MEET OUR GRADUATES

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SJU Announces Transformative $50 Million Gift

Largest Gift in Saint Joseph’s History

As this magazine was going to press, Saint Joseph’s announced that distinguished alumnus James J. Maguire ’58 and his wife, Frances, had gifted an unprecedented $50 million to the University.

The Maguires’ investment in the University’s future will:

- Significantly increase endowment for academic, scholarship and mission-centered programs.
- Expand development opportunities for educational leaders.
- Accelerate initiatives in the Maguire Academy for Risk Management and Insurance and its No. 1 nationally ranked academic program.
- Allow for the pursuit of additional strategic opportunities.
“I have never forgotten that it was at Saint Joseph’s where people first believed in me and I have lived my life — professionally and personally — embracing the values that are the foundation of a Jesuit education. The University is in a very strong position and poised for phenomenal success. It is with great confidence and pride that we make this investment in SJU.”

— James J. Maguire ’58

“This is a historic and game-changing gift. This investment will advance academic excellence and will increase student access through a major infusion of endowed funds for scholarships and financial assistance — top strategic priorities.”

— Mark C. Reed, Ed.D.
President
Saint Joseph’s University Magazine: Published three times annually and distributed to alumni, parents of current students, friends and faculty/staff (circulation 67,000). One issue per year serves as the annual University Report for the prior academic year.
WELCOME TO HAWK HILL
By Bill Avington ’94 (B.A.)
Have a question about an SJU academic program, residence hall or activity? These students have the answer.

BARBELIN HALL TURNS 90
By Carmen Robert Croce ’71 (A.B.)
Saint Joseph’s landmark building is a sign of the times — today and when it was completed in 1927, with its quirky architectural details and Collegiate Gothic style.

MEET OUR GRADUATES
By University Communications
Meet some of SJU’s newest alumni who are moving on to careers and advanced study in the fields of business, technology, medicine, education and more.

AccessABILITY
By JoAnn Greco
Ather Sharif’s aim to make the web more accessible is a professional adventure and personal quest.

A MATTER OF MISSION
By Marisa (Fulton) Benjamin ’03 (B.A.)
Participants in the Ignatian Colleagues program ensure that mission remains central at Philadelphia’s Jesuit university.

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Title Block of an Architectural Blueprint
for Barbelin Hall
F. Ferdinand Durang, Architect
Signed by Albert G. Brown, S.J., President
and John McShain ’22, Building Contractor
March 1926

On the cover:
(Standing from left) Amarendranath Reddy Donthala, Niknaz Riazati, Timmy Parks, Michael DiMuzio; (seated on chairs) Brenna Ritzert, Claribel Villa, Prince Charles Yakubu; (floor) Sarah Cooney, Morgan Bui.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

I get the same question over and over on commencement day: “Does your hand hurt?”

Two ceremonies, undergraduate, graduate, degree-completion and doctoral students. All said, it’s about 2,000 handshakes, dozens of fist pumps, and, of course, a few selfies.

I don’t get the chance to cross paths with all of our students during their time here. But on commencement day, I encounter almost every one on their path across the stage toward their futures. We exchange a brief handshake, just a couple of seconds, but I connect with what they’re feeling … pride, relief, accomplishment, joy, anxiety and optimism. It’s a privilege, really, to share that moment with each of them. In the world of higher education, it’s the end game, the reason I do what I do.

Commencement is always an emotional rollercoaster. Last year, the overriding sentiment was exhilaration. This year, it was gratitude.

It takes a village to pull off two enjoyable and memorable ceremonies, back to back, in just eight hours. There are a lot of moving parts. I’m grateful to the committed SJU community members who made it all look so easy.

Then there was the palpable gratitude of our honorary degree recipients: four inspiring and accomplished individuals who stood on our stage and exemplified for our students that success and humility go hand-in-hand.

If you listen, there’s a chorus of thank yous on commencement day that underscores an important element of the education we provide: It’s never about individual success.

In her commencement address, honorary degree recipient and CHOP CEO Madeline Bell hit on something I say often about the value of an SJU degree. It’s not always about the first job, or the second job, but rather the longevity of one’s career and the fulfillment that comes from work.

“When looking for a job, find an organization that shares your values and a boss from whom you can learn, and success will follow,” she told undergraduates. “My best opportunities came when I took a lateral job to learn a new skill, a job that did not come with a higher title.”

You could hear a pin drop in the pauses during the graduate ceremony when honorary degree recipient, alumnus and precursory principal of Strawberry Mansion High School Linda Cliatt Wayman ’92 (M.S.) delivered her rousing and emotional commencement address. The motivational leader and educator paid homage to her Jesuit education for giving her the courage to make decisions that have had a positive impact on so many. She urged those in attendance to really think about what comes next.

“What will be your decision?” she asked. “Will it be your decision to be that heroic voice … ? Will it be your decision to lead when others will not, cannot or won’t … ? Remember life unfolds based on one decision at a time. There is only one person who knows where you are supposed to end up. Your decision will lead you to the prize of life: finding your life’s purpose.”

I’m confident that the Class of 2017 has the knowledge, ethical compass and compassion to make a lifetime of good decisions.

Mark C. Reed, Ed.D.
President
STREAMS OF COLOR CELEBRATE SPRING

Two hundred students toss colorful powder toward the sky, completely coating one another, to culminate the ancient Hindu celebration of HOLI, also called the Festival of Colors. The annual event marks the arrival of spring and the triumph of good over evil.

Adult Student Life, the Office of Inclusion and Diversity, Hawks of India and the Asian Student Association sponsored the event, held on the Villiger lawn, April 8.
One Sunday in late April this year, visiting families streamed onto Hawk Hill to be greeted by the wide smiles and outstretched arms of Saint Joseph’s University’s most dedicated and enthusiastic student ambassadors — the Hawk Hosts.

It was SJU’s Spring View, an open house for hundreds of high school juniors and sophomores (with a smattering of accepted seniors and transfer students still mulling over their decision), and their families. Whether it’s a first college visit or the end of a long family trek through different schools, they are treated to campus life through the lens of the Hawk Hosts — SJU sophomores, juniors and seniors from across the country and beyond, representing the majority of Saint Joseph’s academic programs and many clubs, teams and other activities.

Clad in black SJU golf shirts, these young men and women welcome each group of visitors as if they’re family. After all, that’s the Saint Joseph’s way. Billy Ripley ’17 (left), explains to prospective families that students come for the education but leave with much more.

He remembers his own tour of campus on a beautiful spring day as a prospective freshman: “Everyone looked so happy.”

Though he visited 14 different schools and applied to nine, he says, “SJU was the only school I felt that I could confidently call ‘home’ for these four years.”

Spring View is the culmination of a year full of admissions events for Hawk Hosts — admitted students day, open houses, group and individual tours, and red envelope surprise deliveries.

They are ready and well-prepared to greet Saint Joseph’s future families.
After a welcome session in the Michael J. Hagan ’85 Arena, home of the men’s and women’s basketball teams, Puerto Rico native Isabella Rivera ’18 expertly leads a large tour into Mandeville Hall, the center of the Haub School of Business.

“Let me show you my favorite room on campus,” says the pharmaceutical & healthcare marketing major, ushering the group up a flight of stairs to the Wall Street Trading Room.

She touts the success of the Hawk Fund, managed by a group of undergraduates who invest in the stock market in real-time. Its earnings are poured back into the fund, which has posted a strong return since its inception.

Rivera relays SJU’s emphasis on experiential learning to the group, informing them about the co-op program and internship opportunities as well as her own presentations at two corporate-sponsored competitions, one with Johnson & Johnson and the other with Walgreens.

“No matter what your major is, you will do research,” she says.

Hawk Host Lauren Opdyke ’19, an interdisciplinary health services major from Doylestown, Pennsylvania, runs through a litany of “Hawk” terms with her tour group: The Hawk student newspaper, Hawk Hill, Hawk Wraps, Hawk Sauce, Hawk Mates.

“We love the Hawk here,” she says of the most famous mascot in college basketball, known for flapping his — or her (this year’s Hawk is senior Mikaela Bakey) — wings an average of 3,500 times during every game.

She leads the group into the John R. Post ’60 Academic Center, joking that every college tour guide talks about how students want to use the library.

She stops and chuckles, “But, that’s actually true here.”

Standing in the academic center’s glass-enclosed atrium connecting the original Drexel Library, which features the Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J., Special Collections gallery and the Campbell Collection along with traditional study spaces, to the state-of-the-art John and Maryanne Hennings Post Learning Commons. The latter offers open areas to plug in electronics, work in groups, and grab snacks or load up on caffeine at the café as well as cozy nooks to study alone or private rooms to edit audio and video projects. With all of these choices, Opdyke says she makes a decision every time she enters the building: “Do I have work to do, or Do I have WORK to do?!”

After exiting the library, the tour approaches the Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial, and Opdyke points out “Synagoga and Ecclesia in Our Time,” the sculpture that Pope Francis, the first pontiff from the Society of Jesus, blessed while in Philadelphia in 2015.

The significance of SJU’s Jesuit heritage was accentuated by Daniel Joyce, S.J. ’88 (B.A.), executive director of mission programs, during Spring View’s opening session in Hagan Arena.

“As a Jesuit school, our investment is in you,” he told the room full of prospective students and parents. “We believe that education is a ‘head and heart’ project that prepares each student to make the deepest and best impact on the world.”

Maureen Mathis, assistant provost of undergraduate enrollment, summed it up this way: “At a Jesuit school — at Saint Joseph’s — ‘good enough’ never is.”

Every tour stops at Barbelin Hall, home to Public Safety, the College of Arts and Sciences dean’s office, Information Technology, classrooms and Hawk Central — a one-stop location for the
registrar, bursar and financial aid. With its Collegiate Gothic architecture and grand bell tower, SJU’s landmark building was once the only building on campus.

There is a reason why, as Opdyke says on her tour, “If you’ve ever gotten anything in the mail from us, you’ve seen Barbelin.” One parent notes, “The Jesuits sure know how to build colleges.”

Enya Maher ’18, a Hawk Host whose double major combines management with leadership, ethics and organizational sustainability, tells her tour group how she discovered her passion for Hawk Hill.

“I put myself out there and realized how wonderful SJU is,” she says. “At St. Joe’s, I have found more families than I can count.”

The San Francisco, California, native is part of the Haub School Dean’s Leadership Program and a two-time Summer Scholar, conducting research under the tutelage of a faculty mentor. She also serves as the women’s rugby club president.

