A Noteworthy Achievement
Student’s Startup Wins Top Prize in National Business Competition
In this issue

20 Becoming a Catholic
Alone and grieving in Europe, a recently widowed Elizabeth Ann Seton finds herself drawn to the Catholic faith of her Italian hosts. A new biography of the first American saint describes her evolution of faith.

24 Adventure on the High Seas
Meg Billy ‘12 took an unusual turn in her post-college life. She left behind a coveted position in communications to enlist in a yearlong, 47,000-mile ocean race.

Departments

2 From Presidents Hall
4 HALLmarks
12 Possibilities
Taseen Peterson’s startup got a boost when it was nationally recognized as a top college business.

14 Roaming the Hall
Professor Sergiu Gorun leads a team of researchers seeking to use solar energy to help fight cancer and clean up the environment.

16 Profile
Successful entrepreneur Robert De Simone, M.S. ’68/Ph.D. ’70 helps young chemists pursue research at Seton Hall.

18 Profile
Paulette Brown, J.D. ’76, president-elect of the American Bar Association, has a long history as a trailblazer.

28 Sports at the Hall
32 Pirates in Print
34 Alumni News & Notes
44 Last Word
Expanding Our Reach

On a recent trip to the Philippines, my wife, Jo, and I shared a chance encounter that reminded me of Seton Hall’s expanding global influence.

We were at the airport in Tokyo waiting for a flight to Manila when she was approached by a man who noticed the Seton Hall insignia on her shirt. He asked whether she worked for the University, which led to a conversation about our mutual Seton Hall connections.

As it turns out, the man’s daughter is a sophomore in our nursing program. He was traveling on business to Manila from his family’s home in Houston. The day after we arrived in Manila, we had the opportunity to dine with a 2008 double graduate from our master’s programs in public administration and diplomacy who was assigned to Manila by a U.S.-based company.

Houston, Tokyo, Manila. All connected through the Seton Hall campus in South Orange, N.J. You never know where you will run into a fellow Pirate or someone who is otherwise connected to Seton Hall. Perhaps you have experienced such encounters as well.

Of course, you need not travel to another country to realize that Seton Hall is a national and international institution in every sense. Students come to us from everywhere. We are proud to cite just a few examples.

M.B.A. program; students study abroad in London, Rome, Tokyo and other leading cities; and DOVE volunteers serve the needy in Haiti and El Salvador, to cite just a few examples.

Expanding the University’s geographic footprint is essential now more than ever. Studies indicate that, due to demographic shifts, the number of high-school graduates will decline in the coming years — particularly in the Northeast and the Midwest — and many colleges and universities will struggle to maintain both the quality and quantity of their student populations. The most ominous forecasts portend that institutions that fail to adjust to this new reality will likely close their doors.

You should know that Seton Hall is bucking this trend. For this fall’s class, while we received 19 percent more applications for admission than the previous year, we admitted only 14 percent more students. In fact, since 2011, our admissions rate has decreased by 14 percentage points. As a result, our two-part SAT average has increased by 80 points since 2009 while the percentage of freshmen ranked in the top 10 percent of their class has increased from 22 percent to 37 percent during the same period.

Nowhere is that more evident than in this year’s freshman class. Not only are they the most academically prepared students in University history — whose credentials have set new benchmarks for excellence — but they also represent greater geographic diversity than we have ever experienced. While historically 30 percent of our freshmen are from outside New Jersey, this year more than 35 percent of our incoming class are from out of state. In fact, on move-in day, Jo and I talked to the parents of a young man from Mexico. This geographic diversity is in line with our strategic goal to be recognized as a national Catholic university of choice.

Because more and more Pirates hail from distant ports, they bring a global outlook to their Seton Hall experience that changes the tenor of campus in remarkable ways. A particular point of pride is our striking increase in recipients of international academic honors. In the history of the University before 2008, students and alumni had been awarded two Fulbright grants. Since then, they have claimed 18 of the prestigious awards, proudly carrying Seton Hall’s name to nations as diverse as India, Colombia, and Russia.

Not to be outdone, our faculty continues to win international research grants, visiting professorships and other recognition that is global in scope. In fact, five faculty members received Fulbright awards during the last academic year and, as of this writing, one has already claimed the award this year.

