

Founder's Day 2022

Founder's Day 2022 was held May 18, 2022 on the Pioneer Quad on the upper main campus. Ceremonies for 2020 and 2021 were not held in person because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, Sacred Heart University celebrates all honorees from 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Sacred Heart University was founded in March 1963 by the Most Reverend Walter W. Curtis, second bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport, and will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2023.

His goal was to provide an institution of higher education that would serve the people of the diocese and region, regardless of sex, race, creed or religion. In October 1962, Bishop Curtis announced both the plan to open a college the following September and its name—Sacred Heart. The choice of the name had a dual origin: it was the name of the bishop's first pastorate in Bloomfield, N.J., and was a pledge from the bishop attesting to the value of such an institution.

As we continue to grow and expand both our programs and our infrastructure, we reflect on the original vision of Bishop Walter W. Curtis and his small, faithful band of colleagues who founded this University nearly 60 years ago. We are the successors of that brave group of pioneers and, each year, we gather as a community to celebrate Founder's Day and to thank those who help continue the mission.

To read more about our history, [download 1963](#) by Michael W. Higgins, PhD.

2022 Honorees

40 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Gary L. Rose, PhD	Professor	Government/College of Arts & Sciences

35 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
John "Jack" deGraffenried, MFA	Associate Professor	Art & Design/School of Communication, Media & the Arts

30 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Claire Anne Marrone, PhD	Professor	Languages & Literature/College of Arts & Sciences
Linda Lee Strong, EdD, RN	Associate Professor	Nursing/College of Nursing

25 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Joseph S. Belezny, BA	Manager of Academic Space Scheduling	Registrar
Donna M. Bowers, MPH, DPT	Clinical Professor	Physical Therapy/College of Health Professions

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Benoit Boyer, PhD	Chair & Professor	Accounting & Information Systems/College of Business & Technology
Antoinette P. Bruciati, PhD	Associate Professor	Teacher Education/College of Education & Human Development
Patricia H. Carl-Stannard, MSW	Clinical Associate Professor	Social Work/School of Social Work
Janet L. Cascio, AS	Office Manager	Campus Operations Construction
Maureen A. Conard, PhD	Professor	Psychology/College of Arts & Sciences
Debbie Danowski, PhD	Associate Professor	Communication Studies/School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Deanna Fiorentino, BA	Associate Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management & Career Development	Student Affairs & Athletics
Ruth M. Grant, PhD	Assistant Professor	Psychology/College of Arts & Sciences
Marian Leal, MS	Instructor	Biology/College of Arts & Sciences
Lori Michelle Miller, BS	Corporate Underwriting Director	WSHU
Robert C. Tullonge, MBA	Associate Vice President for Information Technology	Information Technology
Linda J. Vagvolgyi	Administrative Associate to Senior Vice President	Student Affairs & Athletics

20 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Rachel E. Bowman, PhD	Professor	Psychology/College of Arts & Sciences
Daria L. Corey, BA	Administrative Assistant	Teacher Education/College of Education & Human Development
Elizabeth T. Cross, BA	Program Manager	Physician Assistant Studies/College of Health Professions
Mark I. Jareb, PhD	Associate Professor	Biology/College of Arts & Sciences
Mary-Ellen Johnson, OTD	Clinical Assistant Professor	Occupational Therapy/College of Health Professions

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Elizabeth A. Knapik, MBA, MS	Director of Instructional Library Services	Academic Affairs
Catherine M. LaFrance-Lopez	Communications Coordinator, Admissions Operations	Student Affairs & Athletics
Maria Lizano-DiMare, EdD	Associate Professor	Teacher Education/College of Education & Human Development
Steven Michels, PhD	Professor	Political Science/College of Arts & Sciences
Joshua A. Shuart, PhD	Professor	Sport Management/College of Business & Technology
Joseph W. Sokoloski, BS	Manager, Network Infrastructure	Information Technology
Jonathan J. Walker, MFA	Associate Professor	Art & Design/School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Frances E. Wasilnak, BA	Assistant to the Dean	College of Arts & Sciences

15 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Deanna C. Bradshaw, BS	Administrative Assistant	College of Arts & Sciences
Tara L. Chudy, MA	Executive Director Graduate Admissions	Student Affairs & Athletics
Cynthia L. Conte	Supervisor, Event Marketing, Promotions & Digital Signage	Marketing & Communications
Richard Falco, BA	Clinical Instructor, Media & Performing Arts	School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Constance H. Glenn, DNP, APRN	Clinical Assistant Professor, Nursing	College of Nursing
Sean Lewis Heffron, MA, MBA	Executive Director of the Welch Experience & Student Success	College of Business & Technology
Nathan Lewis, MFA	Professor, Art & Design	School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Beverly B. Lysobey, MLS	Scholarly Publication & Metadata Services Librarian	Library
Robert Machan, MS	Head Coach, Womens Volleyball	Athletics
Matthew J. McGreevy, AS	Head Coach, Men & Womens Golf	Athletics
Eric C. McGuirk	General Maintenance	Campus Operations