“We have a saying here that goes, ‘Fall in love, stay in love and that will decide everything,’” she says of the phrase from a prayer attributed to Pedro Arrupe, S.J. (1907-1991), the 28th superior general of the Society of Jesus. “Well, I love St. Joe’s more and more every day.”

Daniel Tan ’19, whom SJU recruited from Australia to play tennis, agrees.

Standing with his tour group in the quadrangle of Barbelin Hall, Tan tells them he wanted a campus “where I would not get lost in a crowd.” He remembers arriving on Hawk Hill alone as a freshman, but he says that soon the inclusive feeling at Saint Joseph’s enveloped him, and he quickly made friends.

“They became my family,” he says.

Saint Joseph’s size was important to him for more than social reasons; it is also helping Tan fulfill his career goals. A finance major, he is working with a faculty mentor to develop an independent study that will help to prepare him for the actuary exam.

“That’s one of the great things about St. Joe’s,” Tan says. “You form relationships with your professors. They want you to succeed.”

Across campus at the “tour tent” near Sweeney Field, Hawk Host Brendan Gleason ’17, a biology major, is a popular man. “People find out that I am pre-med and have lots of questions,” says the Rochester, New York, native, still smiling after four hours.

From his first days on campus, Gleason, a Summer Scholar and senior research fellow in the SJU Institute of Clinical Bioethics, worked closely with SJU’s Health Professions Advisor to help ready himself for medical school. This fall, he will attend Thomas Jefferson University through a joint degree partnership program with SJU.

When professors heard about his interests, they sought him out for lab work, he says, pointing to the Science Center, where he conducted much of his research.

“I don’t think that would happen at a large school,” says Gleason, noting that SJU’s undergraduate student body
The Hosts with the Most

Hawk Hosts are some of Saint Joseph’s most ambitious and spirited young people, representing the student experience as tour guides and campus representatives. To become a Hawk Host, students must complete a competitive written application, be invited to participate in a group interview and, in the final stage, describe a space on campus in front of peers and admissions staff members during a practice tour. Of the nearly 240 students who applied to become Hawk Hosts this year, 52 were hired.

The most important quality of Hawk Hosts, according to Maureen Mathis, assistant provost of undergraduate enrollment, is an ability to enthusiastically share their own authentic stories of Saint Joseph’s with prospective students, parents and high school counselors who are visiting campus.

“More often than not, enrolling students will say that it was their Hawk Host who provided them with the information they needed to make the final decision,” says Mathis, whose office in the Maguire Wolfington Welcome Center overlooks the place where weekday campus tours typically end. “It’s not uncommon for me to hear Hawk Hosts receive a round of applause or overwhelming thanks for a job well done.”
numbers 4,850. In 2016, Gleason, three other students, a professor and a hospital resident co-authored a paper on pediatric brain cancer tissue donation that was published in the Internet Journal of Pediatrics and Neonatology.

Later, in a Mandeville Hall classroom, Gleason joins several Hawk Hosts sitting on room-wide desks, facing prospective students and families who gather for one of many informal conversations throughout the day about student life. Together, the SJU students represent a wide swathe of interests, among them: the Student Programming Board, club and intramural sports, Greek life, student government, theater, a cappella groups Hawkapella and City Belles, internships and co-ops, service, Campus Ministry and varsity athletics.

“No matter what a prospective student is interested in, I can look around and find a Hawk Host who shares that interest,” Gleason says. “That’s special.”

One of those Hawk Hosts is Sam Giacino ’17, a sports marketing major from Mercerville, New Jersey, who begins the discussion by emphasizing SJU students’ devotion to service. He is an Appalachian Experience Immersion Trip (APEX) leader and helped to organize the Philadelphia Service Immersion Program (PSIP) for freshmen.

“For APEX, we have 500 available spots,” Giacino says of the annual spring break service trip. “They were filled in 26 minutes this year.”

Megan Burns ’17, another APEX volunteer, told the group about her weekly service through Campus Ministry and how the desire to serve others extended into her academic life as a psychology major with a minor in autism studies. Through the Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support, located in Connelly Hall on SJU’s Maguire Campus, the Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, native supported the center’s activities and gained firsthand experience working one-on-one with individuals on the autism spectrum as a SCHOLAR (Students Committed to Helping Others Learn about Autism Research and Support).

“Not only did I learn an extensive amount about the field, but the learners with whom I worked truly changed my life,” Burns says. “It also set me up incredibly well for my post-grad life. I was offered a job at ABA2Day Behavior Services, which does the same type of work that Kinney does. They were astounded at the experience I received at Kinney.”

She began a full-time position there this summer.

Fellow panelist Alli DelGrippo ’17, also a part of APEX and PSIP, answers a parent’s question about SJU’s location on the western edge of Philadelphia.

“We are so close, just a train ride away,” the Point Pleasant, New Jersey, native says. “Whether we go into the city for Restaurant Week or to a coffee shop for a change of scenery during exams, we’re there all the time.”

A leadership, ethics and organizational sustainability major with a minor in entertainment marketing, DelGrippo enjoyed the experience of joining commuters heading into Center City while doing an internship at LevLane Advertising in Philadelphia.

Just six miles of track separates the campus from Center City. She explains that students use the Overbrook Station near campus for easy access to internship opportunities, lectures and, of course, the nation’s most historic spots, as well as the city’s nightlife, sporting events and concerts.

Rivera’s tour ends outside of Mandeville Hall, exactly where it began. Parents and prospective students swamp her with specific, individual questions. Slowly they disperse to investigate other aspects of life at SJU. She flashes a smile, suggests they try a Hawk Wrap for lunch in the Campion Student Center cafeteria and hustles into one of the Student Life panel discussions. After all, there are always more families to see and future Hawks to meet.

A former writer in the SJU Office of External Relations, now University Communications, Avington is director of communications for St. Joseph’s Preparatory School in Philadelphia.
Ninety years after its completion in 1927, Barbelin Hall endures as Saint Joseph's signature building. But how many of its admirers understand the cultural messages encoded in the location and architecture of the building?

By Carmen Robert Croce ’71 (A.B.)

When Saint Joseph’s College moved to its current location on City Avenue in 1927, the collegiate community was served by just one building with its gleaming laboratories, classrooms, library, debating room, auditorium, chapel, cafeteria and gym. That singular structure was the stately Barbelin Hall, named for Felix J. Barbelin, S.J., Saint Joseph’s founder and first president.

The College, founded in 1851, had achieved its longed-for goal to have a Collegiate Gothic campus on the western edge of the city. The soaring 150-foot-high Barbelin tower, reputed to mark the highest point in Philadelphia at the time, served as a distinguished exclamation point to the message that Saint Joseph’s had finally arrived.

Today, all those who pass Barbelin Hall recognize its architectural beauty and prominence as the University’s landmark structure. They may not know, however, that the intricacies of Barbelin’s construction uniquely and visually link the year it was completed, the College’s history and Saint Joseph’s Jesuit mission.

THE NEW SAINT JOSEPH’S CAMPUS

In the 1920s and ’30s, Collegiate Gothic was widely regarded as the ideal architectural style for colleges because it reflected an ancient and noble heritage derived from the medieval English colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. The towers, quadrangles, battlements, gargoyles, neo-Gothic flourishes and Latin inscriptions embodied permanence and elitism, as well as the monastic ideals of scholarship, faith, community and introspection.

Indeed, Albert Brown, S.J., the president who initiated Saint Joseph’s building campaign, described his vision for the new Collegiate Gothic building as “the architectural embodiment of a spiritual ideal.” Ecclesiastical though the Collegiate Gothic style looked, it was not particularly Catholic. What was Catholic, and particularly Jesuit, about Barbelin Hall, were certain architectural and decorative embellishments — stained glass shields, heraldic devices, busts of early presidents, and other carvings that decorate its facade.

All of the carvings began the same way, as blocks of limestone cut to the right size and set into their proper places on the façade, where they were sculpted in situ. While most of the carving was done anonymously, archival material reveals the name of Anthony Agunsday as a craftsman and the foreman of the team of stone masons working on the building.
Anthony Agunsdag puts finishing touches on a gargoyle composed of 15 parts of different animals.

Photo above: Temple University’s Urban Archives
Photos on following pages:
Saint Joseph’s University Archives
The Courageous Lion
The Guardian of the Barbelin Quadrangle

The Courageous Lion looks down from under the oriel bay at the top of the staircase in the northwest corner of the quadrangle. His eyes are human and wise; his wings are prominent symbols of divine mission.

When Barbelin Hall was Saint Joseph's only building and the quadrangle was the center of campus life, activities and even commencement exercises, the Courageous Lion was particularly well positioned from his lofty lair to fulfill his role as admonitor and symbol of courage, justice and fortitude.

Central to Catholic moral theology and philosophy, fortitude, one of the four cardinal virtues, was recognized in Classical Antiquity in the thought and writings of Aristotle, Plato and Cicero. A line from Cicero’s De officiis (On Duties), often quoted by the Jesuits, highlights the ideal: “We are not born for ourselves alone,” thus relating learning to the life of virtue and public service advocated in the contemporary Jesuit mission to educate “men and women for others.”

Heraldic Symbol of the House of Loyola
The east-facing fire tower of Barbelin Hall is inset with a limestone carving of two wolves and a kettle from the coat of arms of the House of Loyola and is said to symbolize the hospitality of the House. The wolves and kettle image is also included in the upper right quarter of the heraldic shield of Saint Joseph’s University and is found in the shields of a number of other American Jesuit universities.

The Mischievous Student and Watchful Professor
Carved limestone reliefs of a student (right, above) and professor (right, below) appear on the Gothic arch at Barbelin Hall’s main entrance on City Avenue. The arch is carved with the inscription Dominus custodiat introitum tuum et exitum tuum (Latin): May the Lord watch over thine entering in and thy going forth.

On the cornerstone of the building, appropriately positioned just below the Watchful Professor, is inscribed the admonition Conserva Eorum Instam Immaculatam in Aeternum: Preserve thy house immaculate forever.

Early Presidents of Saint Joseph’s
Eight of the most accomplished of Saint Joseph’s early presidents, including William F. Clark, S.J. (left, 1896-1900), are memorialized with sculpted limestone busts integrated into the north and east cornices of the quadrangle.