Academic awards are but one of the many ways that Seton Hall makes a global impact. Business executives from Shanghai came to campus to complete our executive master’s degree programs in public administration and diplomacy, and most recently, our National Game Watch event. The evening included more University events in more locations on a single day than ever before. And this fall, top University faculty and alumni experts will join me in eight cities throughout the country to cheer on the men’s basketball team during Seton Hall’s National Game Watch event. The evening will be part of the new speaker series, “Voices from the Hall,” sharing perspectives on current issues affecting our world.

It may surprise you to know that Seton Hall has more alumni in Florida (2,678) than in Pennsylvania (2,725) and that more graduates call California home (1,474) than Connecticut (1,119). This speaks volumes about the University’s growing standing and scope. Our alumni have become increasingly involved and have invested in our future with the undergraduate alumni giving rate going up by 25 percent in the last two years and the level of gift commitments increasing by more than 50 percent over last year. We are indeed a university on the rise.

As we strive to advance the University’s stature, both in the United States and overseas, may we be ever mindful — and ever grateful — of the increasingly vital role that Seton Hall plays on the national and international stage.
Justice Sotomayor Visits Seton Hall

Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor spent a day at Seton Hall University School of Law this spring, sharing her personal story of overcoming an underprivileged background, and speaking out on the importance of education and bringing a wider range of experience to the bench.

Sotomayor delivered her remarks as part of the Diversity Speaks Distinguished Speaker Series on April 10. She touched on her journey from a childhood in Bronx public housing to sitting on the Supreme Court, as reported in the memoir she published this year called *My Beloved World*.

During her day at Seton Hall she signed books and met the campus community at a series of receptions and talks, and that evening was one of three judges presiding over the final round of the law school’s annual mock trial contest.

Judges Michael A. Chagares, J.D. ’87 and Julio M. Fuentes of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals joined Sotomayor on the bench at the Eugene Gressman Appellate Moot Court Competition.

A recounting of the justice’s lively exchange with law students taking part in the mock trial was reported in “Talk of the Town” in the May 12 edition of *The New Yorker*.

The School of Diplomacy and International Relations will host Liberian peace activist Leymah Gbowee, a winner of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize, as its World Leaders Forum speaker this fall.

Gbowee, the true embodiment of servant leadership, organized and led the Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace that helped end her country’s devastating 14-year civil war in 2003. Under Gbowee’s leadership, thousands of women staged pray-ins and nonviolent protests demanding reconciliation and the resurrection of high-level peace talks, coordinated a “sex strike” and introduced other innovative nonviolent measures that gained worldwide recognition for their cause. The pressure pushed President Charles Taylor into exile and led to the first election of an African female head of state.

In 2006, she cofounded the Women Peace and Security Network Africa. Two years later, she was featured in the acclaimed documentary film *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*, and, in 2011, wrote a memoir called *Mighty Be Our Powers: How Sisterhood, Prayer and Sex Changed a Nation at War*.

The 2011 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded jointly to Gbowee, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Tawakkol Karman “for their nonviolent struggle for the safety of women and for women’s rights to full participation in peace-building work.”

A Message of Peace

Gbowee now travels around the world to speak about the devastating effects of war and gender-based violence, and is founder and president of the Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa, which provides educational and leadership opportunities to girls, woman and youth. Her visit to Seton Hall will help celebrate the School of Diplomacy’s recently launched Peace and Conflict Studies research center, as well as the new certificate program in Post-Conflict State Reconstruction and Sustainability.

Gbowee herself holds a master’s degree in conflict transformation from the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia, and she credits studies there with focusing her efforts on effective conflict resolution and restorative justice.

Gbowee will deliver her lecture on Nov. 20 at 4:30 p.m. in Jubilee Hall Auditorium.

For more information on this event, visit www.shu.edu/WLF2014.
In Brief...

- Marta Mestrovic Deyrup, librarian and professor at Seton Hall’s University Libraries, was selected to receive the 2014 Association of College and Research Libraries De Gruyter European Librarianship Study Grant.

- Robert Kelchen, assistant professor of higher education, won first prize for his work on Washington Monthly rankings in the “Data Journalism: Small Newsroom” category of the 2013 National Awards for Education Reporting, given by the Education Writers Association.

- William Connell, professor of history, is co-principal investigator on a project that was awarded a $300,000 grant from The Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society at the University of Chicago. The project seeks to document and explain the tumultuous political history of Florence from 1350 through 1530.

- Richard Hunter, professor in the Department of Economics and Legal Studies, met with a representative from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) regarding an article he and Melissa Montuori, M.B.A. ’13 published in 2013. The article and the underlying research on faulty children’s cribs is being considered for posting on the CPSC website.

