were always visible to provide extra help and guidance when needed and, most importantly, the atmosphere of tradition and family.

November 13, 2013, will always be an extraordinary day for me as it was the day that I returned to my alma mater to give a talk about my book *Slices of Life: Italian-American Stories*. As I saw the line of students who had chosen to attend, my eyes filled with tears of joy. It was extraordinary to see the students sitting in the same chairs where I once sat during lectures.

I shared some of the collective memories of ordinary people who have extraordinary memories. These stories provided the students with a taste of heritage and culture. When I asked the students to share some of their memories or valuable lessons from their own families, a student told me that his grandfather is from Italy and sometimes advises him with proverbs such as "always hang around with people who are better than you." This is good, "old school" advice, because we will always learn more by being with people who have a heart bigger than our own, have more experiences and knowledge as well as a good value system.

A couple of other students said that they look forward to going home for Christmas. One student noted that it is not just the food or the seven fishes, but it's about "togetherness." His eyes lit up when he said, "It's the only time of year that I will get to see all of my relatives in one place." Another student talked about a recent trip to Florence, while others mentioned holiday memories shared by their parents or grandparents.

SHU is a place of tradition, family, love and support. No matter how the buildings and campus have changed, the atmosphere of a caring academic community remains.



TOP Joanna Leone talks with students during the lecture. ABOVE Over 100 students joined alumna Joanna Leone '89 as she returned to campus in November for a special 50th Anniversary colloquium during which she discussed her book, *Slices of Life: Italian-American Stories*. The Human Journey Colloquia Series includes cocurricular lectures and events that address big questions from different disciplines and perspectives: What is love? Why do people believe in God? Where do we come from?

## Joanna Leone's *Slices of Life: Italian American Stories*

Joanna Leone '89 came to campus to share excerpts from her book, advice and stories with a capacity crowd of students, faculty, staff and alumni in University



Commons. Leone is the author of *Slices of Life: Italian-American Stories*, available from several online sites.

The youngest of six children, Leone said she learned much about her heritage from sitting at the dining room table and then later through traveling to Italy to meet her extended family. For her, "slices of life" are memories that can arise from almost anything—roses, rosary beads, photos, the sound of an old-fashioned sewing machine, etc. Her book encompasses everything from love stories and travel tales to memories of quiet Sunday afternoons.

Interspersing her remarks with Italian words and phrases, she spoke of her time at Sacred Heart as well as her memories of special times spent with family and friends. "Years ago, I actually sat in the chairs you are in now as I learned about the heritage and culture that have guided me through my life," she said.

During the Q&A session, she encouraged students to share their memories of holidays and other traditions. Many echoed her own story of eating the seven fishes on Christmas Eve, while others spoke of their favorite pasta dishes, their grandparents and their memories of visiting Italy.

## The 2013 Alumni Award Honorees



**Kevin Nealon '75**  
**Alumni Association Alumni Achievement Award**

*The Alumni Achievement Award is given to an individual who has made a significant and positive impact in his or her field or profession. This award is the highest honor bestowed on an alumnus.*



**John R. Quinn '70**  
**Alumni Association Pioneer Award**

*The Pioneer Award is given to an individual who has made an impact through service in his or her community or for other humanitarian efforts that reflect the mission of Sacred Heart University.*



SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY PRESENTED THIS YEAR'S ALUMNI AWARDS to eight deserving recipients. The awards were given to alumni who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in their daily lives. They use their knowledge, professional skills, creative talents and strengths to make a difference in their communities and make a positive impact on individual lives, as well as on their alma mater.

This year's awards included the Alumni Achievement Award, Pioneer Award and Faculty/Staff Award. The Alumni Achievement Award is given to individuals who have made significant and positive impacts in their fields or professions. This award is the highest honor bestowed on an alumnus. This year's recipient is actor and comedian Kevin Nealon '75. Nealon sets himself apart from other comedic performers with his unique sense of humor, dry wit and likeable demeanor. He is best known for his nine-year stint as a cast member of NBC's *Saturday Night Live* and has received critical acclaim for his role in the Showtime series *Weeds*.

"It is always nice to be recognized. To be honest, I never thought I would win an award like this. I love doing what I do, and Sacred Heart has meant a lot to me. It was a joy walking on campus to see the growth and changes. I love being back here, and it seems that everything has come full circle," he said.

The Pioneer Award is given to individuals who have made an impact through service in their community or for other humanitarian efforts that reflect the mission of Sacred Heart. This year's recipient is John R. Quinn '70. Quinn is president and CEO of VNA Health Systems

Inc., overseeing the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut, Inc. and CareSource, Inc. He has 36 years of experience leading nonprofit organizations and is an advocate for legislation supporting and funding home health care at both the state and national levels.

The Faculty/Staff Award is bestowed on individual staff or faculty members who have demonstrated consistent dedication and superior service to the University and alumni community. This year Susan DeNisco, nursing professor and acting director of the School

**"It was a joy walking on campus to see the growth and changes. I love being back here, and it seems everything has come full circle."**

of Nursing, is the recipient. She has taught at Sacred Heart for 15 years, and throughout her career, her dedication to the School of Nursing has inspired and motivated alumni to excel. "To receive this award is truly humbling. I know so many deserving individuals who I could share this with. I am surprised, honored and delighted to be acknowledged for my work," DeNisco said.

In addition to these awards, five individuals were named as Academic College Alumni Leadership Award honorees. They are Craig Baker '98, '05 MAT from the Isabelle Farrington College of Education; Michael A. Pavia '70 from the College of Arts & Sciences; Keith A. Hovan, '84, '93 MSN from the College of Health Professions; Rosanne Badowski '79 from the





**Rosanne Badowski '79**  
John F. Welch College of Business  
Alumni Leadership Award



**Craig Baker '98, '05 MAT**  
Isabelle Farrington College of Education  
Alumni Leadership Award



**Sylvia M. Barchue '05**  
University College  
Alumni Leadership Award



**Keith A. Hovan '84, '93 MSN**  
College of Health Professions  
Alumni Leadership Award



**Michael A. Pavia '70**  
College of Arts & Sciences  
Alumni Leadership Award



**Susan DeNisco**  
Alumni Association Faculty/Staff Award

John F. Welch College of Business; and Sylvia M. Barchue '05 from University College.

"The SHU Alumni Association is pleased to celebrate eight alumni this year. Each honoree has his or her own unique accomplishments that contribute to the greater good of their industries and of their communities," said Emily Gillette '08, director of Alumni Relations. "As we celebrate 50 years of Sacred Heart's history, each of these alumni represents what hard work, dedication and perseverance can achieve. The alumni provide a wonderful example to

our student body and to the rest of the alumni community."

Recipients of the Alumni Achievement, Pioneer and Faculty/Staff awards were chosen by the Awards and Recognition Committee of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Committees made up of the dean and faculty members of the individual Colleges selected those winners. All nominees were required to hold a degree from Sacred Heart, with the exception of the Faculty/Staff Award, and demonstrate outstanding service, tireless

commitment, exceptional achievement and/or heroic accomplishment that has enriched the lives they have touched.

The awards were distributed September 20 at the annual Alumni Awards ceremony during Homecoming Weekend.

**To nominate alumni for the 2014 Alumni Awards:**

Visit [www.tinyurl.com/shualumniawards](http://www.tinyurl.com/shualumniawards)

# Continuing the Tradition: ALUMNI LEGACY FAMILIES

IN THE SECOND OF OUR THREE-PART SERIES, WE LOOK THROUGH THE SCORES OF SACRED HEART graduates, revealing that many families have adopted the SHU tradition as their own, with siblings, cousins and children following in their predecessors' footsteps onto the Fairfield campus. These legacy families show how the University's community instills loyalty as contagious as it is strong. As we celebrate Sacred Heart's 50th anniversary, we also celebrate the families who are so much a part of our history.

## A Legacy of Hope, Vision, Growth and Success

BY IRA MORRISON



DEAN JOHN CROFFY, SR., PROUDLY LEADS THE PROCESSION OF THE UNIVERSITY'S FIRST GRADUATING CLASS ON JUNE 10, 1967.

When people talk about John Croffy, Sr., they stop, reflect and smile. Even though the retired vice president and former dean of students passed away more than a decade ago, his legacy remains strong, and his influence on the Sacred Heart University campus and community is obvious and profound.

Croffy came to the then-fledgling Sacred Heart University when it was located on the former Notre Dame High School property. At that early point in its evolution, recalls Croffy's son, John Croffy, Jr., '82, one of the four Croffy children who attended the University, SHU was relatively unheard of, had a small staff and existed in half the building that had housed the high school. The students were all commuters; there were no sports or individual college programs, nor student housing. In fact, there wasn't much

beyond basic classrooms, old shared administrative office space and a vision to grow and develop SHU into a successful local university.

John Jr. entered SHU with the intention of pursuing a career in psychology. While completing his degree in the evening school,

he got a job as a policeman with the Westport Police Department. After graduating with a second major in criminal justice (police management), he remained with the police department until 2008, working in the patrol division as a shift commander and supervisor of the traffic agents division, before he retired as a lieutenant. He also taught classes at the Westport Senior Center for 18 years.

"The thing I most remember about my years at SHU is the great professors teaching in the evening school," he says. "During the day, they worked in psychology and criminal justice, and they brought years of experience to their classes. Now that I am retired, I spend a lot of time traveling around the country doing the things I love but never had time for while raising a family and putting in long hours as a police officer," he says.