THE YEAR 1927 AND THE CARVINGS OF BARBELIN HALL

Confidence in the future, along with exuberance and prosperity, defined the decade known as the Roaring Twenties and found expression in mass-produced automobiles, talking pictures, jazz, modern art, newspaper comic strips and the cult of celebrity. These markers and cultural preoccupations were reflected in the carvings of Barbelin Hall.

Francis Ferdinand Durang, the Barbelin Hall architect, and his father, Edwin Forrest Durang, were the most accomplished Catholic architects in the area. Builder John McShain ’22 earned acclaim for the construction of Barbelin Hall and would go on to earn the moniker “The Man Who Built Washington” for his many important building commissions in the nation’s capital.

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Stained-Glass Medallions

Twenty-one of the first-floor windows in Barbelin Hall are inset with stained-glass medallions that represent and honor saints, scholars, inventors, explorers and dramatists who were Jesuit priests, educated by the Jesuits, or connected to the Society of Jesus in a significant way. The Steuben shield commemorates Frederick William von Steuben, who served the cause of American independence by converting the revolutionary army into a disciplined fighting force. Von Steuben was educated by Jesuits in Prussia. The Foch shield celebrates the service of Marshal Ferdinand Foch as supreme commander of the Allied Armies during WWI. Foch was educated by Jesuits in France.

Ex Libris Grotesques

On the City Avenue side of the building, flanking the west neo-Gothic tracery-window on the second floor, are two literate grotesques, creatures reading books inscribed with the words Ex Libris (from the library of). There was no mistaking the location of the library within.

Andy Gump

The Gumps was a popular comic strip (1917-59) about a middle-class family led by Andy Gump, the bumbling father of the clan. The Gumps symbolized American frivolity and launched a craze for comic strips.

Modern Art

A human face, reduced to its basic form and positioned over a detail of a classical architectural capital, symbolizes the evolution of Modern Art from classical forms.

Pan

The Greek god of music, Pan, plays a saxophone symbolizing the Jazz Age. The Jazz Singer, released in 1927, was the first true “talking picture” and forever changed the motion picture industry.

The Joy Ride

Two students at the wheel of a car represent the rise of the Automotive Age and machine-age ideals. Henry Ford’s Model A was unveiled in 1927.

Croce is director of the Saint Joseph’s University Press and curator of the University’s art collection.

See sju.edu/library/collections/archives-special-collections for more on Barbelin Hall, its dedication, architects and builder; the determinants of Saint Joseph’s, Villanova, and LaSalle Universities’ campus locations; the World War II Memorial to the Class of 1943A.
When the 2,200 members of the Class of 2017 came together for commencement on May 20, they formed an impressive group, representing myriad accounts of tenacity, strength, commitment, hope and promise.

All of SJU’s new graduates — from undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs — have a story that now takes them to careers, post-graduate studies or service. Some will become doctors, lawyers, researchers, writers and CEOs. Others will rise to leadership in the fields of education, service, government and health care.

Nine of them are pictured here. Read more about them and Saint Joseph’s other outstanding new alumni at sju.edu/meetourgrads.

— University Communications

1. Brenna Ritzert
   Major: English
   Minor: Sociology
   Hometown: Chicora, Pennsylvania
   Notable: Sigma Tau Delta English honor society member, The Hawk student newspaper distribution manager, women’s rugby team player, SJU Writing Center tutor
   Post-grad plans: Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship, Trebišov, Slovakia

2. Timmy Parks
   Major: Accounting
   Minor: Business Intelligence
   Hometown: Wilmington, Delaware
   Notable: Hawk mascot, Sutula Accounting Scholar, Beta Gamma Sigma honor society and Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity member
   Post-grad plans: Core Assurance Group Associate, PwC, Philadelphia

3. Niknaz Riazati
   Graduate program: M.S., Biology
   Hometown: Tehran, Iran
   Notable: Educational freedom advocate, presenter at international conference at University of California-Los Angeles, faculty-mentored researcher
   Post-grad plans: Ph.D. program, University of California Davis College of Biological Sciences
4. **Sarah Cooney**  
*Majors:* Mathematics and Computer Science  
*Minor:* English  
*Hometown:* Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania  
*Notable:* McNulty Associate Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa and Upsilon Pi Epsilon honor society member, Pi Mu Epsilon math honor society president, Writing Center tutor, supplemental instruction peer leader  
*Post-grad plans:* Ph.D. program in computer science, University of Southern California Viterbi School of Engineering

5. **Prince Charles Yakubu**  
*Majors:* Psychology  
*Minor:* Political Science  
*Hometown:* St. Louis, Missouri  
*Notable:* Seven law school acceptances, men’s track and field team captain and triple jumper  
*Post-grad plans:* Villanova University School of Law

6. **Claribel Villa**  
*Majors:* Sociology and Spanish  
*Hometown:* Camden, New Jersey  
*Notable:* Ignatian College Connection Scholar, Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit honor society member, Latino Student Association co-president, Running Start program ambassador  
*Post-grad plans:* MSW program, Boston College School of Social Work

7. **Amarendranath (Amar) Reddy Donthala**  
*Graduate program:* M.S., Business Intelligence & Analytics  
*Hometown:* Hyderabad, India  
*Notable:* Beta Gamma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Nu honor society member, Graduate Student Award winner  
*Post-grad plans:* Data Visualization Analyst, Comcast

8. **Morgan Bui**  
*Majors:* Finance and Risk Management & Insurance (RMI)  
*Hometown:* Fairfax, Virginia  
*Notable:* St. Andrew’s Society of Philadelphia Scholarship recipient, Dean’s Scholarship recipient, Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity member and Gamma Iota Sigma RMI fraternity executive vice president, Summer Scholar, Orientation team captain  
*Post-grad plans:* Underwriter Trainee, Validus, New York City

9. **Michael DiMuzio**  
*Majors:* Biology  
*Hometown:* Maple Glen, Pennsylvania  
*Notable:* Cancer survivor, Institute of Catholic Bioethics Fellow, Summer Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi honor society member, SJU Adventure Club president  
*Post-grad plans:* M.D. program, Thomas Jefferson University Sidney Kimmel Medical College
AccessABILITY

Turning his disability into inspiration, computer science ace Ather Sharif is transforming the web experience for differently abled people.

By JoAnn Greco
“If I don’t do myself the favor of getting back to life, it’s never going to happen,” Ather Sharif ’16 (M.S.) grumbled one morning in 2014. A frightened 23-year-old, thousands of miles away from his family in Pakistan and wrenched from his graduate school friends in North Dakota, Sharif had suddenly found himself in Philadelphia at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital after a life-altering car accident in March 2013. As he learned to live as a quadriplegic, he was — not surprisingly — feeling sorry for himself. “I had gotten to the point where I thought I would never achieve anything ever again,” Sharif, now 27, continues. “I was afraid I’d have to depend on other people for the rest of my life.” But on that fateful morning, a year after the accident, his innate independence emerged and he made a decision to enroll at Saint Joseph’s University. He would, he declared, get moving and complete the computer science degree that he started after relocating from Pakistan to attend the University of North Dakota.

He knew it wouldn’t be easy, but he had no idea how fortuitous the next two years would be. While researching his master’s thesis at SJU, he began considering ways in which people with vision loss might more fully experience the richness of the web. In particular, he focused on creating a free plug-in that would allow screen readers (assisted technology that provides speech synthesizers or braille displays) to extract the crux of graphs, bar charts, and pie charts and explain them in greater detail — offering context, rather than just reading them in rote fashion. In 2015, his efforts earned him IBM’s People with Disabilities Award and a $10,000 Google Lime Scholarship. Also that year, he won “Geek of the Year” at the Philly Geek Awards. “I’ve always wanted to get an award for being a geek and be respected for it at the same time,” he says. The project would lead Sharif to form his own nonprofit, EvoXLabs, dedicated to increasing accessibility to the web via what’s become known as “universal design.”

“We advocate for web design that caters to the needs of everybody,” he says. “For people with hearing impairment, that means videos that are close-captioned; for those with cognitive disabilities, it ensures that there’s not too much text; for the elderly, it can mean not using small or hard-to-read fonts.” Of course, Sharif had come to understand personally just how difficult it can be for the differently abled to navigate the web. “For about a year after the accident, I didn’t use a computer at all,” he recalls. “I was trying to use my hands the way I had before and when that didn’t work, I just gave up.”

He was fitted for a cuff that wrapped around his wrist and held a stylus but soon misplaced it, forcing him to think of another way to type. Looking at his hand, Sharif noticed that his thumb would make a fine stylus. After much practice, his typing speed improved to 40 words per minute. “The human body is a magnificent thing and can be adapted in endless ways,” he muses. “It took me a while to figure out my new abilities and to learn to use them in a way that works for me. It’s given me back my sense of independence, and that feels great.”

Imagination and determination — whether it’s in overcoming personal obstacles or starting nonprofits — is nothing new for Sharif, who even as a teenager exhibited an entrepreneurial bent by taking on freelance programming gigs in Pakistan. He attributes much of his success to the support he’s always enjoyed — first from his family, then at SJU.

“At Saint Joseph’s, I was surrounded by people with positive attitudes,” he says. “My professors played a great role in not making me feel different from everyone. But they also went out of their way to accommodate me.”

“If accessibility is Sharif’s mission, adaptability is his mantra. “I guess I’m never satisfied with what I’ve achieved,” he says. “It’s just a continuous improvement process for me.” That applies to EvoXLabs, where he’s constantly drumming up new partnerships and applied research; to Comcast, where he’s worked since graduation as a full-time software engineer; and to his own future, as he prepares to pursue a Ph.D. in human-computer interaction at the University of Washington. “If you don’t push yourself, you’re never going to get anywhere,” he says. “It’s been really hard, but I’m a much better person for it.”

Greco is a freelance writer.
Bob McBride’s daughter Grace, just 12 years old at the time, convinced him to do it. If he said yes, it would mean more time away from her, her brother and his wife, in addition to his work responsibilities as SJU’s associate provost for enrollment management. Yet, he felt called to become involved in the 18-month program that would take him on an international immersion for more than a week, require him to participate in a silent retreat for several days, travel during the summer for a workshop, devote hours to online classes, and embark on a rigorous and revealing self-examination. Grace knew the time was right for her dad to do the Ignatian Colleagues Program (ICP).

“She was able to see the opportunity clearly while the time commitment made it fuzzy to me,” says McBride. Today, he describes his feelings upon ICP completion in January 2017 as “bittersweet,” saying the program has taught him a great deal about himself, changing the way he approaches his work at SJU and his family, and making him a stronger, more purposeful leader.