- Vincent de León and the Development of Christian Doctrine, the latest book by Father Thomas G. Guarnizo, professor of systematic theology, was selected as the winner of the 2014 Paradisos Center for Theology and Scripture Book Prize.

- WSOU ranked No. 9 on Best College Reviews’ list of the top 20 college radio stations in the United States.

- Pope Francis renewed for five more years the appointment of Father Lawrence Frizzell, director of the Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies, as consultant to the Holy See’s Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews.

- American Catholic Studies, a journal co-edited by Thomas Rzepnik, associate professor of history, was awarded first place for general excellence among scholarly magazines in the 2014 Catholic Press Association awards.

- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation awarded the College of Nursing a $50,000 grant to provide $10,000 scholarships to five students entering the clinical nurse leader entry-level master’s program.

- Julie V. Burkey, adjunct professor of pastoral theology, was elected to serve as Representative at Large for Academy Affairs: Research & Doctoral Consortium of Management.

- Kurt Ratthoff, associate professor in the Department of Economics and Legal Studies, was awarded a grant from the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation to augment a business course titled “Economics and Liberty,” focused on the economic and political issues that have shaped the United States.

- Weinig Wang, assistant professor of physics, received a Cotrell College Science Award from the Research Corporation for Science Advancement, for research investigating alternative materials used in solar panels.

- Kyle Heim, assistant professor in communication and the arts, was a recipient of a Scripps Howard Foundation Visiting Professors in Social Media grant to visit the Knoxville News Sentinel to learn more about how the paper is using social media.

- St. Andrew’s Hall College Seminary announced two new appointments: Father John J. Chadeck, S.T.D., who is an assistant professor of systematic theology at Immaculate Conception Seminany School of Theology, will serve as the new rector; Father Frederick L. Miller ’08, most recently chair of the Department of Systematic Theology at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., will serve as spiritual director.


- Thomas Healy, professor of law, received the 2014 Robert F. Kennedy Book Award from the RPK Center for Justice and Human Rights for The Great Dissent, a history detailing how Oliver Wendell Holmes became a free-speech advocate.

Seton Family Photos

Fifty-one 19th-century photographs showing the home and family of William Seton Sr. have been digitally preserved and published online by the Monsignor William Noé Field Archives and Special Collection Center at Walsh Library.

William Seton Sr. was the oldest son of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, for whom the University is named. The photographs are from an album made in 1867 that apparently was presented to the family as a gift.

The album was acquired by the archives last year from a rare-books dealer and all of the photos are available online in the Seton Family Photograph Album Digital Collection.

The vintage sepia-toned images show the family at their estate called Cragdon near Eastchester, part of what is now the Bronx, in Westchester County, N.Y. Photos of the house, grounds, family pets and nearby landmarks are also part of the collection.

To view the images, visit www.shu.edu/go/album.

Smart Studies on Academia

Martin Finkelstein, professor of higher education, was selected by two major national organizations to participate in projects involving the faculty role in student success and trends in the ways academic employees prepare for retirement.

Finkelstein is working with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Postsecondary Success team, which is seeking innovative ways to increase low-income students’ college completion rates. As someone who has spent much of his academic career focusing on the subject, Finkelstein is helping the foundation undertake exploratory research to understand how college faculty contribute to student academic achievement. Finkelstein was also named to the TIAA-CREF Institute Fellows Program for the 2014-15 academic year, where this fall he will begin to participate in a series of research colloquia focused on tracking trends in retirements and pensions. (Once known as Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association and College Retirement Equities Fund, TIAA-CREF is the nation’s largest pension fund serving higher education and health care.) TIAA-CREF is trying to determine how people manage a secure retirement for themselves and how a university can help its senior faculty and staff manage their retirement years. Finkelstein said he will consult on research projects and national conferences related to the changing nature of the academic workforce in higher education.
is president of global enterprise solutions at ADP, a global leader in human capital management solutions. In this role, he is responsible for $3.5 billion in annual revenues. In his 22 years with the company, Benjamin also served in various leadership and management roles, including president of ADP’s Employer Services International in Paris, overseeing all of the company’s global operations outside North America. He holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration, international finance and marketing from the University of Miami and is chairman of the corporate advisory board for Voices Against Brain Cancer.