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Robert M. Memmesheimer, MS	Director of Institutional Data	Information Technology
Loudon C. Page, Jr., AS	Chief Engineer, Sunday Baroque	WSHU
Arlete Perez Paez, BS	Office & Program Manager	Service Learning & Volunteer Programs
Angela M. Pitcher, MS	University Registrar	Registrar
Caitlin Robles, BS	Director of Web Operations	Marketing & Communications
Nicole Marie Roy, PhD	Professor	Biology/College of Arts & Sciences
Deana Santoro-Dillon, MA, MS	Library Scholarly Publication & Metadata Assistant	Library
Margaret D. Smith, MA	Associate Registrar	Registrar
Lauren E. Steffann	Music Announcer/Host	WSHU
Jing'an Tang, PhD	Associate Professor	Management, College of Business & Technology
Brian R. Thorne, BS	Graduate Instructor	Communication Studies/School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Tavares Jermaine Tuck	Athletic & Rec Setup Ops Tech	Athletics
Gregory F. Viggiano, PhD	Associate Professor	History/College of Arts & Sciences
Keith M. Zdrojowy, MA	Studio Manager, Martire Broadcast Center	School of Communication, Media & the Arts

2021 Honorees

45 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Sidney P. Gottlieb, PhD	Professor	Media & Theater Arts/School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Domenick J. Pinto, MA, MS	Associate Professor	School of Computer Science & Engineering

35 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Shirley Canaan, MBA	Vice President	Information Technology
Linda A. Patrick	Resources Management Assistant	Library
Deborah C. Samilenko, BS	Director, IT Administrative Services	Information Technology

30 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Denise M. Tiberio, MAT	Senior Associate Dean of Students	Student Life
Jody C. Weldon	Administrative Associate to President	President's Office

25 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Pamela A. Barnum, AS	Director of International & Immigration Services	Immigration Support Services
David A. Cameron, PhD	Clinical Associate Professor	Physical Therapy/College of Health Professions
Lawrence J. Wielk, MA	Dean of Students	Student Affairs

20 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Kirk A. Bartholomew, PhD	Associate Professor	Biology/College of Arts & Sciences
Karen Bauco	Systems Support Manager	Graduate Admissions
Jill A. Benedetto, AA	Manager-Office Services	Campus Operations
Jimi Dennis	Sr. Tech. Services Specialist	Information Technology
Suzanne M. Deschenes, PhD	Associate Professor	Biology/College of Arts & Sciences
Heather A. Ferrillo-Dilulio, PhD	Assistant Professor	College of Nursing
Leonidas G. Katsetos, MSED	Senior Associate Athletic Director, Head Athletic Trainer	Athletics
Rebecca A. Kregling, BA	Head Coach Womens Bowling	Athletics

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Kimberly A. Macomber, MLS	Education Reference & User Services Librarian	Library
Robert F. Marsh, PhD	Associate Professor	Management/College of Business & Technology
Philip J. McCabe, MS	Senior Vice President for Finance	Finance & Administration
Elizabeth A. McGreevy, MBA	Assistant Director Pitt Center/Intramurals	William Pitt Health & Recreation Center
Jason J. Moliterno, PhD	Professor	Mathematics/College of Arts & Sciences
Michael F. Moylan, MBA	Director Student Union	Student Union
Katherine R. Roberts, BA	Music Director	WSHU
Eugene L. Sullivan	Public Safety Security Officer	Public Safety
Michael J. Ventimiglia, PhD	Associate Professor	Philosophy/College of Arts & Sciences
Charles L. Work, MA	Senior Data Base Administrator	Information Technology
Michael Jijin Zhang, PhD	Professor	Management/College of Business & Technology

15 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Jeanine K. Andreassi, PhD	Professor	Management/College of Business & Technology
Shari A. Baron, JD	Library Data & Building Manager	Library
Benson C. Batchelder, MS	Associate Head Athletic Trainer	Athletics
Gavin Ferriby, PhD	University Librarian	Library
Kimberly A. Foito, MSN	Clinical Assistant Professor	College of Nursing
Beau K. Greer, PhD	Professor	Exercise Science/College of Health Professions
Catherine S. Hatrick, AA	Director Payroll Operations	Human Resources
William F. Mayer, PhD	Senior Lecturer	Psychology/College of Arts & Sciences
James E. McCabe, PhD	Associate Professor	Government/College of Arts & Sciences
Sara A. Ross, PhD	Associate Professor	Media & Theater Arts/School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Donna L. Stern, MBA	Director of Purchasing	Business Office
Barbara E. Tarasovich, DPS	Associate Professor	Accounting & Information Systems/College of Business & Technology