A national program of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU), the ICP was established in 2009 to empower lay campus administrators and faculty to more deeply and intentionally integrate the Jesuit and Catholic mission into their leadership roles, decision-making styles and interaction with colleagues.
“Anyone who leads an institution needs to fully understand, appropriate and foster the mission of their institution,” ICP Executive Director Joseph DeFeo, Ph.D., explains. “The ICP provides senior-level leaders and faculty the opportunity to become the ‘owners’ of the Jesuit and Catholic charism, spirituality and pedagogy, which is the foundation of these institutions.”

More than 350 men and women from all 28 Jesuit colleges and universities have completed the intensive and introspective formation program, with 14 from SJU. Working together in small cohorts, participants fully immerse themselves in Jesuit teachings through workshops, readings, retreats, spiritual reflection and an immersion trip.

“Experiencing firsthand what life is like on the fringes of society really cemented, in my mind, what life must be like for those in need,” McBride says of his immersion on the Mexican border. “It opened my eyes to social justice issues and helped me think about how to make an impact through my role at SJU.”

McBride partnered with fellow ICP participant Terry Travis, senior associate vice president for advancement, to examine not only how to help more students from lower-income families with financial aid, but also to look further into how to best support their overall campus life.

“When you experience Ignatian spirituality and the Daily Examen, you call to mind the things for which you are grateful and the ways you have encountered God that day,” Travis says. “It has a profound effect. That positive baseline changes your life and affects how you reflect on the decisions in front of you every day. Am I open to more encounters with people? Am I focused on the right thing? Can I learn something more from this that I haven’t thought of before?”

In working to better the University, ICP participants also better themselves, according to Sarah Quinn ’89 (B.A.), ’09 (MBA) assistant vice president and board liaison/assistant corporate secretary. She will complete the program next year.

“The ICP challenges its participants, much like our Jesuit institutions do our students, to gain a deeper understanding and awareness of self,” says Quinn. “We are invited to become better people. With that invitation comes an inherent responsibility to use that understanding and awareness not for personal gain, but to make the world a better place in whatever way we are called to do so.”

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jeanne Brady, Ph.D., a member of the program’s second cohort, understands how the ICP encourages administrators to engage more deeply in the Jesuit tradition.

“The program made me feel personally responsible for promoting the Jesuit mission through my work as an educator,” she says.

Brady’s experience inspired her to connect her commitment to urban youth with enhanced educational opportunities for SJU graduate students. With a Connelly Foundation grant, she developed the Alliance for Catholic Education at Saint Joseph’s University (ACESJU), a two-year program that allows recent college graduates to work in underserved Philadelphia Catholic schools while obtaining a master’s degree in education at SJU.

Kim Allen-Stuck, Ph.D., assistant vice president for student success and educational support, found the silent retreat to be transformative. With the assistance of a spiritual director at the Jesuit Center for Spiritual Growth in Wernersville, Pennsylvania, the self-proclaimed extrovert says she lived largely in silence for six days, listening for guidance from God.

“I left feeling so open and light,” she says.

Allen-Stuck is grateful to SJU and the ICP for giving her the opportunity to learn, grow and develop her leadership skills, inspired by the teachings of St. Ignatius Loyola.

“It’s important that lay people working at Jesuit institutions feel and understand the Ignatian tradition of leadership,” she notes.

SJU President Mark C. Reed, Ed.D., was a member of the ICP’s inaugural cohort and the first program participant to become elected president of an institution.

“While no formation program for lay people can replicate a Jesuit’s formation and lifelong commitment, ICP stands out for its integration of the intellectual, spiritual, service and practical applications of Ignatian principles and pedagogy,” Reed says. “ICP had profound personal and professional implications for me and was a critical leg in my life’s journey.”

*Benjamin is a freelance writer.*
WE DID IT!

Christopher Cornine raises his arms in joy amid a sea of graduation caps decorated with meaningful phrases and colorful embellishments. More than 2,200 undergraduate, doctoral and graduate students received degrees at Saint Joseph’s commencement exercises held on Curran Field, May 20.
News

With Broad Participation, SJU Develops Ambitious Strategic Plan for the Next Decade

Over the course of the 2016-17 academic year, representatives from across campus and beyond worked collaboratively and creatively to imagine Saint Joseph’s future, inventory challenges and opportunities and formulate the University’s next strategic plan. Answering the call of University President Mark C. Reed, Ed.D., to follow Abraham Lincoln’s directive to “think anew and act anew,” with an eye toward innovation, collaboration and excellence, the strategic plan is an ambitious roadmap meant to position the University for continued growth, sustainability and ever-increasing quality.

A steering committee led by Jeanne F. Brady, Ph.D., provost and vice president for academic affairs and David R. Beaupré, vice president for finance and administration and treasurer, initiated the process. Community engagement sessions in early fall brought together constituents from every level of the institution for an interactive exercise encouraging them to write headlines about SJU that might appear in the year 2025. More than 500 people attended the sessions and offered wide-ranging ideas. The steering committee identified themes from the sessions and developed working groups to flesh out goals and objectives.

“We have been pleased since the onset of our strategic planning process with the eager engagement of our entire community,” says Brady. “So many members of our faculty, administration and student body have generously offered their ideas through multiple touchpoints throughout the process. This plan truly reflects the hopes and vision of our community at large.”

The plan is organized around four major initiatives: enriching academic quality and distinction, expanding transformative student experiences, enhancing and promoting programs of national distinction, and fostering financial strength and stability. Central to each of these four areas is a deep and abiding commitment to the Jesuit mission, along with diversity and inclusion.

“Saint Joseph’s is ideally positioned for growth as a leading Jesuit institution with an established reputation in the Northeast,” says Beaupré. “This plan challenges us to think nationally and globally and to consider initiatives we haven’t before.”

Through the winter and early spring, working groups — in consultation with community members, faculty, students, alumni, various constituents and the steering committee — developed a draft of the strategic plan and shared it with the campus community. In May, the plan earned unanimous endorsement from the Board of Trustees.

“Saint Joseph’s is a strong institution and this plan asserts our ambition and our desire to remain strong and competitive,” says Dr. Reed. “As we move from strategic to tactical in the coming months, I wholeheartedly believe that we will collaborate and innovate, and focus our efforts always on what is best for the University.”
Arts and Sciences Welcomes New Dean

Shaily Menon, Ph.D., a biologist and an administrator from Grand Valley State University (GVSU) in Allendale, Michigan, was appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In her most recent role at GVSU as associate dean for research, facilities planning and community engagement in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Menon facilitated grant support and enhanced research and creative activities for faculty and students. She was also a leader in improving and renovating facilities for the sciences, arts and humanities.

“I am confident in Dr. Menon’s ability to discern strengths and identify challenges, to encourage growth and innovation, and to lead the College in preparing its students for success in the classroom and beyond our walls,” says Jeanne Brady, Ph.D., provost and vice president of academic affairs.

Menon participated in a revision of GVSU’s general education program to create sets of elective courses focused on contemporary issues. She played an integral role in the development and execution of strategic plans as chair of GVSU’s biology department, as associate dean and as a member of the University’s Strategic Positioning Task Force. Menon, an active supporter of underrepresented populations, has served on the board of directors for Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education and as an inclusion advocate at GVSU.

After receiving an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in zoology, natural resources and anthropology at The Ohio State University in 1993, Menon was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Massachusetts at Boston from 1994 to 1997. She earned master’s degrees in animal behavior and ecology from the University of South Carolina and in animal physiology from the University of Bombay (now known as the University of Mumbai) in Mumbai, India. Her bachelor’s degree is from St. Xavier’s College in Mumbai.

The University appreciates the dedicated service of Richard Warren, Ph.D., as interim dean during the previous academic year. He returns to the full-time faculty as a professor of history.

SJU President Leads A-10 Council of Presidents, Joins ACCU Board

SJU President Mark C. Reed, Ed.D., assumed two new leadership posts this summer. He will chair the Atlantic 10 Council of Presidents, and he has joined the Board of Directors of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU).

The Atlantic 10 Conference consists of 14 members across eight states and Washington, D.C., providing an enhanced student-athlete experience through 21 nationally competitive championship sports. The basketball-centric conference, which regularly receives multiple bids to the NCAA Basketball Championships, is committed to integrity, educational excellence and providing quality equitable championship experiences for its student-athletes, coaches, and support staff. Dr. Reed succeeds Stephen Knapp, Ph.D., president of George Washington University, for a three-year term.

“I am looking forward to taking on the role as chair of the Presidents Council and continuing the outstanding work that is already under way, thanks to Dr. Knapp’s leadership,” says Reed.

A collective voice for Catholic institutions of higher education in the United States, the ACCU aims to foster a vibrant Catholic identity at member institutions and supports cooperation among them for the greater good of society and the Church. The ACCU offers seminars, conferences and consultation, and produces publications and research for its 238 member institutions.

“Catholic colleges and universities are prominent in the United States and educate nearly one million students,” says Dr. Reed. “There is great potential for collaboration and much we can learn from one another.”

Commencement 2017

Saint Joseph’s recognized several faculty members at commencement in May:

**Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching**
- Millicent Feske, Ph.D., Theology and Religious Studies

**Tengelmann Award for Distinguished Research and Teaching**
- Michael Solomon, Ph.D., Marketing

**Catherine S. Murray Lifetime Service Award**
- William McDevitt, Esq., Management

**Bene Merenti Award**
- Lisa Baglione, Ph.D., Political Science
- Robert Daniel, Ph.D., Modern and Classical Languages
- Mark Forman, Chemistry
- Michael McCann, Ph.D. ’87 (B.S.), Biology
- Susanna Wei, Ph.D., Computer Science

**New Professors Emeriti**
- John Lord, Ph.D. ’71 (B.S.), Food Marketing
- Gary Laison, Ph.D., Mathematics
New SJU Trustees

At its May meeting, the Saint Joseph’s Board of Trustees elected four new members who have deep ties to the University. Their terms began June 1.

**Michael A. Bantom ’73 (B.S.)**
*Executive Vice President, Referee Operations, National Basketball Association*

Mike Bantom’s executive leadership in the NBA — currently overseeing its officiating program, including the recruiting, training and development of all NBA officials — has equaled his success as a player. Beginning in 1974 as part of the NBA All-Rookie Team, the first-round draft pick played for nine seasons in the NBA. Bantom was a part of the silver-medal-winning U.S. Olympic men’s basketball team in 1972 and included among Sports Illustrated’s 101 Most Influential Minorities in Sports in 2004. An SJU Athletics Hall of Famer (2000), the University retired his jersey, No. 44, in 2003.