Monsignor James M. Cafone ’61/M.A. ’67, S.T.D. is a tenured member of the Religion Department and oversees mission-related activities that are part of the University’s strategic plan. He joined the University in 1968, and he served on the Board of Regents in an ex-officio capacity before becoming an elected member of the board. Monsignor Cafone has served on numerous University and archdiocesan committees, including the University’s Educational Policy Committee and the Archdiocesan Priest Personnel Policy Committee. He was minister to the Seton Hall priest community for 15 years and was awarded the Administrative Merit Award for Extraordinary Service to the University and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the seminary. He was also a long-time member of The Catholic Advocate editorial board.

Edward Cerny is managing partner of middle-market credit fund for Kayne Anderson Capital Advisors. In this role, he manages relationships with financial sponsors and intermediaries and sits on the investment committee of each of the firm’s middle-market credit funds. Prior to joining Kayne Anderson, Cerny was managing director of Blackstone’s merchant banking group at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette. He earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of Michigan and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Chicago.

Monsignor Robert E. Coleman, J.C.D. is associate vice president of Seton Hall as well as minister to the priest community. Ordained in 1978, he was first assigned as parochial vicar at St. Aloysius Church in Jersey City. He later served the Archdiocese of Newark on the Metropolitan Tribunal and as secretary for canonical affairs. He came to the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology (ICSS) in 1988 and served on the seminary faculty for five years. He returned to ICSS as vicar-rector and business manager in 1996, and was rector and dean of the school from 2000 to 2012. He received a doctorate in canon law from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

Dr. Michael Leeves ’07 began his medical career in 2011 after graduating from Weill Medical College of Cornell University in New York. He did his residency in family medicine at Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, Pa., and is establishing a primary care clinic at Wellspan Health’s Ephrata Hospital in Pennsylvania to serve a diverse population in Manheim and the surrounding rural areas. He attended Seton Hall on a full-tuition Regents Scholarship and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in biology. While at Seton Hall, he served as a campus sacrament and was a New Jersey Distinguished Scholar.

Great Papal Honor

President A. Gabriel Esteban, Ph.D., and Father Christopher Ciccario, S.T.D, associate dean for seminary and academic studies, were inducted recently as Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem dates back to the First Crusade in the late 11th century, and membership in the order is one of the highest papal awards. The honor can be granted to those in the laity and clergy who have done praiseworthy work for the Church and they are approved for nomination by their bishops.

President Esteban was one of six laypersons and Father Ciccario was one of six clergy who were inducted on the order in Sept. 27 with an investiture Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York.

World-Class Scholars

Four Seton Hall graduates were awarded 2014-15 Fulbright U.S. Student Awards, and a fifth earned a 2014 Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship. In addition, a Seton Hall Law School professor was awarded a Fulbright research award.

David Kelly ’14 was awarded a Fulbright-Garcia Robles Binational Business Grant to Mexico, which will enable him to intern at a company in Mexico City while taking master’s-level business classes. Kelly graduated with a dual degree in diplomacy and international relations and modern languages, and a certificate in business. A student of Russian and Mandarin Chinese, he has studied in St. Petersburg, Russia and Beijing.

Heidi Erbstein ’13 graduated with a dual degree in diplomacy and international relations and modern languages, as well as a minor in economics. She will be completing her Fulbright in Russia, where the award will allow her to continue studying Russian while helping to teach English at a university.

Elaina Montagnino ’13 was selected for a Fulbright award to Colombia, having graduated magna cum laude with a dual degree in diplomacy and international relations and Latin American and Latin studies. She will work with Colombian children and young adults, and plans to pursue a master’s degree in international development and human rights.

Melissa Mott ’08 was accepted to the Fulbright program in Poland as an English teaching assistant. She applied to the program as an at-large candidate, and graduated in 2009 with a bachelor’s degree in social work.

Oriana Luquetta ’13, who graduated with a degree in diplomacy and international relations, will pursue a master’s degree at the University of California, Los Angeles, after being awarded a 2014 Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship. The Pickering fellowship supports a two-year master’s degree program in a field related to international affairs and diplomacy, and follows participation in one domestic and one overseas internship.