Few at that time would have envisioned the thriving, respected regional institution that SHU would eventually become, with a beautiful campus, diverse full- and part-time student population, talented academic staff, robust athletic program, progressive colleges and state-of-the-art facilities. Few, that is, except John Sr., who not only believed in what SHU could achieve, but became a willing and devoted architect in helping to forge that path.

"My dad came to Sacred Heart late in his career and truly was one of its founders," recalls Gail Croffy Griffiths '75, who is married to another SHU graduate, William Griffiths, III '73. She is one of two daughters of John Sr. (along with Anne Croffy Stocking '71). "He did it all—he was dean, registrar, director of



JOHN CROFFY, JR. '82



*These legacy families show how the University's community instills loyalty as contagious as it is strong.*



**Sacred Heart  
UNIVERSITY**

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1963-2013

Admissions and taught mathematics. He would go to high schools throughout the area, even before SHU was accredited, to recruit students and speak with their parents and teachers. He was a tireless booster and champion who knew everyone on campus, students and faculty members alike. He attended every athletic event and chose to eat in the student cafeteria, not the faculty lounge, so he could greet students, hear what was on their minds and be accessible to them."



JOHN CROFFY, SR. (SEATED, FAR LEFT) WITH THE ORIGINAL FACULTY MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATION.

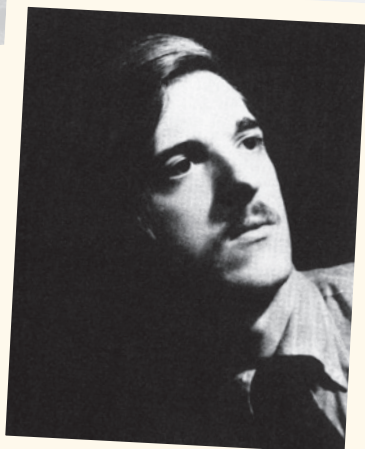
After she graduated from SHU in 1971 with a degree in sociology and a minor in psychology, Gail's sister, Anne Croffy Stocking '71, worked briefly for a nursing home and then accepted a position with the Multiple Sclerosis Society (Fairfield and Litchfield counties) as patient services coordinator.

Her duties included performing in-service programs at patient homes and at-home health agencies and working with the Red Cross. After becoming a mother, she was very active in her children's school and in her community, and she credits SHU with helping her build the confidence to fulfill those important roles.

"I have been truly blessed," she says. "I was able to return to Connecticut every summer to keep my Connecticut friendships strong, and I am still in touch with many of my 'sisters' of Beta Delta Phi. I will always cherish those wonderful experiences and the feeling of community we all shared. And when I look back at my SHU experience, I can't help but think of my father, who taught me and showed me through his actions to always see the good in people."



GAIL CROFFY GRIFFITHS '75



WILLIAM GRIFFITHS '73



# Continuing the Tradition: ALUMNI LEGACY FAMILIES



DEAN CROFFY LEADS THE COMMENCEMENT PROCESSION IN 1969.



BRUCE CROFFY '70

Bruce Croffy '70 remembers his father recruiting at his high school and that the notion of SHU being a “small” school never was a barrier to his father’s vision of what it could become.

“Dad had been a recruiter for Seton Hall University and could paint a bright picture of how SHU would one day evolve into a respected, dynamic and exciting university,” Bruce reflects. “Of course, there never was any question about where my siblings and I would attend. I remember him speaking at freshman orientation. It was my first time seeing him ‘perform’ on that kind of stage, and when he talked about our family and acknowledged me from the stage, I wanted to crawl under the chair. But that was who he was—bold, exuberant, funny and extremely liked. He never pulled any punches. He was a great salesman and a good friend and ally to everyone, but he also wasn’t a pushover . . . he held himself and everyone else accountable for setting and achieving goals, pushed self-advancement and embraced challenge—and change.”

After graduating from SHU, Bruce attended Boston College for his master’s and doctorate degrees in biochemistry. In 1976 he attended medical school at Tufts, where he completed his training in internal medicine and gastroenterology in 1985. He practiced medicine in Salem, Mass., for 14 years and then became chief medical officer at FirstCarolinaCare in North Carolina, where he still works.

He says his dedication and pursuit of an advanced education were inspired by his father and his close association with one of his favorite professors, Anthony Pinciario. “They instilled in me a lifelong love of education. Other great influences at SHU were the many biology faculty members who provided a great base of

instruction upon which I then continued to build. Professors Joseph Moran, Carol Day, Walter Fimian and Arliss Denyes were all of great help in advancing my love of science, and they also supported my enrollment in the graduate program at Boston College,” he says.

John Jr. adds that his father loved his work and found his role at SHU a seamless and ideal culmination to his long and distinguished career. “This was the perfect job for him,” he says. “Based, in part, on his experiences at Seton Hall, he envisioned SHU eventually having a standalone business school and a business-focused graduate center in Stamford. He helped arrange apartments for out-of-town students before the dorms were



BRUCE CROFFY '70



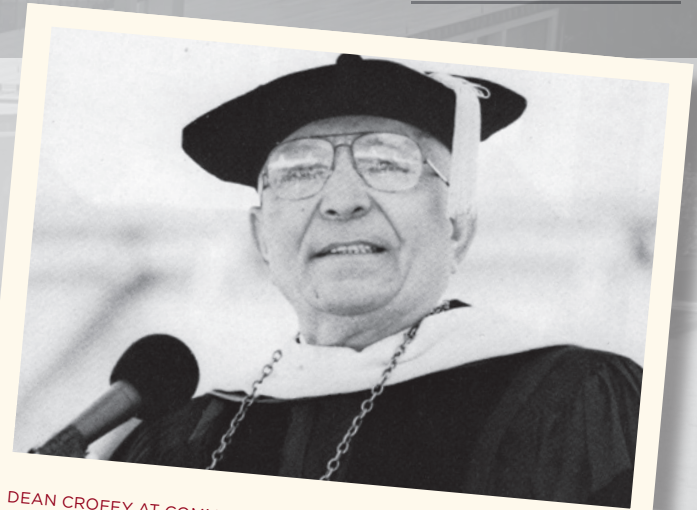


# Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1963-2013



VIRGINIA AND JOHN



DEAN CROFFY AT COMMENCEMENT IN 1987.



DEAN CROFFY WITH STUDENTS IN 1987.

built. He wasn't just a strong promoter; he also was an innovator and diplomat, and he knew SHU had to change with the times to thrive.

"I know you'll hear it over and over again, but Dad loved this school and the students," John Jr. says affectionately. "He would host faculty, administrative and student receptions at our home, kept his title of dean of students until he retired and, on several

occasions, resisted moving his office to locations that would not be easily accessible to students. He personally knew every janitor, secretary and administrator, and the names of their spouses and kids. He understood the intricate relationship between business and academics and knew what steps SHU needed to take to remain financially stable, popular and progressive. If he were alive today, he'd be very proud of Sacred Heart University's growth, accomplishments and students."

# social media

NUMBERS AS OF  
12/18/13



SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2,149 likes

[www.facebook.com/SHUALUMNI](http://www.facebook.com/SHUALUMNI)



SACRED HEART ALUMNI

1,675 followers

@SacredHeartAlum



SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY  
ALUMNI – OFFICIAL GROUP

1,997 members

## Join our new LinkedIn subgroup!

**SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY YOUNG ALUMNI NETWORK**—The Sacred Heart University Young Alumni Network is intended to connect recent graduates through networking, events and relevant discussion topics. The Young Alumni Network, a subgroup of the Alumni Association, is a platform dedicated to serving the social and professional networking needs of those alumni who have graduated within the past 10 years.

## Twitter



@jess\_orser "I miss @sacredheartuniv more and more every day. #classof2012"



@nicole\_morelli "@SacredHeartAlum Emily – thank you so much for the thoughtful letter and well wishes!! Proud to be a #SacredHeart alum :)"



@gibbonsdesigns "Had a great time with @SacredHeartAlum band alums at the football game! It was great to see our team in the postseason!"



@JoeM17 "Congrats to #SHU football for winning the #NEC today!! #proudalum"



@justbmc "Great play at the SHU game! Nice to catch up with old friends & coaches!"