**Michael J. Hagan ’85 (B.S.)**
*Managing Partner, Hawk Capital Partners*

Mike Hagan co-founded the private equity firm Hawk Capital Partners after most recently serving as president and CEO of LifeShield Security, the home security division of DIRECTV, until 2013. His turnaround of Nutrisystem, where he served as chairman and CEO from 2002 to 2008, earned him the distinction as Forbes Entrepreneur of the Year in 2006. Hagan also co-founded Verticalnet in 1995, serving in various leadership positions, and worked at Merrill Lynch Asset Management early in his career. A two-time Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year (1999, 2006), Hagan received Philadelphia Business Journal’s Outstanding Directors Award (2013) and was designated a Technology Industry “Good Scout” (2013). He is also an SJU Shield of Loyola award recipient (2012) and Haub School Hall of Fame member (2001).

**Brian Duperreault ’69 (B.S.)**
*President and CEO, American International Group (AIG)*

In May, insurance industry veteran Brian Duperreault returned as president and CEO to the American International Group (AIG), a leading global insurance firm where he began his career and worked for 21 years. Throughout his career, he’s also taken his leadership and expertise to Hamilton Insurance Group as chairman and CEO; Marsh & McLennan Companies as president and CEO; and ACE Limited as chairman, president and CEO. Duperreault is a member of the Bermuda Business Hall of Fame (2011), a laureate of the International Insurance Society Insurance Hall of Fame (2011) and a recipient of the Beta Gamma Sigma Business Achievement Award (2009). Also an SJU Trustee from 1999 to 2007, he has received the SJU Shield of Loyola award (2011) and Haub School Hall of Fame award (2002).

**Margaret K. Hondros**
*Co-Chair, Board of Directors, The Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support*

Jesuit-educated with an MBA from Boston College (1994), Margaret Hondros earned her bachelor’s degree in 1982 from Siena College. Named in 2014 as one of Main Line Today’s 24 Main Line Power Women, Hondros received an NHS Human Services Foundation Leading the Way Award, also in 2014, for her tireless efforts as an advocate for children with autism and their families. She and her husband, Paul ’70 (B.S.), founded the Kinney Center for Autism Education and Support at Saint Joseph’s in 2009. Hondros, a certified public accountant, has held positions in finance and marketing with Fidelity Investments.

The University thanks A. Bruce Crawley ’67 (B.S.), Marlene (Sanchez) Dooner ’83 (B.A.), Michael L. Kempski ’68 (B.S.) and Raymond G. Washington Jr., M.D. ’91 (B.S.), who completed their service on the Board of Trustees in May.

Inaugural Health Professions Expo at SJU

Saint Joseph’s hosted the inaugural Philadelphia/Main Line Area Health Professions Expo on March 30 in Campion Student Center’s Doyle Banquet Hall. Jointly sponsored by SJU and Villanova University, the expo enabled students to network with recruiters from graduate and professional schools in medicine, dentistry, nursing, optometry, podiatry, public health, pharmacy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant and health administration, as well as post-baccalaureate biomedical science programs. Attendees also took advantage of on-site consulting services by test-prep companies, opportunities to engage recruiters seeking students for the military’s Health Professions Scholarship Program and a “Financial Planning for Professional School” presentation.

20 years ago, the environmental science program was founded. It offers a major and minor, as well as a minor in environmental science and sustainability.
Haub Undergraduates Excel in Industry Competitions

Johnson & Johnson Case Competition
A six-member student team earned first place in the annual Johnson & Johnson University Case Competition held at company headquarters in New Brunswick, New Jersey, in April.
Coached by Associate Professor Kathleen Campbell Garwood, Ph.D., and Professor Ronald Klimberg, Ph.D., both of decision and system sciences, the student team included Shannon Alexander ’17, Julia Alspach ’18, Devin Irish ’18, Miranda Mazzio ’18, Matthew Ackerman ’19 and Coulton Terry ’19.

National Grocers Association Case Study Competition
For the second consecutive year, a team of five food marketing students tied for the top prize in the National Grocers Association (NGA) Student Case Study Competition, which was held in Las Vegas, Nevada, this year in February.
Team captain Sarah Trabattoni ’17, Madie Smith ’18, Chris Lazzarotti ’18, Kara Wilson ’18 and Albert Wunsch ’18 worked collaboratively to create the winning case study. They were coached full-time by Sara Williamson, Ph.D., assistant professor of food marketing, and received input from other professors and industry professionals on the Academy of Food Marketing board.

Spencer-RIMS Risk Management Challenge
A team of four SJU students delivered the winning presentation in the Spencer-RIMS Risk Management Challenge before industry leaders from across the nation during the annual Risk Management Society (RIMS) Conference and Exhibition held in Philadelphia in April.
Michael Angelina, executive director of the Academy of Risk Management and Insurance, mentored Alyssa Cominsky ’17, Andrew Grieco ’18, Morgan Bui ’17 and Nick D’Orazio ’17 as they, along with student groups from 23 other universities, developed solutions to a risk management case study provided by PayPal.

External Accolades for Student Scholars

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, native Marisa Egan ’18, a biology major with minors in mathematics, philosophy and chemistry, was named a 2017 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship recipient. One of only 240 students nationwide to receive a scholarship from a pool of 1,286 applicants, Egan is also a John P. McNulty Scholar at SJU.

Global Health Corps Fellowship
Ignatian College Connection Scholar Luigi Nuñez ’17, a Camden, New Jersey, native who graduated in May with a computer science and mathematics double major, has received a Global Health Corps (GHC) fellowship. He will travel to Kampala, Uganda, as an e-learning officer with the Program for Accessible Health Communication and Education. Over 5,000 people apply each year for roughly 100 GHC fellowships.

St. Andrew’s Scholarship
The St. Andrew’s Society of Philadelphia has awarded Haley Waites ’19 of Silver Spring, Maryland, the St. Andrew’s Scholarship. Waites is a political science major with minors in international relations and environmental and sustainability studies. The St. Andrew’s Society has awarded SJU students scholarships for seven consecutive years, and eight overall.

Q&A

Dan Soucy ’18
Hometown: Bedford, New Hampshire
Major: International Relations
Minors: Political Science, Asian Studies, History
Activities: Hawk Host, Philadelphia Service Immersion Program Student Director, Faith Justice Institute Service Scholar

Why did you decide to study in India?
The history classes Forging the Modern World and India and Pakistan: From Colony to Nation got me interested in an aspect of South Asian history [Partition] I had never heard of. I wanted to study abroad last fall, and I talked with professor Amber Abbas, Ph.D., whose focus is South Asia, about where to go. I went to the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics in Pune, India.

Why did you apply for the U.S. State Department’s Competitive Language Scholarship?
I saw it as an opportunity to go back to India, specifically to learn Hindi. The scholarship will allow me to learn the language skills I need to further my knowledge of the region and immerse myself in the culture and society. I’ll spend 25 hours in the classroom learning Hindi each week this summer and participate in a cultural immersion program, like a music or cooking class, conducted in Hindi. I’ll also be paired with a language partner, a student in the community, to go on day trips around northern India.

What brought you to SJU from New Hampshire?
As an international relations major, I thought being near a city was important. What solidified St. Joe’s for me was the access to faculty and staff I would have and the personal connections between students and faculty because of its smaller size.

— Elizabeth Krotulis ’17
Jason Powell, D.Phil.
Associate Professor, English
Co-Director, Medieval, Renaissance and Reformation Studies
College of Arts and Sciences

You have earned two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. How have you used them?
I’m editing a two-volume project, The Complete Works of Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder. Oxford University Press published the first volume of Wyatt’s prose in March 2016, and I am currently editing the second volume of his poetry.

Why is this work important to you?
Wyatt probably wrote the first sonnet in English. He published the first English translation of a classical moral essay. He created several poetic forms and brought others into the language. He basically reinvented English literature while serving a tyrant in Henry VIII.

Have you received other grants that have aided your work?
A 2012 Michael J. Morris Grant for Scholarly Research helped me buy images of Wyatt’s manuscripts. I’ve received 15 other grants, including awards from the Folger Shakespeare Library and the American Philosophical Society.

What is your next project after the second volume is published?
Three ‘firsts’ of the English Renaissance were written by diplomats: the first great English humanist fiction (More’s Utopia), the first sonnet (Wyatt) and the first great sonnet sequence (Sidney). I’d like to write a book on Tudor author-diplomats — a timely project in this globalized world. I’m also contracted with Oxford University Press to edit the poetry of Wyatt’s contemporary, Henry Howard, earl of Surrey.

— Elizabeth Krotulis ’17

Science Olympians
Saint Joseph’s hosted the Southeast Urban Regional competition for the Pennsylvania Science Olympiad on campus for the third consecutive year in March. The series of events involved approximately 230 students from public, charter, private and parochial middle and high schools in rigorous STEM activities.

Schools fielded teams of up to 15 students for challenges that included constructing small-scale, self-propelled hovercrafts from battery-powered motors, engineering and building towers with high structural integrity, and recreating contraptions based solely on written descriptions. Winners were named at the end of the competition.

Scott Leggett, coordinator of the Urban Schools Initiative for the Pennsylvania Science Olympiad, says the Science Olympiad, which has grown to include nearly 300,000 students nationwide, “has led to a revolution in science education.”

“We hope that events like this will create a spark in young scientists,” says Jean Smolen, Ph.D., associate dean for math/computer science and natural sciences and the SJU liaison for the event, one of seven regional competitions held throughout the state.

Kudos to The Hawk
SJU student newspaper The Hawk earned first place in the editorial category of the 2017 Student Keystone Press Awards Contest, sponsored by the Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association. The contest recognizes high school and college journalism that provides relevance, integrity and initiative in serving readers.

Published during the 2016 calendar year, the winning package featured three staff editorials — “Acknowledging the Past,” “Going Down with the Ship” and “Sculptures and Paintings on Campus.” The writers were Lindsay Hueston ’16 (B.A.), spring 2016 opinions editor, Maria Spirk ’17 (B.S.), fall 2016 opinions editor, and Victoria Tralies ’18, spring 2017 opinions editor and fall 2016 assistant copy editor.

SJU Named to Transfer Honor Roll
For the second consecutive year, Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) has named Saint Joseph’s to its Excellence in Community College Transfer Honor Roll. PTK, the honor society that recognizes and encourages scholarship among two-year college students, recognized only 65 four-year colleges and universities nationwide for creating dynamic pathways to support community college transfer.