Tracy Kaye, a law professor who specializes in federal income, international and comparative tax law, is spending a semester at the University of Luxembourg, conducting research on tax evasion and tax transparency.
“Over the past quarter century, China has experienced dramatic transformations. Many of these changes, positive and negative, can be traced back to the choice the regime made in 1989.”
— Zheng Ming, School of Diplomacy and International Relations, New York Post

“Particularly for those succeeding a popular and charismatic president, the most important advice I can give is to know yourself, make the most of your personal strengths, and always act in the best interest of the students and the institution. And although you may not be following in the footsteps of a priest, it would be wise to pray for all the help and wisdom you can get.”
— President A. Gabriel Esteban, The Presidency magazine, offering advice to new college presidents

“It's a religious appointment.”
— Jo Renee Formicola, College of Arts and Sciences, Chicago Tribune

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“New Buildings, New Beginnings
Renovated, enlarged and modernized, Aquinas Hall welcomed another generation of residents this fall. But alumni with fond memories of the residence hall will enjoy knowing that the furniture they slept on, studied at and socialized with has a new life serving children and families in desperate need.

The University sent 11 tractor-trailer loads of outdated furniture — more than 2,000 bed frames, mattresses, desks, chairs, cabinets and dressers — to Christian Appalachian Project’s Operation Sharing, which distributed it in Kentucky and Tennessee. Couches and upholstered chairs from the lounges also headed south.

The agencies that got the furniture for the people they serve said it was some of the best furniture that they have ever received from Operation Sharing,” wrote project director Jeff Burchett.

“After the mother has been released from prison, they are reunited.”
Back on campus, Aquinas Hall has a new fourth floor with a glass-enclosed study area, new student rooms and a priest suite.

Trim and doors in each wing have been color-coded green, yellow or blue to guide visitors. New ceilings hide pipes and cables once visible on the lower floors, which also got new paint, carpeting and energy-efficient windows. All the restrooms have been redesigned, and Aquinas also has a new lobby.

Two other major projects were completed on campus this summer. Stafford Hall has been replaced by a new academic building, with the original cornerstone installed in the lobby. The building features 12 handicapped-accessible classrooms of various sizes, and has direct access to Marshall Hall on multiple floors.

The campus parking deck gained almost 600 much-needed new spaces, and is now better able to handle emergencies with elevators that have backup power and can accommodate a medical stretcher.

“About 20 percent of water used in fracking gets trapped underground where there have been some incidents of freshwater reservoirs and aquifers getting polluted. This issue is a concern as it’s not easy to clean these freshwater sources.”
— Jose Lopez, College of Arts and Sciences, NBC News

“The way we think about nature is the prelude — or the framework — within which we act in relationship to nature. Without a healthy planet, we cannot be healthy people.”

“Indeed, in this age of growth-hormone scandals and skyrocketing salaries, and with the prospect of an aging fan base looming in the wings, what better way for baseball to demonstrate that it is not just a profit machine, but rather the definitive American pastime — a metaphor for all that makes the nation and its people so great?”
— James L. Kirke, College of Arts and Sciences, New York Post, on the anniversary of a historic three-way game pitting all three New York City baseball franchises against one another at the Polo Grounds in 1944.

“Gone may be the days of watching a patient retrieve a battered index card from the depths of a purse or wallet. Imagine, instead, a future in which a patient and a provider can quickly and simply update information, together, in real time.”
— Christopher Hanifin, School of Health and Medical Sciences, LiveScience, on the benefits of Apple’s Health app.

“How about we have to take each one as it comes...”
— David Opderbeck, School of Law, TheStreet.com, explaining the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on whether the streaming service Aereo violates copyright law.

“The question is, what does the law really say? Does it really address these new technologies?”
— Justice Scalia says it doesn’t; Justice Breyer says we’ll have to take each one as it comes...”

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“Some of these families did not have any bedroom furniture. No bed to sleep in, no place to put the small amount of clothes that they did have,” he said, noting that thanks to Seton Hall, “hundreds of children now have a place to sleep and a place to put their clothes. Thank you all for this uplifting donation.”

Albert Cardona, associate director of housing and residence life at Seton Hall, noted that some of the Aquinas furniture went to a ministry in Liberty, Ky., that cares for infants born to women in prison.

After delivery, the Galilean Home will receive the furniture. “After the mother has been released from prison, they are reunited.”

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Taking Note

Senior Taseen Peterson’s startup got a big boost this year when it was nationally recognized as one of the top businesses launched by college students.

Taseen Peterson was already a CEO when he enrolled in the Stillman School of Business’ undergraduate program in economics. His company, TapFactory, which he founded with his brother Mark in 2009, had found remarkable success with its flagship iPhone app, the note-taking and productivity app Notefuly. But 2014 proved to be Peterson’s biggest year yet.