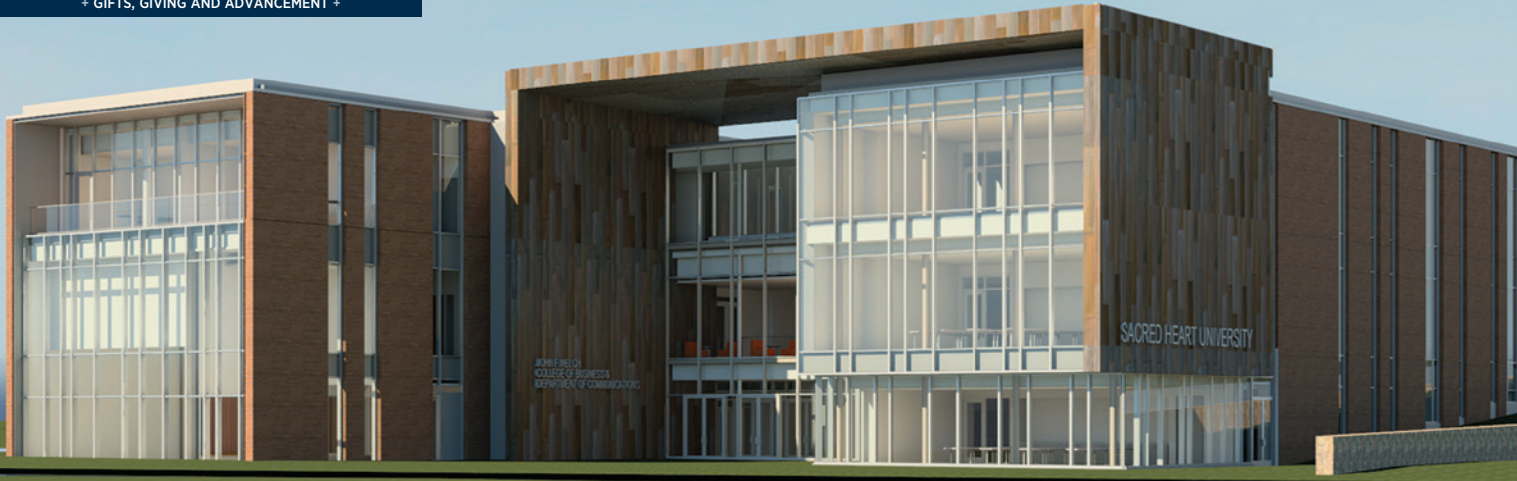


@mrirish85 "@SacredHeartAlum Congrats and thanks for a great Alumni Weekend on campus! #shuhome13"



@ericmpine "Sad I couldn't make it to the @SacredHeartAlum weekend! I hope they saved a mug and sunglasses for me! I do love #SHUSwag!"





Architectural rendering of the new academic building

## Trustees' Generous Gifts Lead to Naming Honors in New Academic Building

THE GENEROUS GIFTS MADE BY TWO MEMBERS OF SACRED HEART'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES for the University's new academic building have led to naming honors. The Frank R. and Marisa Martire Forum will honor the couple for their \$1,000,000 gift toward construction of the building. The McLeod Center for Interactive Learning will celebrate the \$500,000 given by Elaine and Christopher K. McLeod through the McLeod Blue Sky Charitable Foundation, Inc. The new building will be located at the corner of Jefferson Street and Park Avenue, and will be a new gateway to the University's Fairfield campus.

Martire is a 1969 alumnus of Sacred Heart and currently serves as the board's vice chairman. "My wife Marisa and I are very proud to be involved with Sacred Heart. We look forward to playing any role we can in contributing to the advancement of the school. Our gift represents both the loyalty we have for Sacred Heart and the confidence we have in the growth and future of the University. These are very exciting times for all of us associated with Sacred Heart," he said.

The amphitheater-style forum and lecture hall will be the site of lectures and programs for the University and neighboring communities. The 200-seat facility will provide reconfiguration options for classes and events of various sizes, and will allow the University to organize and/or host high-level conferences and events.

McLeod has been a member of the Sacred Heart Board of Trustees since 1989. He has served in numerous capacities, including as chairman of the Executive Committee of the board. He currently is the board secretary. "People learn in many different ways. Traditional instructional methods have emphasized textbooks and classroom lectures. Digital technologies are now removing geographic and time barriers, enabling exciting new educational approaches," he said. "Elaine and I are very interested in improving the learning experience through new teaching methods and approaches. Sacred Heart has an ideal environment for developing innovative pedagogy, and we are excited to support the establishment of this Center."

The McLeod Center for Interactive Learning will provide opportunities for training and research about teaching practices that involve students in their own learning. These practices, typically referred to as high-impact practices, include a wide range of activities such as undergraduate research, global learning, service learning and writing-intensive and

experiential-learning courses. "The research indicates that students learn more when they are involved in learning strategies that are provided by the faculty. The digital learning environment provides additional opportunities to enhance learning via online and web-based teaching. We look forward to operating at the cutting edge of new digital pedagogies," said Laura Niesen de Abruna, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

"We are extremely grateful to the Martires and McLeods, both for their contributions to the board and for the generous financial support," said University President John J. Petillo. "This building represents our commitment to our students and their ever-changing needs. Both the John F. Welch College of Business and the Department of Communication & Media Studies are growing rapidly and in need of additional space. The new building will also allow us to provide students with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment."

In addition to the Forum and Center, the new academic building will feature an active trading floor; two large studios for television, video and film production, as well as industry-standard post-production facilities, screening venues and multimedia classrooms; a two-story atrium; satellite-equipped classrooms for interaction with other University campuses; classrooms for use by the entire University; faculty offices; conference rooms and lounges for meetings between faculty and students; a café and elegant landscaping infused with walking paths and benches for informal meetings. ☺



Frank and Marisa Martire



Christopher and Elaine McLeod

## Does my donation to The Fund for Excellence really have an impact?

The Fund  
for  
Excellence  
*Making The Heart Stronger.*

Gifts to The Fund for Excellence support the University's mission to educate our students. Donations are key to the University's ability to provide our students with financial aid packages that are impactful. Collectively, all donations help SHU support 90 percent of our students with financial assistance annually.



Lily DiPaola '16

"Without the scholarships and aid that SHU has awarded me, I wouldn't be going here. The award packages that they've given me are amazing, and I don't think that I could ever express how grateful I am even if I met every person responsible and personally shook their hands and told them."



Thomas Bovino '15

"The scholarships were a huge help for me! In a way, it made me more motivated to want to continue to get more involved, have new experiences, while at the same time maintaining my academics. It has also helped my family financially a lot! It has taken some pressure off of my parents. I am so thankful and grateful for every scholarship that I receive, and I hold myself up to high standards to make sure that alumni who supported me through my scholarships will not regret it!"



Danielle D'Onofrio '15

"I would have never been able to afford to come to SHU without the generosity of others. The generosity of our donors shows what a great community we have. I am grateful to them for all my wonderful memories here at SHU!"

Support SHU students like Lily, Thomas and Danielle. Make your gift at [www.sacredheart.edu/givetoshu](http://www.sacredheart.edu/givetoshu).



# 1960s to 2000s

## Donors by Decade—Alumni Making the HEART Stronger



“As a ‘late bloomer,’ I am grateful to SHU for allowing me the opportunity to succeed through higher education. As I have grown intellectually, I have watched SHU fulfill

its promise of academic excellence. My giving can create an opportunity for other late bloomers to prove themselves and do the University proud. Excellence in education and opportunity to succeed—two great reasons to give to Sacred Heart University. Proud to be a SHU grad.”

— WILLIAM J. YARISH '68



“As a proud alumnus of SHU, I feel I have a responsibility to give back in any way I can so current and future students can enjoy their Sacred Heart experience as much as I did. Knowing my contribution is going to be used to help the physical, academic, athletic and community growth of SHU makes the decision to donate even easier.”

—COREY LAURYSSEN '08, '10 MBA

## FOREVER PIONEERS

### Connecting the Past to the Future . . .

In light of SHU's 50th anniversary, Gary and Mary Anne Levin, both 1978 alumni, have challenged SHU students to make a gift to the University. Every gift made by a student will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$5,000 by Gary and Mary Anne. Watch the challenge video at [www.sacredheart.edu/shumoment](http://www.sacredheart.edu/shumoment).



“We are excited to be part of the Forever Pioneers challenge. As graduates of SHU, we believe that giving back to our University is important so others can enjoy what we experienced as students. Thirty-six years later, it is

with great pride that we tell people we graduated from Sacred Heart University.”

—GARY AND MARY ANNE LEVIN '78



“I gave back to SHU because I felt it was only right to give a little something to the place that has given me so much. Sacred Heart has given me not only an education, an internship and the knowledge and experience to go out into the ‘real world’ after graduating, but it's given me memories and friends who will last a lifetime. So how could you not want to give back to a place that means so much to who you are? I give because I want future Pioneers to be able to have those same amazing experiences that I've had.”

—MICHAELA ALBANO '15

## NACLERIO FACULTY SCHOLARS PROGRAM



From left are President John J. Petillo, Barbara Naclerio, Professor Amanda Moras and Richard Naclerio.



From left are Barbara Naclerio, Professor Geoffrey Stopper, Richard Naclerio and President John J. Petillo.

### Naclerio Faculty Scholars Program Winners Announced

PROFESSORS GEFREY F. STOPPER AND AMANDA MORAS ARE THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENTS OF THE NACLERIO FACULTY SCHOLARS PROGRAM AWARDS. Richard and Barbara Naclerio began the Naclerio Faculty Scholars Program in support of the work of emerging academic leaders among Sacred Heart University's faculty. The Naclerios, who reside in Pelham, N.Y., share the University's vision of cultivating academic excellence through innovative research endeavors. The program offers two awards of \$12,500 each over a one-year period. To be eligible for consideration, faculty members were asked to submit a completed application that included a detailed summary of their proposed research projects.

Stopper, an assistant professor of biology, was welcomed into the program based on his study in the field of evolutionary developmental biology. Through his research and analysis of gene/protein structure, he hopes to better understand how changes in gene expression result in specific differences in the shapes of biological structures. He believes his research can lead to better understanding of both normal and abnormal human development.

"I'm really excited about receiving the Naclerio grant," he said. "I am all the more honored that my application was chosen because of the great respect I have for my colleagues who also applied and the high-quality work they do. The grant will allow my students and me to add state-of-the-art genomics technology for analysis, which will push our research to a level of analysis comparable to some of the leading work in our field. I greatly appreciate the Naclerios' commitment to supporting research at Sacred Heart."