Saint Joseph’s offers transfer students more than 30 degrees and certificates through its Professional and Liberal Studies and Haub Degree Completion programs. Resources such as flexible class schedules, on campus and online course options and personal support from advisors assist transfer students in achieving their academic goals.

News contributors: Patricia Allen ’13 (M.A.), Molly Grab ’17 (B.A.), Molly Crossan Harty, Elizabeth Krakoviak ’17 (B.A.), Elizabeth Krotulis ’17 (B.A.), Kayla Lane ’17 (B.A.), Jeffrey Martin ’04 (B.A.), ’05 (M.A.), Colleen Sabatino ’11 (M.A.), Kelly Welsh ’05 (M.A.) and Athletic Communications
HSB Grad Programs Receive High Rankings

U.S. News & World Report ranked SJU’s Executive MBA program among the top 15 business schools nationwide for the fourth year in a row in its annual edition of “Best Graduate Schools.” Ranked at No. 12, the Haub School of Business EMBA was joined by the school’s graduate marketing (No. 12), information systems (No. 20) and finance (No. 21) programs in receiving recognition.

In the EMBA, marketing and finance categories, Saint Joseph’s was one of only two Philadelphia area schools to make the list.

The part-time MBA program ranked among the top 150 in its category.

“Our graduate business programs give students the knowledge and experience they need to advance their careers in real-time,” says Joseph A. DiAngelo Jr., Ed.D. ’70 (B.S.), Haub School dean. “The value of a Haub education lies in our expert faculty’s ability to engage students in theory, while simultaneously offering best practices applicable to the challenges their students might be facing on the job.”

Panama VP, an Alumna, Speaks on Campus

Isabel Saint Malo de Alvarado ’89 (B.S.), vice president of the Republic of Panama and the minister of foreign affairs, visited campus on April 10. The first woman in the country’s history to be elected vice president, she met with administrators and faculty before delivering an address, “Panama: A Critical UN Partner for Sustainable Development Goals,” sponsored by the Haub School of Business and the SJU chapter of the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma, in Mandeville Hall’s Wollington Teletorium.

Interfaith Leadership Among Area Colleges

Saint Joseph’s University joined with the Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia (ICGP) and other local universities to hold an Interfaith Campus Leadership Conference March 7 for faculty, staff and community members. Held in the Cardinal Foley Campus Center, the daylong event featured an address from Eboo Patel, founder and president of Interfaith Youth Core (IYC), a national nonprofit committed to bridging the gap between faith communities.

Saint Joseph’s students were inducted into two of the nation’s most prestigious honor societies: Phi Beta Kappa, liberal arts and sciences, and Beta Gamma Sigma, business.

Q&A

Rajneesh Sharma, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Finance
Haub School of Business

How do Jesuit values influence your work at Saint Joseph’s?
In finance, the role of ethics is paramount. My Portfolio Management course is certified as an ethics-intensive course. I have also taught a service-learning section of that course. My students went to local middle and elementary schools to discuss topics such as overspending, the role of peer pressure in spending, saving and investing. This service allows SJU students to reflect on the real-world implications of the course content. Due to positive feedback from schools and students, we now run a similar outreach program in local middle and high schools through the Wall Street Trading Room.

How were you involved in the Real Estate Construction Survey of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley-area business owners?
My colleagues and I wanted to get expert opinions on pertinent issues and opportunities in the real estate market. My main involvement was in survey design and data analysis.

What was your major takeaway from the survey, and how will it be used?
One of the key issues is the choices made by millennials. Compared to previous generations, they seem to have a stronger affinity toward city living and are also less likely to use personal cars. This trend has possibly increased demand for urban residential housing, city bike lanes and public transportation. We plan to do the survey annually to track participants’ expectations over time and compare them with actual performance.

— Elizabeth Krotulis ’17

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Saint Joseph’s students were inducted into two of the nation’s most prestigious honor societies: Phi Beta Kappa, liberal arts and sciences, and Beta Gamma Sigma, business.
Awards to Scholar-Athletes

Class of 1950 Awards

Torey Doaty ’17, Men’s Track & Field, Accounting Major

Doaty is a six-time Atlantic 10 champion (400m hurdles, 500m run, 4x400m relay) and nine-time Atlantic 10 medalist. The two-time team captain is the only athlete in program history to earn three All-East finishes in the indoor 500m and the only Hawk to earn four All-East finishes in the indoor 4x400m relay. Doaty was twice recognized as a U.S. Track and Field Coaches Association Academic Scholar and was included on the Honor Rolls of the SJU Athletic Director and A-10 Commissioner.

Emily Gingrich ’17, Women’s Soccer, Criminal Justice Major

Co-Captain Gingrich finished her career as the Hawks’ all-time leader in goals (43), points (103) and shots (307), while ranking second in career assists (17). One of just two players in SJU history to earn Atlantic 10 All-Conference honors all four seasons, she capped her career by being named the A-10’s Midfielder of the Year in 2016. Gingrich was selected to the 2016 Philadelphia Academic All-Area Team and is noted on the SJU Athletic Director’s Honor Roll.

Atlantic 10 Postgraduate Scholarship

Jack Magee ’17, Men’s Track & Field and Cross Country, Finance Major

Magee is one of 14 recipients of the Atlantic 10 Conference’s postgraduate scholarship. The team captain was a seven-time track and field point scorer at the Atlantic 10 Track and Field Championships level between the 4x800m relay and 1000m. A three-year Dean’s List recipient, Magee was a member of the Honor Rolls of the SJU Athletic Director and A-10 Commissioner and was an A-10 All-Academic Team selection in the 2016 indoor season.

MLB Team Selects SJU Catcher

The Pittsburgh Pirates chose junior catcher Deon Stafford Jr. in the fifth round of the 2017 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft in June. SJU’s highest draft selection since John DelMonte ’79 (B.S.) was picked in the fourth round in 1979, Stafford is the 26th Hawk to be drafted by a Major League club.

A native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Stafford is the first Hawk to earn All-Conference honors in three different seasons. He became the second SJU player to earn Atlantic 10 Player of the Year honors when he claimed the award in 2016 after leading the league in batting average, slugging percentage, on-base percentage and home runs. He was also named the ECAC Division I and Philadelphia Big 5 Baseball Player of the Year and was a semifinalist for the Johnny Bench Award, given to the nation’s top collegiate catcher.

New Hawk Mascot

Saint Joseph’s has selected rising senior Mikaela Bakey to represent the University as its 38th Hawk mascot. After working with the SJU men’s basketball team as a manager for the past two seasons, she becomes the third female to take on one of the most well-known traditions in college basketball. Bakey is a Mullica Hill, New Jersey, resident with a double major in accounting and risk management and insurance.

“The quality of the applicants and finalists was extraordinary,” says men’s basketball head coach Phil Martelli of the students who vied to become the Hawk. “Mikaela’s enthusiasm, spirit and love for Saint Joseph’s was refreshing and heartwarming.”

SJU’s three female Hawk mascots: Brienne (Ryan) Daly ’10 (2009-10), Mikaela Bakey ’18 (current) and Sarah (Brennan) Brazil ’01 (2000-01)
A gleaming reflection of the Barbelin tower illuminates a student’s path across the bridge linking Drexel Library and the John and Maryanne Hennings Post Learning Commons.

SAVE THE DATE

| SEP 14 | Fall Career Fair |
| SEP 23 | Quinn Track Dedication |
| SEP 22-24 | Hawkfest: Family Weekend and Reunion Celebrations |
| SEP 23 | Kinney Center Walk/Run for Autism |
| OCT 1 & 22 | Fall View Open Houses |
| OCT 3 | President’s Cup Golf Outing Applebrook Golf Club, Malvern, Pa. |
| NOV 2 | Leadership Awards Dinner |
| DEC 3 | Alumni Mass and Christmas Lunch |

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» SJU.EDU/VISIT
» ALUMNI.SJU.EDU
» SJUHAWKS.COM
ALUM NOTES

1950
William H. Hemp (B.S.) wrote and illustrated Bainbridge Island A to Z Sketchbook (Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, 2017).

1962
Joseph Sosnowski (B.S.) received the Rev. Charles Schnorr, S.J. ’37, Award for Service from St. Joseph’s Preparatory School at its 2017 Father-Son Communion Breakfast. He was honored for his contributions to the community and was pleased to accept this award, which he fully supports in the name of his mother, Josephine Sosnowski. He is a member of Sigma Chi fraternity and is also a member of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Trust Co. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Trust Co.

1963
Jim Murray (B.S.), head soccer coach at St. Joseph’s Preparatory School in Philadelphia since the team’s inception in 1971, retired in 2016. With 620 career victories, he is the second-winningest high school soccer coach in Pennsylvania history. Murray also served as the Prep’s athletic director for 46 years, retiring from that post in 2015.

1965
Edward P. Laird (B.S.), a retired Lt. Col. (USAF), served for 27 years and flew 179 combat missions during the Vietnam War. He recently completed a second, 21-year career as a first grade teacher. Laird and wife Judy reside in Rocklin, California.

1966
Walter J. Wiesenhuber (B.S.) received the Outstanding Adjunct Professor Award for 2016-17 at Bucks County Community College in Newtown, Pennsylvania.

1969
John McCann (B.A.) completed his third novel, The Brady Program, the last book in a trilogy of crime novels set in the Philadelphia area.

1970
Ralph Galati (B.S., SJU director of veterans services, received the Magis Award from Philadelphia Mayor James Kenney on July 4 for his service in the U.S. Air Force and dedication to veterans.

1978
Carol (Primavera) Paris (B.S.), who serves as Mercy Home Health vice president of mission integration, was honored by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with the Saint Teresa of Avila award for 40 years of service for religious education.

1982
Mark S. Mandia (B.S., MBA ’89) was named 2017 Direct Marketer of the Year by the PhillyDMA (Philadelphia Direct Marketing Association). He is president and CEO of DMV Direct, a direct response marketing agency based in Chesterbrook, Pennsylvania.

1986
John Kearns (B.A.) is a technical writer for Major League Baseball Advanced Media and the treasurer and salon producer for Irish American Writers and Artists. His play, “Sons of Molly Maguire,” was performed at Liberty Hall in Dublin, Ireland, in May 2017.