In March, Notefuly took first place in the 2013-14 Student Startup Madness contest at the South by Southwest Interactive Festival in Austin, Texas, topping a national field of 64 teams from 22 colleges and universities. Shortly thereafter, Inc. magazine named TapFactory one of the year’s Coolest College Startups. Word about Peterson and his company went viral. He was featured offering business advice to other young entrepreneurs in an Inc. profile; and Notefuly and TapFactory were featured in Business Insider and Investors Daily, among other business publications.

Peterson traces much of Notefuly’s recent success to mentorship he received at Stillman and its Center for Entrepreneurial Studies. From the start, the college senior has viewed his undergraduate education as more than just classwork. “The finance courses, the business courses have been great,” said Peterson, a David B. Gerstein Scholarship recipient. “But school for me has always been an opportunity to network, to grow myself and grow my business. It’s about making connections, building relationships.”

Throughout his career, Peterson’s entrepreneurial achievement has come from his commitment to following his passions and taking advantage of every opportunity that arose.

In January 2007, Steve Jobs made a now-legendary speech introducing a little piece of hardware that he promised would change the way we interact with one another and the larger world. When the first iPhone was released six months later, Peterson and his brother, Mark, were among the tech-savvy early adopters who started developing their own software for the new device.

At the time, Taseen was working as a mortgage loan officer and had little thought of changing careers. “My brother and I had grown up around computers and were essentially self-taught,” he said. “We had no intention of turning it into a business; it was just a fascination — having fun, being creative, being curious, really.”

The idea for the Petersons’ first published app was sparked by everyday life: a new baby in the family inspired them to develop a kind of digital baby rattle. “It had a terrible user interface,” Taseen recalled, “but it worked, and it made maybe $50 or $100 in the first month. And we thought, ‘Well, that was easy’ — not the creation, but once it was made, you just wait for people to download it. And after that we started brainstorming and coming up with ideas for other apps.”

Following the 2007-08 financial crisis, Peterson was already beginning to reassess his future in the real-estate industry, and now he and his brother turned more time and attention to developing apps. Within a few years, working with design partner Cameron Smith, their fledgling company developed the app that would become the award-winning Notefuly.

Three million downloads later, Peterson enrolled at Stillman with the aim of acquiring the skills and connections he needed to take TapFactory to the next level. In line with his commitment to networking and relationship-building, he found a mentor in Susan Scherreik, founding director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies. “We are working with one aspiring entrepreneur at a time, mentoring, helping them make connections, giving them the resources they need to meet their full potential,” Scherreik said. “The more we become an Internet society, the more in-person networking opportunities become important.”

In 2013, Scherreik suggested that Peterson enter the center’s annual venture-fund competition, Pirates Pitch. He took second place — a runner-up finish that proved to be a game-changer. “When Taseen didn’t win first place at Pirates Pitch, that was a motivator for him — he was determined to improve his performance, and he certainly did,” Scherreik said. “That’s a sign of someone with an entrepreneurial mindset: they see obstacles as opportunities.”

On Scherreik’s advice, Peterson entered the national Student Startup Madness competition, which asked student entrepreneurs to pitch their business ideas to a judging panel of business leaders, tech experts and investors. This time, Peterson was ready. He worked with a coach and spent weeks honing his presentation. The work paid off when the Notefuly team was awarded first place.

Today Peterson and his colleagues are working to translate their national recognition into business success, seeking out investors for TapFactory’s next steps.

Downloads of Notefuly have surpassed 4 million, and the company is preparing to roll out cloud service for the app along with a major multiplatform upgrade. At the same time, TapFactory is expanding into Web design and development, digital consulting and creating software for wearable technology.

Peterson cites his time at Stillman as a key foundation upon which his business has grown. “Seton Hall is doing a great job of taking its entrepreneurial community to the next level — recognizing that we’re not just students but students with ideas, and providing us with mentorship and opportunities to gain insight, experience and exposure.”

“We had no intention of turning it into a business; it was just a fascination.” 

Photo by John Barron, ‘06

Tricia Brick is a New York-area writer.
hen people think of solar energy, they imagine harnessing the sun’s rays to heat their homes and power their vehicles. But solar energy has many other practical applications, and new research conducted by a group of scientists at Seton Hall — led by associate professor Sergiu Gorun — is investigating how to use the sun’s energy to fight cancer.