Moras, an assistant professor of sociology, conducts research on the prevalence and consequences of sexual assault. She seeks to fill the gap in documenting the experiences of workers in sexual assault crisis programs, who provide free and confidential services to survivors daily. Moras is specifically

focusing on exploring the prevalence, causes and consequences of vicarious trauma for those who provide direct service through sexual assault crisis programs.

"Knowing more about the causes and possible deterrents of vicarious trauma for workers would provide valuable insights for anti-sexual assault coalitions in extending the longevity of their staff," she said. "This would also help to ensure that victims have access to experienced and competent advocates. This knowledge fills a large gap in the literature by bringing a sociological lens to the existing research and illuminating the experiences of those positioned most precariously in the system, both as workers and survivors."

The Naclerio Faculty Scholars Program is open to all current junior, tenure-track faculty members who have successfully completed their third year within the University and have demonstrated their interest and capability in conducting scholarly research. The research conducted through this endeavor must result in a significant contribution to each faculty member's field of study, with the goal of submitting outcomes generated for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

"This program is in its first year at Sacred Heart, and I was proud and honored to introduce it to the president and the rest of the community. These professors teach our children and help them to grow. They are the undaunted heroes," Richard Naclerio said. "I want our faculty members to be recognized for their hard work and accomplishments. We truly care about what they do for our students and understand that they need assistance in their endeavors to balance both their professional and personal lives." ☞



# A Romanian Orphan's Journey to the Class of 2017

"We had a tradition in the house at Christmastime," begins Sacred Heart University freshman Justin Lee. "We'd be called together around the tree to sing songs, there would be snacks and Santa Claus would come and hand out gifts." He speaks with the slow intensity of someone who wants you to understand how his story is different.

Because it is.

The house in Justin's story is actually an orphanage in the Romanian city of Marghita, Casa Alba, located next to the city's children's hospital, where his family was made up of the staff and other orphans.

Then came the Christmas Justin was 5, and the tradition didn't follow the usual routine. "This other guy was there," Justin says. "He had a present—a remote control car—but he wasn't Santa Claus. And I remember thinking, 'He's here for me . . .'"



The family together in Keukenhof, Holland, in 2000.

Indeed he was. Andrew and Sandra Lee already had one child, a daughter Katelynn, and had been trying for a second for quite some time, but to no avail. Even so, Sandra, one of three adopted children in her own family, had never considered adoption. The idea came only after speaking with her pastor during choir practice one evening. "Maybe God is trying to tell you something different from what you are trying to hear," he quietly suggested. "You were adopted. Maybe it's your turn to adopt."

"And I was like 'Boom!'" Sandra explains. "It all made sense."

Like most people, at first the Lees were thinking of adopting a baby. Then, through friends in Chicago, they made contact with the people at Casa Alba, and in November of 1999, they got a call that there was a 5-year-old boy whose papers were finally available.

When Sandra tells of standing by the fax machine in Fairfield, waiting for this boy's picture and information, love shines in her eyes. She knew immediately this would be her son. Andrew made plans for a visit, and that December he appeared to Justin as perhaps a savior Santa.

After months of bureaucracy, the Lee family traveled to Romania to bring Justin home. "He was at the top of the stairs in the orphanage," recalls Katelynn (stairs he later wrote about in his application essay to Sacred Heart), "and he was grinning ear to ear. I remember hugging him and trying to talk slowly to him in the little Romanian I had."

Though he arrived in the U.S. speaking no English, Justin picked up the language quickly, dove into school the following year and hasn't looked back.

Currently a bio/pre-dental major, Justin is also an accomplished musician, playing in the Percussion Ensemble, the percussion section of the Concert Band, the bass drum in the Marching Band and singing in the Concert Choir. Oh, and he plays the piano and guitar, too.

"Music is another family member," he explains, which could as easily be a poignant nature/nurture conundrum as a flippant value statement. Not only is Sandra an accomplished chorister, but Justin's biological parents are Romany Gypsies, a culture famous for their musical gifts.

*"Maybe God is trying to tell you something different from what you are trying to hear," he quietly suggested. "You were adopted. Maybe it's your turn to adopt."*

Still, medicine is Justin's first passion. His long-term ambition is to build a team of dentists to return to Romania and serve the underprivileged children living in conditions like those he knew. "I want to connect Sacred Heart to Romania," he says. "I want to return the favor, give the next kid a chance."



The Lee Family today.





**THIS PAST SEASON WAS ONE OF THE BEST YET FOR SHU'S FOOTBALL TEAM,** culminating in the 2013 Northeast Conference Championship, a coach's nomination, honors for players, a first-time berth in the FCS playoffs and even a video that went viral. Here's a roundup of football highlights that left us all gasping—and cheering!



The team celebrates after winning the NEC Championship.

## PIONEERS CAPTURE 2013 NEC CHAMPIONSHIP

The football team completed its magical run on November 16, winning the Northeast Conference Championship and a berth into the FCS playoffs for the first time in program history following a 42-25 win over Robert Morris in Moon Township, Penn.

"I am so excited for these kids and the work they put in," said Head Coach Mark Nofri. "They changed the whole attitude and culture of SHU football."

In their first-ever FCS playoff game on November 30, the Pioneers turned the ball over a season-high four times and finally fell 37-27 to the Fordham Rams at Jack Coffey Field. The Pioneers finished the season 10-3.

## COACH MARK NOFRI NOMINATED FOR FCS COACH OF THE YEAR



Coach Mark Nofri

Head Football Coach Mark Nofri was named a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Award, given to the Football Championship Subdivision Coach of the Year by The Sports Network. Coach Nofri led the Pioneers to a 10-2 regular season record on their way to the Northeast Conference Championship and a berth into the FCS playoffs. He made it to #12 in fan voting.

Nofri was the interim coach last season, following 18 years as an assistant coach at Sacred Heart. Picked to finish last in the conference after a dismal 2-9 season in 2012, Nofri and the Pioneers completed the biggest turnaround in the country this season (+8 wins), defeating teams by an average of 20 points per game. SHU had not won more than five games since 2008. The 2013 Pioneers scored 423 points in the regular season, second most in school history.



J.D. Roussel

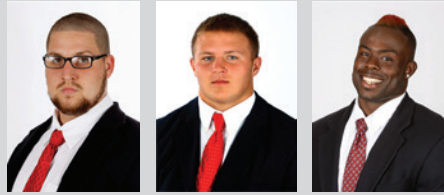


## LINK, MOORE, SPENCE NAMED ALL-NEW ENGLAND

Following a historic 2013 season for the Sacred Heart football team, running back Keshaudas Spence, offensive lineman Paul Link and defensive lineman Troy Moore were named to the FCS All-New England team, as voted by the New England Football Writers' Association. Last season, just one Pioneer earned All-New England honors.

On his way to breaking the Sacred Heart single-season rushing record in 2013, Spence ran for 1,669 yards and 13 touchdowns. He currently ranks second in the NEC in rushing yards and sixth in all of the FCS. With his 22-yard touchdown run in a week 12 win over Duquesne, Spence broke Ed Pricolo's 2004 single-season rushing record (1,339 rush yards). The junior running back is now just 87 yards shy of Pricolo's all-time Sacred Heart rushing record of 3,052 career yards. Spence ran for a career high 211 yards in a 59-36 win over Central Connecticut State on October 12. The workhorse runningback all season long, Spence also broke the Sacred Heart single-season rushing attempts record with 281 carries this season. In the Pioneers' FCS playoff loss at Fordham, Spence ran for 194 yards and two touchdowns.

A captain this season, Link was a vital cog in a Sacred Heart rushing attack that averaged 235.8 yards per game, ranking first in the NEC



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Paul Link, Troy Moore and Keshaudas Spence

and 13th best in the country. Under Link's leadership, the SHU offensive line yielded just nine sacks in 12 games this season, once again tops in the conference. The offensive line did not allow a sack in the final four games of the season.

Moore was a key part of a Sacred Heart defensive line that led the NEC in sacks (41), tackles for loss (120) and rushing defense (110.4 yards/game). Sacred Heart's 120 tackles for loss led the entire country. Starting all 12 games for SHU, Moore finished the regular season first on the team with 8.5 sacks and second on the team with 16.5 tackles for loss. The Massachusetts native was named NEC Defensive Player of the Week after a three-sack, six-tackles-for-loss performance at Bryant on October 18.

Spence and Moore were both also named to The Sports Network FCS All-America Team. They will be back next season as the Pioneers defend their NEC Championship.



Keshaudas Spence



Webb is interviewed by WABC-7 following the game.

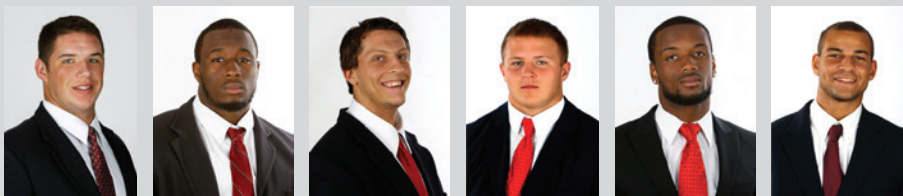
## Student-Made Sports Video Goes Viral

A student-made video of a stunning play during Sacred Heart University's football game against Monmouth earned over two million views on YouTube. The video was also the lead on ESPN's SportsCenter one night and was seen everywhere from Fox Sports and Eyewitness News to Yahoo Sports and beyond.