1987
Raymond Melcher (MBA), president and owner of Marathon Capital Advisors, received VR Mergers & Acquisitions Gold Victory Award for being the ninth highest individual producer worldwide. He was also named interim president and general manager of the Reading Royals professional hockey team in Reading, Pennsylvania. Melcher is on the board of directors of the Governor Mifflin Education Foundation and is special advisor to the executive director of Habitat for Humanity in Reading.

1989
William Regli, Ph.D. (B.S.), Drexel University professor and acting director of the Defense Sciences Office at DARPA (the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency), where he’s worked since 2014, was named a 2017 IEEE Fellow for contributions to 3D search, design repositories and intelligent manufacturing.

1991
Christina Spade (B.S.), executive vice president and CFO for Showtime Networks, was honored by Multichannel News at the 2017 Wonder Women Luncheon held in New York, which recognized female executives at the forefront of cable TV and communications.

1994
Dean Bozman (B.S.) graduated from Immaculata University with a doctoral degree in educational leadership this year.

1995
Vincent T. Cieslik, Esq. (B.S.), was chair of the Inaugural March of Dimes SK Run for Babies that took place this past April. The Gloucester Township, New Jersey, resident is a shareholder at the law firm Capehart Scatchard.

1996
Frank Vespe (M.S.) plays oldies as “DJ Frankie Smiles” for WNNC 1360 AM in New Jersey and has recently interviewed Jimmy Clanton, Bobby Rydell and Connie Francis.

1998
Sean M. Schmid (B.S., M.S. ’99), chief operating officer of Penn Community Bank, has been appointed to the board of directors of Foundations Community Partnership in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

1999
Heather (Wychozowyicz) Newman (B.S., MBA ’05), vice president and general manager for Marboro, leads the brand’s marketing strategies.

2001
Edward Harris (B.S.), vice president of marketing for Valley Forge Tourism and Convention Board, was selected to the 2017 Philadelphia Business Journal “40 Under 40” class. He is also an adjunct professor of marketing at SJU.

2003
Arthur Armstrong, J.D. (B.A.), was named a shareholder at the law firm Anderson Kill in its Philadelphia office. His practice concentrates in insurance recovery and corporate and commercial litigation. Since 2014, he has been recognized by Pennsylvania Super Lawyers as a “Rising Star.”

2004
Mike Melvin (M.S.), senior manager of corporate security at PECO, was included in the 2017 Philadelphia Business Journal “40 Under 40” list.

2006
James Begley (B.B.A.), an attorney at Cohen, Placitella & Roth, was part of the trial team for plaintiffs in the Salvation Army building collapse litigation that achieved a $227 million settlement.

2010
Kristin McMurrer (B.S., M.S. ’11) and Carl Anderson (B.S., M.S. ’15) were married in Brooklyn, New York, on June 18, 2016. Daniel Joyce, S.J. ’88 (B.A.), SJU’s executive director of mission programs, was the celebrant.

2012
Anthony J. Biondo Jr. (MBA), is founder and CEO of Biondo Creative in Philadelphia, which was named one of the 20 Most Promising Digital Marketing Solution Providers of 2017 by CIOReview Magazine.

2013
Dawn-Marie Hutchinson (MBA) was named as one of CSO magazine’s top 12 amazing women in security and a female role model. She is executive director in the Office of CSO at Optiv Security.

2014
Michele Vona (B.S.) married Anthony Fumo (B.S. ’14) at the Chapel of St. Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J., Memorial on June 17, 2017. Daniel Joyce, S.J. ’88 (B.A.), was the celebrant.

2016
Jared Biondo (B.A.), an attorney at Cohen, Placitella & Roth, was part of the trial team for plaintiffs in the Salvation Army building collapse litigation that achieved a $227 million settlement.

2018
Bruce Thao (B.S., M.S. ’07) serves the Minnesota Department of Health as director of the state’s Center for Health Equity.

For more information on Alum Notes, visit alumnis.ju.edu/classnotes or alumnis@ju.edu.
When Muffet (O’Brien) McGraw ’77 stepped foot onto the court at Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse as a starting guard on SJU’s first Division I women’s basketball team in 1973-74, hall of fames weren’t on her mind. More than four decades later, it’s hard not to think of them when you hear her name.

Already a member of the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame (2011) and the halls for the Big Five (1990) and SJU Athletics (2002), the current head coach of women’s basketball at the University of Notre Dame will be enshrined among the sport’s elite in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in September.

McGraw began her collegiate playing career under the guidance of head coach Ellen Ryan. She led the Hawks’ offense for four seasons, culminating in a 60-11 record. Serving as a captain her junior and senior years, she helped the 1976-77 team finish second in Eastern Region, place sixth at the national tournament and garner the highest national ranking in SJU women’s basketball history.

After her undergraduate playing career at SJU, McGraw spent a season with the California Dreams of the Women’s Professional Basketball League. She had a stint as head coach at Archbishop Carroll in Radnor, Pennsylvania, before returning to Hawk Hill for two seasons as an assistant women’s basketball coach under Jim Foster.

McGraw spent the next five years as Lehigh University’s head coach before she moved on to lead the University of Notre Dame’s women’s basketball team, where she’s remained since 1987. During the past 30 years, she has led Notre Dame to seven Final Four appearances and the 2001 NCAA National Championship. The 2001 Naismith Coach of the Year, two-time Associated Press Coach of the Year and the 2017 Legends of Coaching Award recipient, McGraw currently ranks 11th all-time in wins among Division I head coaches with 853 victories.

Saint Joseph’s remains a special place to McGraw, as was evident when her Notre Dame squad came to the Hagan Arena in December 2015.

“It was just an awesome reception,” says McGraw of the matchup with the Hawks. “The crowd was terrific, with all the people from Archbishop Carroll and St. Joe’s. Teammates and so many people came back for that game. It was such a great homecoming.

“That was one of the highlights of my career.”

— Jack Jumper ’09 (M.A.)

Vincent P. "Russ" McNally Jr., Ph.D. ’71 (B.A.), professor emeritus of political science, passed away April 15. Before retiring from SJU in 2014, McNally had served as the director of both the undergraduate public administration program and the Public Safety and Environmental Protection Institute, and for 30 years, he led the M.S. degree in public safety, a program he founded. In addition to his bachelor’s degree from Saint Joseph’s, McNally earned a master's degree from Villanova University and a Ph.D. from Temple University.

McNally was a teacher and consultant for the National Fire Academy of FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration) and the International City/County Management Association as well as many local governments. For more than 40 years, he was a volunteer firefighter and administrative supervisor for the Lower Merion Township Fire Department in Pennsylvania.

McNally is survived by wife Mollie, son Michael ’05 (B.S.), daughter Colleen Godlewski, and two grandchildren.

Vincent P. McNally Jr., Ph.D. ’71

Donald C. Davidson ’75
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Antarctica’s unique animals and stunning vistas weren’t dazzling enough to distract Dave Ventresca ’91 (B.A.) from the reason he’d decided to run his first marathon on the planet’s southernmost continent last March.

He had traveled to the ice-covered landmass in tribute to his late wife, My Luu, who died in September 2015 of a rare disease that caused a buildup of an abnormal protein in her organs. Ventresca and Luu had been married for less than two months. Luu needed to check off only Antarctica to fulfill her goal of running a marathon on every continent, and the couple had already signed up. After she passed away, Ventresca and Luu’s brother, Sang Luu, decided to run in her honor.

“It was different and unique and special,” Ventresca says. “We saw things that many of us had never seen before. We were up close and personal with colonies of penguins. We were in a raft no more than 20 meters away from these enormous humpback whales and glaciers and icebergs and things that most people just don’t see.”

At home in New York, Ventresca is a senior manager with Accenture Interactive’s digital transformation practice. In that capacity, he assists clients, usually large companies, with something many of them just don’t see: “a large, cohesive digital strategy with regard to interacting with their target audience,” as he puts it.

“Digital can be this big black hole,” Ventresca says, “where they spend a lot of money but don’t necessarily see results. We try to help them avoid those pitfalls and learn from other people’s mistakes.”

To further celebrate Luu’s life, he and other family members set up the My Luu Memorial Fund to benefit Y-Apply, a nonprofit that helps high-achieving high school students from culturally diverse backgrounds to navigate the college application and financial aid process. Ventresca notes that the Saint Joseph’s family has been especially supportive.

“The Hawk community has really been wonderful,” he says, noting the numerous cards, donations and Facebook contacts. “We’ve got some good people in our orbit, and I feel really blessed by that.”

— Thomas W. Durso ’91 (B.A.)
Golden Hawks Return to Hawk Hill

Saint Joseph’s newest Golden Hawks — alumni who graduated 50 years ago — donned caps and gowns before joining the commencement procession to be recognized. More than 50 members of the Class of 1967 reunited on campus for various events during commencement weekend, May 18-20.

Beichl Award Goes to Veteran Alumnus


A professor of the practice of law and the executive director of the Center on Law, Ethics and National Security at Duke University School of Law, Dunlap served 34 years in the Judge Advocate General Corps, retiring from the United States Air Force in 2010.

Beichl (1918-2015), a Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient, was a POW during WWII. He survived and returned to become a chemistry professor at Saint Joseph’s for more than 50 years. Dunlap received the award in his name during a ceremony honoring the participants of the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities.

Have you ever thought about being a Jesuit?

“Let go and let God. If your vocation is from God, then God will lead you through it.”

— Vinny Marchionni, S.J. ’08

Visit BeAJesuit.org
Too young to rent a car or storage unit, college students face a cyclical struggle: Where to store all of their stuff during the summer?

Nearly a year after his Saint Joseph’s graduation, David Barry ’11 (B.S.) and his brother, Brett, a Clemson University freshman at the time, created a solution: They co-founded Help U Store It (helpustoreit.com), an alternative storage service for students.

“The concept is simple,” explains Barry, who participated in SJU’s Co-op program while double majoring in finance and economics. “Give students empty boxes, tape and bubble wrap to pack up their stuff. We pick it up, store it for the summer and drop it off in the fall.”

The Barry brothers launched Help U Store It at Saint Joseph’s and Villanova University, recruiting friends who were still students at each school to serve as campus representatives and movers.

During the first year, their only investment was time. Without any trucks, storage units or official marketing strategy, Help U Store It still gained 50 clients at the two campuses, confirming David Barry’s assessment of the need for this service.

Today, he holds a full-time sales position at American Express as he continues to grow Help U Store It, which now serves 17 campuses along the East Coast.