The work focuses on photodynamic therapy, which uses compounds that, when exposed to light, induce oxygen to become toxic to malignant and diseased cells. “These new cancer-fighting molecules have the potential to be more selective in terms of eradicating the cancer itself, so they harm less healthy tissue, and generate fewer side effects than traditional [cancer] treatments,” says David Sabatino, an assistant professor in the department of chemistry and biochemistry, who has collaborated with Gorun to refine the materials used in the research.

Their research also may apply to other diseases — such as macular degeneration, a condition that can cause loss of vision — and to removing pollutants from the environment.

Gorun uses the term “bio-inspired catalysis” to describe what happens in photodynamic therapy, where solar energy is converted to chemical energy. He compares it to the way plant leaves create nutrients from water and carbon dioxide during photosynthesis, helping remove pollutants from air and water.

Gorun came to the United States in 1980 as a political refugee from Romania, bringing with him an “irrepressible curiosity about the world and the desire to create a better one.” Armed with a master’s degree from Columbia University and a doctoral degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he set his sights on first designing, and then researching, the reactive properties of artificial enzymes and related materials.

The holder of numerous patents and the author of an array of academic articles in top scientific journals, Gorun has received financial support for his research and educational efforts from the United States, as well as in Canada, Israel and Europe.

The type of coordinated, cutting-edge work Sergiu’s team and other faculty are doing, coupled with the caliber of science being explored throughout the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry as a whole, has resulted in its being named a Seton Hall Center of Excellence, says Joan Guetti, senior associate provost.

The department was chosen as a Center of Excellence in 2014 as part of a program in the University’s strategic plan that channels resources into key areas to allow them to expand in size, depth of study and national prominence.

“Seton Hall has been particularly supportive of our team’s efforts,” Gorun says. “The University has created an ideal environment for accomplishing our goals with this critical research.”
The Sweet Smell of Success

ROBERT DE SIMONE, M.S. ’68/PH.D. ’70 FOUND SUCCESS LAUNCHING A COMPANY THAT DEVELOPS NATURAL FLAVORS AND AROMAS; NOW HE’S HELPING YOUNG CHEMISTS PURSUE THEIR OWN RESEARCH IN SETON HALL LABS.

Forty-six years ago, Robert Augustine was a Seton Hall chemistry professor overseeing the work of some eight or 10 master’s degree and doctoral candidates. He’d just bought a new home “with about half an acre of ragweed in the yard.” Gazing at it, Augustine wondered whether an extract of ragweed’s essential biochemical element would have any practical use.

One of his students, Robert De Simone, took up the investigation as part of his doctoral dissertation. A cancer cure (the idea behind the study) didn’t pan out, but De Simone’s study of the compounds — what chemists call sesquiterpenes (carbon molecules with the formula C15H24) — led him to a long and illustrious career.

Now, by creating the Robert De Simone Fellowship in Chemistry and Biochemistry with a gift of $100,000, De Simone is strengthening the department and making it possible for promising young scientists to follow in his footsteps.

The co-founder and chief executive of Advanced Biotech, an $80-million company that provides natural flavor and fragrance ingredients to Coke, Pepsi, Kraft Foods and Aveda, De Simone holds 20 patents for synthesizing aroma chemicals that smell good and flavor such household names as Jell-O, Tang, Snapple and, most recently, Monster Energy drinks.

Professor Emeritus Augustine, whose students in the late 1960s dubbed themselves Big Augie’s Mob, isn’t surprised by De Simone’s success. “He always acted like an entrepreneur and did research that was definitely out of the box.”

While still a night student and junior chemist at one of about half a dozen firms where he worked before starting his own, De Simone used his knowledge of sesquiterpenes — a then little-known compound — to develop his first natural commercial compound for an oriental fragrance.

“Bob was one of the strongest students I ever had; not only academically, but in terms of leadership and generosity of his time in a shared collegial research environment,” says Augustine.

The collegiality — within a small environment that’s closely linked to industry — is what appealed to De Simone about Seton Hall’s program, then and now. “It allows people to conduct research while pursuing a career at the same time. It’s unique.”

It is indeed Seton Hall’s secret for success, agrees Nicholas H. Snow, professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. “As perhaps the smallest Ph.D.-granting chemistry department in the nation,” it has distinct advantages in cross-disciplinary team research. In fact, its collegial research technique is suddenly being imitated by big universities, Snow says.