The video resulted from a new project where undergraduates in the communication program, graduate students in the MACOMM program and MACOMM alumni who want to beef up their professional portfolios come together to broadcast SHU's football games. In previous weeks, their coverage of the games appeared throughout Connecticut on CPTV.

The MACOMM program's decision to buy new equipment and offer students the opportunity to produce live broadcasts was fortuitous. Not only did the students capture the Pioneers' best start in football since 2008, but they broadcast the season's spectacular double fumble and recovery for a touchdown by Moses Webb. Since then, the video highlight, shot with multiple cameras by a team of students, along with commentary by MACOMM student Randy Brochu and alumnus Terrance White, has been seen nationwide.

## ADDITIONAL FOOTBALL HONORS



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Connor Caveney, Ray Hodgson, R.J. Noel, Troy Moore, J.D. Roussel and Stephan Thomas

The honors poured in this season for many football players, making this a season to remember for individual performances as well as the team's best cohesive effort on the field. Junior defensive back J.D. Roussel was named College Football Performance's National Defensive Back of the Week. In addition, defensive linemen Connor Caveney, Troy Moore and Ray Hodgson all earned Honorable Mention accolades for National Defensive Lineman of the Week.

Sophomore quarterback R.J. Noel was named The Sports Network's National Freshman Player of the Week. Noel joined junior defensive back Stephan Thomas (Defensive Player of the Week) as two Pioneers who have been honored by The Sports Network.

Meanwhile, junior defensive lineman Moore was named The Sports Network's National Co-Defensive Player of the Week—the third Pioneer to win the award for the season, joining the ranks of Noel and Roussel.

## Runners Cross the Finish Line to Land Championship

The women's cross country team had a speedy and stellar season this year. The Pioneers listed four All-Conference members in 2013, had four top-five team finishes in 2013 and earned seven NEC weekly awards, eventually landing the NEC Championship and a Coach-of-the-Year award for Women's Head Coach Christian Morrison. Here are some highlights from the finish line.



The women's cross country team celebrates after winning the NEC Championship.

### Pioneers Win 2013 NEC Women's Cross Country Championship

Bolstered by top-three finishes from Brianna Castrogivanni and Elizabeth Hutchins, the Sacred Heart women's cross country team won the 2013 Northeast Conference Championship.

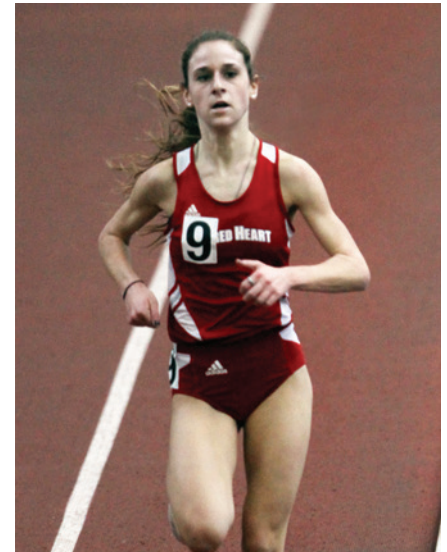
Castrogivanni was the Pioneers' top finisher, placing second in the 5K race with a time of 18:50. The senior finished fourth overall in last year's NEC Championship. Hutchins was right behind Castrogivanni in third place with a time of 19:05. Sacred Heart also got a top-10 performance from junior Emma Bolduc, who finished eighth with a time of 19:48. Sophomore Shannon Hickey covered the course in 20:00 to finish 11th. Freshman Molly Barker rounded out the Pioneers' scoring group, finishing 20th with a time of 20:45.

The battle for the team title came down to the Pioneers and Bryant. Both teams combined to have nine runners finish in the top 20. In the end, it was Sacred Heart who bested the Bulldogs by nine points. This is Sacred Heart's

first NEC women's cross country title since a co-championship with Quinnipiac in 2005.

"There are no high school superstars in this group," Morrison said. "We rarely get a blue chip recruit. Instead, we have athletes who have worked and sacrificed and done everything right."

Morrison was named the Northeast Conference Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year after leading the Pioneers to the 2013 NEC Championship. This is Morrison's third NEC Coach of the Year award, having previously been honored with the title in 2003 and 2005. He led the women's cross country team to its second NEC title this season and first outright title. This is also Morrison's eighth NEC Coach of the Year honor across all seasons of cross country, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field.



Brianna Castrogivanni

### Castrogivanni Earns All-Northeast Region Honors

The Sacred Heart men's and women's cross country teams competed at the NCAA Northeast Regional on November 23 at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, N.Y., where the women's team finished 18 out of 37 teams in the regional, with its top five runners all finishing in the top 150. Brianna Castrogivanni earned All-Northeast Region honors after placing 23rd in the 6K race with a time of 20:57.4. She is the first Sacred Heart runner, male or female, to be named All-Region. Castrogivanni's finish is the best in program history at the NCAA Regional, besting the 26th-place finish of Kimberly DeLoreto in 2009. Her time set a new school record in the 6K. The previous record of 21:22 was set by Alyssa Selmqvist in the NCAA Regional last season. She also set a new personal best in the race, eclipsing the 21:25 she ran en route to winning the Princeton Invitational earlier this season.



## Pioneers Serve Both On and Off the Field

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE is an important part of the SHU mission and educational experience. Most Sacred Heart undergraduates devote hours to volunteering, and our athletes are no exception. As Head Basketball

Coach Anthony Latina says, “We hope that we’re teaching our student-athletes that it is about trying to be a part of something bigger than just ourselves.” Here’s a look at some recent volunteer efforts by our Pioneers.



Evan Kelley, left, helps a student with his homework.

## Basketball Players Step Off the Court and Into Kids’ Lives

Athletes from the men’s basketball team are part of a mentoring program that benefits children involved with Hall Neighborhood House in Bridgeport. Hall Neighborhood House hosts social, recreational and educational programs for people of all ages.

Mark Appelberg joined the Hall House board of directors last year. A former member of the SHU Board of Regents and a lifelong basketball player, he helped Hall House raise funds to renovate its gym and conduct their first summer basketball league.

When Appelberg reached out to Head Basketball Coach Anthony Latina to discuss developing a youth mentoring relationship, Latina was enthusiastic. “Hall House is a great organization that helps a lot of kids,” he says. “I believe our student-athletes will benefit as much as the kids we’ll support.”

## Women’s Lacrosse Hosts Charity 5K

On October 18, the women’s lacrosse team and Oliver’s Team hosted a 5K run/walk to fight Metachromatic Leukodystrophy (MLD) on the Sacred Heart University campus, raising \$7,381. All proceeds went to the Ciparelli Family.

Oliver Ciparelli is the 3-year-old son of two former Sacred Heart student-athletes; he was diagnosed with MLD, a rare genetic disorder that leads to the degeneration of the white matter in the brain and central nervous system.



## Pioneer Softball Makes Strides Against Breast Cancer

The softball team walked in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event at Sherwood Island in Westport on October 28 to support the American Cancer Society. This walk raised over half a million dollars to help fund research for a cure, as well as for assisting underprivileged cancer patients with free screenings and offering education sessions to all.

## Men’s Lacrosse Players Make Wishes Come True and Improve a Park



On October 27, members of the Sacred Heart men’s lacrosse team assisted Make-A-Wish Connecticut with tryouts for its summer tournament teams as volunteer coaches, running drills and providing coaching advice to 150 kids.

Members of the men’s lacrosse team also joined the men’s volleyball team and members of the larger Bridgeport community in cleaning up Ninety Acres Park on November 2.

Men’s lacrosse senior captain  
Matt Gannon



Sarah Krufka



Kiki Robinson



Dianis Mercado

## Volleyball Honors: Krufka NEC Rookie of the Year; Mercado and Robinson All-NEC

Three members of the women's volleyball team were honored at the annual Northeast Conference awards banquet on November 22. Sarah Krufka was named the 2013 NEC Rookie of the Year, as well as a member of the All-NEC second team. Senior Dianis Mercado was tabbed to the All-NEC first team and freshman Kiki Robinson to the All-NEC second team.

Krufka was a consistent weapon on the Sacred Heart offense, earning two Molten/NEC Rookie of the Week nods this season. The freshman was

second on the team and seventh in the NEC with 2.90 kills per set. Her 3.37 points per set also ranked her second among her teammates and seventh in the league. This season, Krufka tallied 109 digs, 21 service aces and 54 blocks.

For the second time in her career, Mercado has been named to the All-NEC first team. The 2010 NEC Rookie of the Year has served as a leader this year as the Pioneers' only senior. Mercado led the team with 3.57 kills, 4.1 points and 0.39 aces per set. She was ranked second in the league in all three categories.

Krufka and Mercado would not have had the seasons they did without setter Robinson. The 5'10" rookie finished the regular season atop the conference with 10.48 assists per set. After averaging 11.8 assists per set in the Beanpot Classic in the opening weekend, Robinson earned the nod as Molten/NEC Rookie of the Week. She recorded three 50-plus assist performances.