“The learning never stops,” Barry says. “I know a little bit about a ton of things. I’m not just a finance person, I have to figure out SEO [search engine optimization] and marketing, while becoming the tech guy and accountant.”

The son of a small-business owner, he says the entrepreneurial spirit has always been in his blood, but he credits his Co-op work experience, mentors and SJU education with igniting his passion to launch his own company.

“A professor once said, ‘If you’re not growing, you’re dying,’” Barry recalls. “This phrase is more prevalent than anything in a small business. You can never stand still in business, because you will be pushed aside.”

— Sarah Panetta ’16 (B.A.)
University to Honor Alumni at Leadership Awards Dinner

Saint Joseph’s University will honor five of its most esteemed alumni at the second annual Leadership Awards Dinner at the Loews Hotel in Philadelphia, Thursday, Nov. 2. As the University’s premier fundraising event, the Leadership Awards Dinner raises support for the Shield of Loyola Scholarship, which provides vital financial assistance to students. Visit alumni.sju.edu/lad to learn more about the event, honorees and awards.

The Shield of Loyola
Daniel J. Hilferty III ’78 (B.S.)
A former vice chair of the University’s Board of Trustees, Hilferty is the 37th recipient of the Shield of Loyola, which is bestowed upon an alumnus for remarkable professional success, a life reflective of the values of St. Ignatius of Loyola and unparalleled loyalty to the University.

Alumni Professional Achievement Award
Muffet McGraw ’77 (B.S.)
Inaugurated in 2016, the Alumni Professional Achievement Award honors alumni whose professional achievements have brought distinction to themselves, credit to the University and benefit to their communities.

Ignatius Award
Scarlett McCahill ’06 (B.A.)
Given to a graduate from within the last 20 years, the Ignatius Award recognizes those who have devoted efforts in the service and promotion of Saint Joseph’s University and who live a life of “service to others” consistent with the principles of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Alumni Admissions Interview Program Makes a Difference

After two successful admissions cycles, the Alumni Association’s Admissions Interview program is building momentum, according to the project’s lead volunteer, Frank Sharp ’67 (B.S.). The initiative aims to increase the University’s number of applicants and percentage of students who enroll after being offered admission.

At the seven interview sessions held on campus and at select northeastern Jesuit high schools between October 2016 and January 2017, nearly 40 alumni interviewed 104 prospective students, 98 of whom applied. Thirty-one percent of the students who were interviewed and admitted have enrolled — nearly double the University’s overall rate.

After factoring in those students who made a deposit following this spring’s accepted student receptions, the yield rate jumps to 46 percent. The goal of these receptions is to highlight the positive points of an SJU education, encouraging students to make Saint Joseph’s their final selection.

“We now have proof of concept,” Sharp says. “With its obvious success, the program is generating wonderful enthusiasm, and I encourage more alumni to become involved.”

Rose Bouchard ’06 (B.A.), regional assistant director of undergraduate admission, says, “A major benefit to the interview program is the connection that occurs between the alumnus and student. Students want to hear about employment outcomes and where a Saint Joseph’s education can lead them.”

To serve as an alumni admissions volunteer, contact Assistant Vice President of Alumni Relations Tom Monaghan at tmonagha@sju.edu or 610.660.3204.

Alumni Survey Results

In April, the Alumni Association commissioned a survey to gauge alumni enthusiasm for and engagement with SJU. Most indicated an affinity for the University and a desire to become involved.

78.4% feel very positive toward SJU
(8, 9 or 10 out of 10)

Survey results show that alumni are most interested in these areas of involvement:

Counseling students on career possibilities
Joining alumni groups with similar professional interests and regional areas
Participating in community service activities

For SJU volunteer opportunities and events, visit alumni.sju.edu/volunteer and alumni.sju.edu/events

Questions? Contact alumni.sju.edu or 610.660.2300.

The Rev. Joseph S. Hogan, S.J. Award
Anita Gallagher Kelly ’77 (B.S.) and Jack Kelly ’77 (B.S.)
The Kellys will receive the Hogan Award for exemplifying the Christian principles of faith, hope and love and outstanding loyal service to Saint Joseph’s University.
IAN KLINGER ’14 (B.S.)
Risk Assurance Senior Associate, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP | National Alumni Board Member | Former Hawk Mascot

National Alumni Board (NAB) member Ian Klinger ’14 (B.S.) feels it’s his obligation to advocate for his alma mater. That’s why he gives financially and of his time in service to his mission of making his Saint Joseph’s experience available to future generations of Hawks.

“I was given so much by this University,” he says, “and I want future graduates to look back on their SJU experience with a similar sense of gratitude. During my time on Hawk Hill, I learned the benefit of the Jesuit ideals and values, most notably cura personalis. This ideal defines the values I live. SJU facilitated my growth into a professional through strong mentorship and educational excellence and gave me lifelong friendships.”

Klinger, who was the Hawk mascot his junior and senior years, put his gratitude on full display for April’s blitz fundraising campaign #OneDaySJU. Now in his fourth year with PricewaterhouseCoopers, Klinger was one of 47 ambassadors who created a #OneDaySJU page on the alumni website to express why giving to SJU was important to them. Their personal sites facilitated the outreach that enabled the campaign to exceed its goals and total 2,107 gifts and $379,642 raised. Of the more than 3,000 ambassador page views, Klinger’s page received the highest number of visits.

“‘The Day of Giving triggered many ‘Why give?’ conversations with alumni who may not have considered donating to their alma mater,’” he says. “The shared personal stories ignited our common sentiments. In returning those memories, we were successful in motivating them to give, so future generations of Hawks can share in those same sentiments.”

Klinger and his fellow NAB members scoured their Facebook feeds, culled their contact lists and shared their ambassador pages to encourage individuals to make a gift. Peer-to-peer outreach proved fruitful, helping secure 372 gifts, nearly 18 percent of all those received.

As a member of the NAB Philanthropy Committee, Klinger recognizes the unique perspective he brings to the group. He hopes to use his role to grow young alumni engagement with the University.

“I really want to see SJU take that next step,” he says. “We’ve made great strides. Dr. Reed’s strategy has created a dynamic time on Hawk Hill and will pave the way for the future success of the University.”

— Kevin Kaufman

“I want future graduates to be able to look back on their SJU experience with a similar sense of gratitude.”
Take the call.

Give the next generation of Hawks the career advice you wish you’d had. Become a Hawk advisor today.

connects@sju.edu  
alumni.sju.edu/connects

Thank you for helping make history with #OneDaySJU

2,107 gifts  |  $379,642 raised

Together, we’re making an impact on the lives of SJU students by providing a transformative education that prepares them to be the kind of leaders the world needs most.

giving.sju.edu/donate
In the United States, one in five high school students reports having been the victim of bullying. The reach of its negative effects — lower test scores, lower educational attainment and lower wages throughout life, among other things — suggests that understanding the determinants of bullying and identifying policies to reduce victimization are critically important.

To address these concerns, I collaborated with Dimitrios Nikolaou, Ph.D., assistant professor of economics at Illinois State University, to consider the possibility that athletics, which are widely available at most high schools, may be the key to reducing in-school victimization.

Why would participation in athletics reduce the likelihood of being bullied? Students who engage in athletics may be physically stronger, less likely to be “loners” and active in supervised afterschool time, all of which should deter bullying. Empirical evidence from the nationally representative Youth Risk Behavioral Survey and Panel Study of Income Dynamics Childhood Development Supplement supports this hypothesis.

Our research shows that involvement in athletics substantially reduces the likelihood of being bullied by up to 10 percentage points, which has appealing policy implications: By expanding access to athletic programs and encouraging participation, schools may be able to significantly lower the instances of bullying.

Unlike an “anti-bullying program” that would focus only on bullying, this suggestion is attractive because, in addition to reducing bullying in schools, athletics also have direct, positive effects on student outcomes. Athletic participants have higher educational attainment, higher test scores in high school and higher wages relative to their peers. Therefore, our research suggests that expansion and promotion of high school athletic programs may be successful in a number of ways — in addition to reducing bullying.

Unfortunately, many school districts across the country seem to be moving in the opposite direction. In 2012, for example, many schools in Ohio implemented “pay-to-play” policies, where students’ families needed to pay fees — ranging up to several hundred dollars per activity — in order to cover the cost of the students’ participation in sports and other activities. While many school districts face tighter budgets since the recession, such policies that restrict access to extracurricular activities may lead to unintended consequences and these schools may see in-school victimization rates rise as fewer students are able to participate.

What began as a simple research question for us has now led to a complicated research agenda as issues continue to arise. First and foremost: What if athletes are less likely to be victimized because they are the perpetrators? Additionally, given concerns of cyberbullying, do the benefits of athletics prevent online victimization as well? Do the results hold for younger children, such as those in middle school, where victimization rates are higher? Could the same hypothesis apply to other extracurricular activities?

We plan to address these questions through ongoing research to provide a thorough understanding of the relationship between athletics and bullying, hoping to provide policy suggestions that will reduce victimization and lead to better educational and labor market outcomes for children.

— Laura Crispin, Ph.D.

Crispin has published and presented frequently on the relationship between extracurricular participation in school and achievement. She is an assistant professor of economics.
On Oct. 26, 1967, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. addressed 3,400 students, faculty and community members in Alumni Memorial Fieldhouse, now Michael J. Hagan ’85 Arena.

“It is always a very rich and rewarding experience when I can take a brief break from the day-to-day demands of our struggle for freedom and human dignity and discuss the issues involved in that struggle with college and university students and concerned people of good will ...,” he said in greeting.

Asserting that Americans were in the midst of a struggle for genuine equality, Dr. King continued, “It is easier to integrate lunch counters than it is to eradicate slums. It is easier to guarantee the right to vote than it is to create jobs or to guarantee an annual income.” He advised that “… if we are to move on in the days ahead and bring into being a truly integrated society, we must recognize that our destinies are tied together.”

On April 4, 1968, fewer than six months after he spoke at Saint Joseph’s, Dr. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. He was 39 years old.

Saint Joseph’s will host a University-wide conference, “Our Destinies Are Tied Together,” during the 2017-18 academic year to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Dr. King’s visit to campus.

Visit sju.edu/mlk for a transcript and select recordings of Dr. King’s speech at Saint Joseph’s.
September 22 – 24

Hawk Fest
2017

Featuring Taste of Philly & Kids’ Corner

Reunions

Family Weekend

Young Alumni Beer Garden

sju.edu/hawkfest
Schedule your visit to Hawk Hill.

Hawks live greater.