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Thomas Terleph, PhD	Professor	Biology/College of Arts & Sciences

2020 Honorees

30 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
James M. Barquinero, MS	Senior Vice President	Student Affairs & Athletics
Sharon Lynn Fedak, BS	Lab Coordinator	Chemistry/College of Arts & Sciences
Alberto Fernandez	Public Safety Supervisor	Public Safety
Charlotte M. Gradie, PhD	Professor	History/College of Arts & Sciences
Thomas G. Kuser, BS	Senior Director Programs & Infrastructure	WSHU
John B. Roney, PhD	Professor	History/College of Arts & Sciences
Penny A. Snetsinger, PhD	Associate Professor	Chemistry/College of Arts & Sciences

25 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Karen S. Christensen, PhD	Clinical Associate Professor	Teacher Education/College of Education & Human Development
Kathy Dilks, EdD	Director of Graduate Student Services	Student Affairs
Beverly D. Fein, EdD	Clinical Associate Professor	Physical Therapy/College of Health Professions
Julie A. Freddino, BS	Production Director	WSHU
June-Ann T. Greeley, PhD	Associate Professor	Languages & Literature/College of Arts & Sciences
Bridget M. Lyons, DPS	Professor	Finance/College of Business & Technology
Christel J. Manning, PhD	Professor	Theology & Religious Studies/College of Arts & Sciences
Jennifer H. Mattei, PhD	Professor	Biology/College of Arts & Sciences
Christian J. Morrison, JD	Head Coach Track & Field, Cross Country	Athletics

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Marlina Slamet, PhD	Professor	Physics/College of Arts & Sciences

20 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Jose L. Barroso, BA	Head Coach Men's Soccer	Athletics
Wendy S. Bjerke, PhD	Clinical Professor	Exercise Science/College of Health Professions
Laura A. Cook, BS	Head Coach Women's Lacrosse	Athletics
Paul S. Donahue	Lead Duplicating Technician	Mail & Duplicating Services
Hema Gopalakrishnan, PhD	Associate Professor	Mathematics/College of Arts & Sciences
Sotirios A. Gountas	Mailroom Clerk	Mail & Duplicating Services
Andrew C. Miller, PhD	Associate Professor	Communications & Media Studies/School of Communication, Media & the Arts
William G. Mumper	Chief Information Security Officer	Information Technology
Mary Ellen Peloso	Administrative Assistant	University Advancement
Janice M. Portentosio, MA	Senior Director Strategy & Communications	WSHU
Sally K. Schettino	Director of Employee Relations & Wellness	Human Resources
Salvatore Siconolfi	Locksmith	Public Safety
Bonnie L. Signore, AS	Coordinator of Pitt Center & Athletics Schedule	William Pitt Health & Recreation Center
Saburo Usami, BS	Executive Director of IT Infrastructure	Information Technology

15 Years of Service

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Joseph H. Audie, PhD	Professor	Chemistry/College of Arts & Sciences
Mark A. Beekey, PhD	Acting Dean	College of Arts & Sciences

Employee	Title	Department/School/College
Philip B. Brenha, BA	Public Safety Officer	Public Safety
Paulo De Oliveira, MEd	Assistant Coach Men's & Women's Soccer	Athletics
Gerald A. Goehring, BS	Executive Director of the Performing Arts	Performing Arts
Michael L. Iannazzi, MDiv	Chief of Staff, Vice President for Marketing & Communications	Marketing & Communications
Kittipong Laosethakul, PhD	Associate Professor	Accounting & Information Systems/College of Business & Technology
Anthony L. Latina, MEd	Head Coach Men's Basketball	Athletics
Avery M. Lee	Public Safety Officer	Public Safety
Carmen T. Lloyd	Public Safety Security Officer	Public Safety
Pamela J. London, BS	Head Coach Softball	Athletics
Khawaja A. Mamun, PhD	Associate Professor	Economics/College of Business & Technology
Ami R. Neville	Administrative Assistant	Mission Integration, Ministry & Multicultural Affairs
Amy K. Novak, MBA	Associate Director Student Engagement Career & Professional Development	Career Development
Betsy H. Perrelli	Student Accounts Financial Analyst	Student Accounts
Salvatore Ragone	Public Safety Officer	Public Safety
James L. Randall, MS	Public Safety Officer	Public Safety
Stephen A. Scarpati, MBA	Associate Professor	Accounting & Information Systems/College of Business & Technology
Raymond E. Spagone	Public Safety Security Officer	Public Safety
Mary L. Treschitta, MAT	Associate Professor	Art & Design/School of Communication, Media & the Arts
Patricia A. Yacik, AA	Senior Payroll Specialist	Human Resources
Luis M. Yanez	Public Safety Security Officer	Public Safety