## #1/1 UMass Lowell Shocked 2-1 in Season Opener

Behind two goals by Drew George, the Sacred Heart men's hockey team earned its biggest win in program history, defeating #1/1 UMass Lowell 2-1 at the Tsongas Center on October 11. The River Hawks are the highest-ranked team Sacred Heart has beaten since the Pioneers defeated #8 Yale 7-6 on November 22, 2011, at the Webster Bank Arena. Goaltender Alex Vazzano made 35 saves in his first career start for the Pioneers.

"I thought we played a pretty structured, disciplined game," said Head Coach C.J. Marottolo following the win. "I liked our energy level throughout the whole game."







## New Grant Supports Coastal Protection Project

Sacred Heart University and the Connecticut Audubon Society (CAS) have been awarded a \$59,000 Long Island Sound Futures Fund grant to construct an innovative “living shoreline” project at Stratford Point to both improve critical bird and wildlife habitat and protect the state’s coastline from storms like Hurricane Sandy.

The living shoreline includes the construction of a reef through the installation of 40 permeable concrete reef balls—a technology never before used in Long Island Sound—along with the restoration of a salt marsh behind the reef. The project will be constructed in roughly 3.5 acres of the intertidal zone within the 40-acre coastal estuary restoration site at Stratford Point, which is managed by CAS.

The living shoreline is designed to test the feasibility of use by other coastal communities throughout the state to help protect against major hurricanes and storms, and prevent erosion and other negative impacts of sea level rise. It works by slowing down and breaking up waves and storm surges that cause erosion, allowing for sediment deposition and for protective tidal marsh plants to take root. A natural community will emerge, providing habitat that acts as a fish and blue crab nursery and a hard substrate for shellfish settlement, and enhancing habitat for native birds.

Jennifer Mattei, director of the environmental science and management graduate program, says the project will also have educational value. “Once the reef and marsh are installed, the public is welcome to come and see how the reef is working,” she says.

The research team, led by Professor Mattei and Associate Professor Mark Beekey, will collect data during the first year to gauge whether it’s successful. After that, they will modify the design, if needed, to maximize the benefits.

Stratford Point is owned by Sporting Goods Properties, Inc., a subsidiary of the DuPont Company. CAS and SHU have collaborated on several projects and restoration efforts to improve the Point’s habitat. ☞

ABOVE From left are Alex Brash, president, CT Audubon Society; Professor Jennifer Mattei; Lecturer LaTina Steele; Associate Professor Mark Beekey; Professor John Rapaglia; Anthony Zemba, director of Conservation Services, CT Audubon Society; Milan Bull, senior director of Science and Conservation, CT Audubon Society; Lynn Dwyer, assistant director, Northeast, Eastern Partnership Office, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF); and Amanda Basso, director, Eastern Partnership Office, NFWF.



## Biology Department Receives Grant to Study Horseshoe Crab Populations

The Biology Department has received a \$103,000 grant commitment from Connecticut Sea Grant and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to assess the demographics and habitat requirements of juvenile horseshoe crabs in Long Island Sound over the next two years. The work will be overseen by Associate Professor Mark Beekey and Professor Jennifer Mattei. The grant includes \$16,000 for graduate student support and \$7,000 for undergraduate research support per year.

Horseshoe crabs provide a backdrop for one of the most interesting marine resource-management issues. In addition to their role as a food source for birds, horseshoe crabs provide bait for commercial American eel and conch fisheries. Their unique blood is used by the biomedical industry to produce *Limulus Amoebocyte Lysate* (LAL), an enzymatic derivative used to detect endotoxins in drugs and medical implants.

“Horseshoe crabs in the New England and New York regions continue to decline,” Beekey says. “While Connecticut has taken steps to protect spawning adults and habitats, additional conservation and management efforts will be required to rebuild horseshoe crab stocks.”

According to Mattei, a key component of long-term sustainable management is to identify and characterize the types of habitats immature horseshoe crabs need to survive the 10 to 12 years before reaching maturity. “The goal of this project is to determine if there are specific characteristics that optimize juvenile horseshoe crab growth and survival,” she says.

To help achieve this goal, Beekey and Mattei will use volunteers participating in Project *Limulus*, their citizen science horseshoe crab-tagging program. Participants will search the Connecticut coast to identify marshes and intertidal flats containing juvenile horseshoe crabs. SHU graduate and undergraduate students will then visit these habitats to collect data and analyze it, developing a model to assist the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in determining if particular habitats need additional conservation measures. ☞

## Keep in touch!

Share your news and events by submitting a class note.

visit: <http://alumni.sacredheart.edu> and click on class notes or email your notes to [alumni@sacredheart.edu](mailto:alumni@sacredheart.edu)



## 1974

**Joan Pond** has published her latest collection of poems, *Shallow Thoughts*. She has written numerous volumes of poetry. She currently lives in New Milford.

## 1995

**James Gibbons ('98 MAT)** has joined Hofstra University as the associate director of Athletics for NCAA Education and Compliance Services. Previously, he worked at Wagner College.

**Jennifer Reynolds (MAT '98 6th Year)** has been appointed assistant principal of Jack Jackter Intermediate School in Colchester.

**Alan J. Strauss (MAT '10 6th Year)** is the recipient of the Connecticut Association of Schools William Cieslukowski Outstanding First-Year Principal of the Year Award for 2013-2014. He is principal of The Gilbert School in Winsted.

## 1996

**Carrie McWilliams (MAT '99 6th Year)** has been appointed principal of Hennessey Elementary School in East Providence, R.I.

## 1997

**Eugene Matejek ('99 MAT, '09 6th Year)** has been appointed assistant

principal of the International School at Dundee Elementary School in Greenwich.

## 1998



Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut.

**Matthew Fortney**, a member of the Alumni Association Board, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Visiting

## 1999

**Jennifer Mitchell (MAT)** has been appointed principal of Cider Mill School in Wilton.

## 2001

**Erin Harrison French** has been appointed editor-in-chief of *InsideCounsel* magazine.

## 2002

**Joseph Bordeau (MAT '06 6th Year)** has been appointed principal of Griswold Elementary School. Previously, he had served as assistant principal.

## 2004

**Elizabeth Wood ('05)** is an associate research scientist in the Compound Management Lead Optimization Support Group at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Wallingford. She has worked at Bristol-Myers Squibb for the past eight years, and her work

has been published in the *Journal for Biomolecular Screening*.

## 2008

**Erin Dorsey ('10 DPT)** was named director of the Maryland SportsCare & Rehab Damascus Clinic. Dorsey previously worked at MedStar Union Memorial Hospital and Moore Physical Therapy.

**Jessica Lombardo** has accepted a position at Molloy College as an athletic trainer.

**Jason Payne** has been appointed a police officer in Yorktown, N.Y. He previously worked at the Mt. Vernon Police Department.

**Victoria Walter ('09 MAT)** recently accepted a teaching position in Greenwich.

## 2009

**Eric Giosa** has signed with the Rapid City Rush of the ECHL. This season will mark his fifth as a pro and fourth in the CHL.

## Paul Timpanelli '69 Is Barnum Festival Ringmaster



Paul Timpanelli '69 (photo courtesy of the *Connecticut Post*/Autumn Driscoll)

The honor of leading one of the region's signature events is a fitting tribute to the next Barnum Festival Ringmaster, Paul Timpanelli '69. By the time he dons the red coat and top hat next summer, Paul will have served as president of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council (BRBC) for 25 years.

A Bridgeport native, Paul earned a degree in sociology and taught at St. Catherine's and St. Theresa's schools in Trumbull while earning his master's degree in urban sociology from St. John's University. Paul served the Town of Trumbull as town clerk and then first selectman until 1987. After working in real estate, he was offered the chance to lead the BRBC in 1989.

Paul first developed a taste for politics at SHU, as president of the Student Government and vice president of his fraternity. His pride in the University is as strong as ever. "The vision, the commitment to growth and moving forward—it's very exciting," he says.





**Anthony Marino** has been promoted in the Audit Department of Marvin and Company, P.C. in Albany, N.Y.

**Brittney Pressley** published her first book, *Loving Inward, Living Outward, Looking Forward*. She currently lives in the DC Metro area and is a strategy consultant at a Fortune 500 company.

## 2010

**Andrew Vill** was ordained a Roman Catholic deacon on June 22, 2013, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Fairfield. He is currently studying in Rome and will return in May to be ordained a priest.

**Michael J. Rappe** received a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for actions while serving in Afghanistan from March 2012 to December 2012. He was wounded when his vehicle struck an IED while leading a combat mission. He is a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, serving with the 4th Infantry Division, and was stationed at Forward Operating Fenty near Jalalabad (eastern Afghanistan). Rappe is currently stationed in Fort Carson, Colo.

## 2011

**Nicole Morelli** has been named assistant fashion editor at *Shape* magazine. She was formerly fashion assistant at the publication.

## 2012

**Michelle Hazzard** has been promoted to executive director of Asset Management Group, Inc. of Stamford.

## 2013

**Linda Mascolo (DNP)** is the new chief nurse officer of Milford Hospital. She

## Rocker, Author, Lawyer: Who Says You Can't Do It All?



Jenna Sanz-Agero '92

Rock singer, cookbook author, lawyer and mother Jenna (Piccolo) Sanz-Agero '92 admits that she's busy, but that's fine with her. "I like to engage my passions," she says.

Jenna graduated with a finance degree, then earned her law degree at Pepperdine University and began her career as an entertainment lawyer with the indie film production/distribution company MDP Worldwide before opening her own law firm. She returned to MDP when it became Media 8 Entertainment.

She has excelled in creative outlets as well, touring worldwide with Vixen, an all-women rock group, from 2001 to 2012. Jenna also published a cookbook, *Sugar Sugar: Every Recipe Has a Story*, and is co-president of Sugar Mommas, LLC. Currently the CEO of the entertainment law firm Lapin Blanc Inc., her career was positively impacted by SHU. "The importance of community and the 'long game' really carried over," she says. "The teachers supported the students in a way that I try to convey in my leadership. I tend to treat everyone like family."

is a member of the first graduating doctor of nursing practice class at SHU.

**Josh Salah** captured first place in the 39th Annual North Shore Amateur Golf Championship at Far Corner Golf Course in Boxford, Mass.

**Alexander Testani** was sworn into the Greenwich Police Department on September 30, 2013.

## Engagements

**Jacqueline Bouthot ('08)** is engaged to Brooks Payette.

**Rosa Cacciatore ('07, '09 MBA)** is engaged to Irv Allyn.

**Allyson Conca ('07, '08 MAT)** is engaged to be married.

Katie Deweese and **Kevin Garvey ('08)** are engaged to be married.

**Elisse Duque ('11 MAT)** is engaged to Matthew LoPresti. The two will be married in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit on July 27, 2014.

**John Fallivene ('09)**, a member of the Alumni Association Board of

Directors, is engaged and will be married on September 5, 2014.

**Jen Giordano ('07)** is engaged to be married.

**Shelley Kubel ('04)** is engaged to Ernie Bertothy. They plan to wed in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit in the summer of 2014.

Felicia Neuber is engaged to **Michael Tarantino ('08, '10 MBA)**.

**Aztin Rua ('09, '11 MAT)** is engaged to Brian Sciuto. A 2015 wedding in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit is planned.

**Patricia "Patsy" Storch ('04)** is engaged to Stephen Perry, and a July 2014 wedding is planned. **Kara Brady ('04), Bethany Gordon ('04, '06 MAT)** and **Corinne McDermott-Jackson ('04, '05 MAT)** are included in the wedding party.

**Megan Wosleger ('09)** and **Matthew Jones ('09)** are engaged to be married. Matt is playing professional soccer, and the two are living in Portugal.

**Kathryn Zizzi ('06)** is engaged to Ryan Shaker.

## Marriages

**Kristen Adams ('09)** married Craig Scatola on September 21, 2013.

**Kelly Barrett ('08, '11 DPT)** wed Phil Buonora on October 26, 2013.

**Michele Bowers ('09 DPT)** married Christopher Payne on September 14, 2013.

**Sara Coro ('09)** wed **Joseph Drexel ('09, '12 MAT)** on September 21, 2013, in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.



**Amy Dion ('09, '12 MSOT)** wed **Patrick Donahue ('09)** on October 12, 2013 at St. Anthony's Church in Mattapoisett, Mass.

**Laura Figerle ('10 MAT)** wed Andrew DaCorte, Jr., on April 20, 2013.

**Lauren Foster ('08, '10 DPT)** and **Daniel Petisce ('08)** wed in Fairfield on September 28, 2013.

Kathryn Hewitt and **Timothy Redican ('03)** wed on August 3, 2013, at Saint



LEFT TO RIGHT **Nicole Rogener ('08)** and **Mark O'Sullivan ('08)** wed on March 16, 2013. Many SHU alumni and friends attended the celebration. | **Caitlin DeMaria ('09)** and **Michael Abell ('09)** tied the knot on August 17, 2013, in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. | **Karen Zaneski ('76)**, a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, married **Robert Malek ('72)** on July 4 at Anthony's Ocean View.

Clements Castle in Portland. Wedding guests included **Alison (Whittemore) Neri ('03)** and **Blake Neri ('03)**. The couple resides in Stratford.

**Elizabeth Robertson ('08)** and **Christopher Aiuto ('08)** wed on October 12, 2013, in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

**Katherine Savarese ('08)** wed John DeMelis on October 26, 2013, in East Rockaway, N.Y.

On September 21, 2013, **Kristine Sisco ('09)** and **Michael DeSanto ('08)** wed in Wood-Ridge, N.J.

Jamie Sorrentino wed **Christopher Pannese ('07)** in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit on September 14, 2013.

## Births

**Kimberly Ferris ('09)** gave birth to her daughter, Paige Alizabeth Embry, on September 21, 2013.



**Kristen Lalla ('97)** and her husband, Tony Cappa, joyfully announce the birth of their son, Donald Sam Lalla-Cappa. Donnie was born

on August 8, 2013, and he joins big sister Kaelyn Mae Lalla-Cappa. **Scott**

**Cameron ('97, '00 MSPT)** is the baby's godfather.

**Ashley (Smith) McGee ('08)** and her husband Patrick welcomed a baby boy into their family.

**Amy (Baldovin) Papagno ('08, '10 DPT)** and **Matt Papagno ('08)** welcomed a baby into their family.

**Regina Rogate ('08, '11 MSOT)** and her husband Nicholas welcomed a baby into their family.



Liz Stark and her husband, **Jason Stark ('99)**, welcomed a son, Jason Robert "JR" Stark, on October 3, 2013.

JR weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz., and was 20 inches long.

**Sarah (Novotny) Vigliotta ('08)** and **Gregory Vigliotta ('08)** are proud to announce the birth of their son, Gregory Thomas Vigliotta, Jr. Gregory was born August 20, 2013.

**Kelly (Roberge) Wilson ('02)** and her husband, **Timothy Wilson ('03)**, welcomed their daughter, Emma Grace, on November 5, 2012.

**Elizabeth (Dumas) Wood ('04, '05)** and her husband, William Wood, welcomed their first child, Lillian Grace, on December 9, 2011.

## In Memoriam

**Karen Burke Roper ('68)**, formerly of Stamford, died September 15, 2013. She was 67. She was born in 1946 in Evanston, Ill., to Thomas Francis Burke, II, and Annette Vannier Burke. She grew up in Stamford and attended Stamford Catholic High School and Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. She earned a master's degree in reading at the University of Bridgeport and another in instructional technology at Southern Connecticut State University. She taught English for 33 years in Stamford at Turn of River Middle School and Rippowam and Westhill High Schools. She worked briefly as a technical writer for Pitney Bowes in Shelton and taught the last three years of her career at Staples High School in Westport. Before retiring to Wilmington, N.C., she and her husband resided in Woodbridge for 30 years.

**Edly Bussolotta ('90)**, age 81, of Milford and formerly of Bridgeport, passed away February 8, 2012, at her home, surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Norway and was a longtime area resident. She was a retired teacher who also worked as an administrative assistant to the dean at Sacred Heart University and Fairfield University. She was an active member of the Salem Lutheran Church, a member

of the Scandinavian Club, a strong supporter of the Greater Bridgeport Symphony and a member of the University of Bridgeport Scholarship Committee. Her family also served as a host for many exchange students, and she was a Berlitz language teacher. In her earlier years she worked for Read's, G. Fox and Filene's department stores.

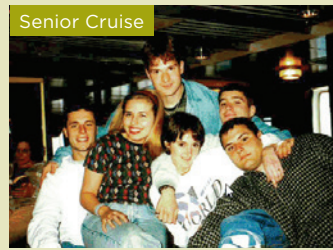
**Joyce M. Gladstein ('95)**, age 64, passed away January 12, 2012, at her home in Trumbull. She was born in Bridgeport, a daughter of the late George and Anne Hiller, and will be remembered by all who knew her as a loving and devoted wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend. She is also remembered for her love of life and family, and for her laughter.

**James R. Hulton, III ('71)** of Washington Avenue, Danbury, died November 29, 2012, at Yale-New Haven Hospital. Born in New Milford on April 15, 1949, he was the only son of James R. Hulton, Jr., and Anita Shanley Hulton. He attended St. Francis Xavier Elementary School in New Milford and St. Peter's Elementary School in Danbury. He graduated from Immaculate High School in Danbury in 1967 and Sacred Heart University in Fairfield in 1971, where he earned a degree in accounting. He joined the Danbury Police Department in 1974 and retired in 2002. At the time of his retirement,



# SHU CREW

This "SHU Crew" (Corinne Waldheim '97, Kristen Lalla '97, Eugene Matejek '97, '99 MAT, '09 6th year, Angela St. Louis '97, '99 MSPT, John Osmanski '97, Scott Cameron '97, '00 MSPT, Kristyn "Dirt" Mulry '97) met during their time at Sacred Heart back in the late '90s and have been getting together ever since. These friends consider themselves more like family, and have been through it all together: weddings, babies, even the death of their dear friend, Patrick McCaughey '97, who passed away suddenly in 2007. Each year they get together to see one another and celebrate the life of their friend. Check out Kristen Lalla's photos through the years!



Senior Cruise



Commencement Ball



2002 Wedding



2008



2009



2010



2011



2012



2013



2013 Christening

TOP LEFT TO BOTTOM RIGHT Class of '97 Senior Week Cruise to Nova Scotia: L-R John Osmanski, Kristen Lalla, Scott Cameron, Denise Morris-Murphy '97, Eugene Matejek, Patrick McCaughey | Class of '97 Commencement Ball: L-R Back Row: Eugene Matejek, Scott Cameron, Tony Cappa, Patrick McCaughey, John Osmanski; Seated: Denise Morris-Murphy, Kristyn Mulry, Kristen Lalla, Paul Korchari, Angela St. Louis '97, Amy Cameron '99 | 2002: Kristen's wedding with all Sacred Heart people who attended in it. The SHU Crew people were either bridesmaids/groomsman or readers. | 2008: L-R Corinne Waldheim, Kristen's husband Tony Cappa, her daughter Kaelyn Lalla-Cappa, Kristen, Eugene Matejek, Angela St. Louis, John Osmanski, Scott Cameron, Kristyn Mulry. | 2009: John Osmanski, Scott Cameron, Kaelyn Lalla-Cappa, Tony Cappa, Eugene Matejek, Corinne Waldheim, Barbara McCabe '97, Angela St. Louis, Maya Murphy (child), Bill Murphy and Denise Morris-Murphy | 2010, Standing: Scott Cameron, Maya Murphy, Bill Murphy, Denise Morris-Murphy, Barbara McCabe, John Osmanski, Kristen, Kristyn Mulry, Angela St. Louis, Eugene Matejek, Corinne Waldheim; Sitting: Tony Cappa, Kaelyn Lalla-Cappa, Tria St. Louis (doggie!) | 2011: Corinne Waldheim, Eug Matejek, Barbara McCabe, Scott Cameron, Tony Cappa, Kaelyn Lalla-Cappa, Kristen, John Osmanski, Kristyn Mulry, Angela St. Louis | 2012: Corinne Waldheim, Tony Cappa, Kaelyn Lalla-Cappa, Kristen, Kristyn Mulry, Scott Cameron, Barbara McCabe, Angela St. Louis, her niece Sidney St. Louis and Angie's fiancé Marc Risigo | 2013: Nichole Muscarella '97 was on this trip but is not pictured, Corinne Waldheim, Marc Risigo, Angela St. Louis, Scott Cameron, Barbara McCabe, Kristyn Mulry, Kristen, Tony Cappa, Kaelyn Lalla-Cappa and Tria. | 2013: Kristen's son Donnie's christening last September. Scott Cameron is his godfather: L-R Back Row: Nichole Muscarella '97, Angela St. Louis, Barbara McCabe; Front Row: Kristen, Kaelyn Lalla-Cappa, Donnie Lalla-Cappa, Tony Cappa, Scott Cameron

## Do you have your own "SHU Crew"?

SEND US YOUR PICS AND YOU COULD BE FEATURED IN THE MAGAZINE! EMAIL US AT: ALUMNI@SACREDHEART.EDU.

*The Patrick McCaughey fund was established to provide monetary assistance to Junior or Senior Athletic Training student(s) for attendance at the National Athletic Trainers Association Annual Symposium. Make your gift to support other AT students, like Patrick, here: [www.tinyurl.com/shumccaughey](http://www.tinyurl.com/shumccaughey).*

he supervised the records division. He was a member of Citizens Hose Company 6 and a parishioner of St. Peter's Church. He collected classic cars and enjoyed attending car shows.

### Elizabeth Johnson ('92) of

Watertown passed away September 12, 2013, attended at her bedside at Waterbury Hospital by her husband, Robert C. Johnson. Born May 8, 1942, in Woonsocket, R.I., to Charles M. and Elizabeth M. McLoughlin, she was the younger sister to John Michael McLoughlin. A 1963 graduate of Salve

Regina University with her AB, her career began as an elementary school teacher. From 1966 to 1980, she worked as a planner and grant writer for Health, Social Services, Education and Elderly Services and agencies at the federal, regional and community levels. In 1990, she returned to teaching elementary and middle school full time at St. Margaret's in Waterbury. She earned her MAT from Sacred Heart University in 1992, and throughout the remainder of her teaching career taught various grades of elementary and middle school classes

in both parochial and public schools in Waterbury. When she retired from teaching, Johnson invested her time volunteering and served on the Board of the Watertown Historical Society, taking great joy in her continued involvement within her community. Her true loves were her family and friends and the ocean.

**Karen Mary Krozier Lazowski ('70)**, age 63, of Fairfield, beloved wife of John Lazowski, passed away August 25, 2012. Born in Bridgeport, she was a lifelong Fairfield resident. She was an

alumna of Sacred Heart University and received her master's degree from Fairfield University. Her passion in life was in educating others, and she taught in the Bridgeport school system for the former Jefferson School and Roosevelt School, and at Holland Hill Elementary School of Fairfield, where she was a student, parent and later a teacher. She retired from Holland Hill after 15 years to help care for her grandchildren. She liked to cook and sew and especially enjoyed local history, participating in



FROM LEFT: Zak Turner '12, Noah Citsay '02, '04 MSPT, Mike Garitta '12, Mike Staropoli '09, '12 DPT and Josh Heenan '09.

## Pioneer Spirit Thrives at Moore Physical Therapy and Fitness

Voted one of Fairfield County's Top Workplaces in 2012, one unique factor separates Moore Physical Therapy and Fitness from its competitors: the SHU spirit. Twenty-three Sacred Heart University alumni work within the company, impacting the culture and Moore's relationship with the community.

As a student in the athletic training program, Phil Denema '04, '07 DPT, had hands-on experience working with SHU's athletes and began working with Moore right after graduation. Now director of Moore's Wilton office, his close connection to Sacred Heart has led to an ongoing infusion of alumni employees. "We had the same group of teachers, we think along the same lines, and this carries over into the work environment," he says, adding that Moore employees are very involved with SHU, working with future PTs while they're in school and assisting their former professors in the classroom.



FROM LEFT: Patrick Buckley '11 DPT, Peggy Feldt '00, Greg Besson '99 MSPT and Brianne Hudak '08, '11 DPT.

colonial period reenactments at the Ogden House, Holland Hill School and other venues. She also enjoyed taking short trips to Amish Country in Pennsylvania with her family.

**Evelyn Miklus Czynnik ('90)**, age 80, of Trumbull, beloved wife of William Czynnik, passed away peacefully at home June 26, 2013. Born on June 1, 1933, in Bridgeport, daughter of the late Paul and Anna Miklus, she was raised and educated in Bridgeport and graduated from St. John's School and Sacred Heart University. She worked in the area for many years and retired from Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation. She was a devout Catholic and a parishioner of Christ the King Church in Trumbull. A committed and caring wife, mother and grandmother, she particularly enjoyed time spent with her family and friends.

**William C. Miro ('76)**, age 58, of Fairfield died Sunday, February 10, 2013, at Yale-New Haven Hospital. Born in Bridgeport, he was owner/operator of Miro Greenhouses in Fairfield and was a member of the Connecticut Greenhouse Association. He was a lifelong Fairfield resident.

**Patricia Murphy ('90)** of Fairfield died August 27, 2013. She was 70. She was born November 12, 1942, in Texas, daughter of Francis and Frances Murphy. She completed college and obtained her paralegal degree from Sacred Heart University. Before retiring, she worked at the nonprofit STAR Inc. for more than 10 years. She was a member of the Embroiders Guild of America.

**Johanna Sutjak Malinowski ('79)**, age 73, of Trumbull passed away November 5, 2013, at Connecticut Hospice in Branford after a courageous battle with ovarian cancer. She was born in Allentown, Penn., to the late John and Marie Sutjak and was a Trumbull resident for 45 years. She received an AA from Gwynedd-Mercy College in 1960, a bachelor's degree from Sacred Heart University and a JD Law from the University of Bridgeport in 1982. Malinowski was a very active member of the

community. She recently served as treasurer of the American Association of University Women and previously served as AAUW branch president as well as treasurer for the League of Women Voters. She also was a chairman of the Town of Trumbull School Code Violations Compliance Committee. She was a member of the Trumbull Vocational Agricultural Building Committee and of the Connecticut and Greater Bridgeport Bar Associations. She was a passionate advocate for her clients and continued to work from her Smilow bed. She enjoyed teaching First Communion classes at St. Catherine of Siena parish for many years, and then moved on to teach paralegal classes at Sacred Heart University. She cherished family reunions in Pennsylvania, and her travels included Slovakia, Russia, Rome and the Holy Land.

**Noreen Tomaino ('70, '96 MAT)**, age 64, a retired reading specialist and teacher with the Danbury Board of Education, died August 31, 2013, at Danbury Hospital. Born in Danbury on March 21, 1949, she was the devoted daughter of the late Fred and Grace (Nero) Tomaino and the granddaughter of Joseph and Mary Elisa Nero. She graduated from Immaculate High School in 1966, attended UConn and earned a bachelor's degree from Sacred Heart University. Following in the footsteps of her mother, Tomaino invested in the youth of Danbury by working as a teacher. Although she had no children of her own, she thought of her students as family and adopted others along the way. Her friends brought her joy, especially her lifelong friend, Sister Helen Blodgett. Tomaino enjoyed playing at Foxwoods, seeing plays in New York and taking cruises. She was also dedicated to maintaining her family's Italian heritage. She faithfully attended St. Gregory the Great Church. Throughout her life, she championed numerous causes of equality. Specifically, she hoped for an end to domestic violence, improved gay rights and a warm loving home for all of the animals at the Danbury Animal Welfare Society.



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APRIL 12, 2014  
6 p.m. Linda E. McMahon Commons

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## 6 p.m. COCKTAILS AND DINNER RECEPTION

*LINDA E. McMAHON COMMONS*

## 8 p.m. THE BEACH BOYS

*EDGERTON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS*

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