One current example of how this works is a project to develop “highly water-resistant materials” for industry. Students and faculty from physical, analytical, organic and computational chemistry are working as a team in “what is still a rather unique model” for university research, Snow says.

The De Simone Fellowship will fund this special type of applied learning by supplementing graduate students’ stipends and teaching assistant pay, also making the department more competitive nationally. This year’s distribution will be used to provide $5,000 supplemental awards to four Ph.D. students based on academic achievement, performance to date in their research, proficiency as teaching assistants and financial need. The recipients were selected by the department chair and director of graduate studies from among current students.

For the chosen four, it will help them complete their research. In fact, next April, when the department holds its annual research symposium, Snow says, “Bob will be able to see the results of the students’ work he has supported.”

Beyond that, the gift’s benefits “will ripple through-out the department,” says Michael Zavada, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, allowing the department to reallocate funds for other emerging needs.

For this, Zavada is grateful. He notes that De Simone “has always been very generous to the University in time and financial support over the years.” For instance, De Simone sits on the President’s Advisory Council. He also supports North Star Academy, a University-assisted charter school that serves underserved young people in Newark — particularly in North Star’s push in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) studies. “Bob shows the kids you can get a real and interesting job in these fields.”

Certainly, De Simone’s own career has been interesting. He credits his success both to the ragweed plant and his training under Professor Augustine. “I owe a lot to Seton Hall,” he says.
Out in Front

PAULETTE BROWN, J.D. ’76, PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, HAS A LONG HISTORY AS A TRAILBLAZER.

Before Paulette Brown became the first woman of color elected to lead the American Bar Association (ABA) — commencing in August 2015 — before she graduated from Howard University and attended Seton Hall University’s School of Law; before she even knew a lawyer, let alone became one, she was a teenager in the segregated Baltimore school system — a kid whose friends called her “Mom.”

“I was sort of like the mother hen,” she says. “I felt like I needed to take care of everybody.”

That nurturing instinct stuck with her, first as a would-be social-work student, now as an influential attorney who mentors the next generation of lawyers and as a leader who plans to make a major impact on the ABA when she moves from president-elect to president next August.

“I was fortunate to be in attendance when the House of Delegates carried the motion making Paulette the ABA president-elect, the first African-American woman to hold the position,” said Patrick E. Hobbs, dean of Seton Hall Law.

“What an incredible moment for Paulette and for Seton Hall Law School. She brings wisdom, grace and dedication to this role and we are proud to call her one of our own.”

“She’s done what women of color could not do when she started law school,” says Erika D. Robinson, an associate at Gregory, Doyle, Calhoun & Rogers and one of many people Brown has helped along in their career. “I feel like I am witnessing history, and I get to benefit from her experiences.”

Though she enrolled at Howard University in the late 1960s with plans to pursue a social-work degree, Brown found herself drawn to law classes. She arrived at Seton Hall Law and “learned to think in a very different way,” she says.

She singles out Robert Diab, a Seton Hall professor for 43 years until his retirement in 2001, as “one of the best professors ever. If he could not make you understand the rule against perpetuity, no one could.”

Brown worked hard to establish herself in the legal world. Early on, others in a courtroom would ask if she was there as the defendant, or perhaps the court reporter. At times, those assumptions even reached the bench.

“Judges now have training on biases and some things have improved,” she adds, “but back then, if there was [judicial] discretion, I never got it.”

Now a partner at Edwards Wildman Palmer, Brown has practiced labor and employment law, along with commercial litigation, for 25 years. U.S. News & World Report has named her one of the country’s top lawyers multiple times, and the National Law Journal included her among the 50 most influential minority lawyers in America. She was the first African American to win the New Jersey State Bar Association’s Young Lawyer of the Year Award; the first minority to receive the association’s Medal of Honor; and soon, the first woman of color to lead the 400,000-member ABA.

She sees the field slowly becoming less homogeneous — a cause she champions as her firm’s chief diversity officer.

“But there’s still a great deal of work that has to be done,” she adds, noting that women of color make up less than 2 percent of law firm partners.

“I still go into court on a Monday trial-call and it will be 99 percent white men [attorneys],” Brown says. “A woman of color my age who’s still a litigator — I’m trying to think if I know another one in New Jersey. I can’t think of one.”

As the ABA’s president, Brown plans to visit law schools, “Main Street” law firms and local Boys & Girls Clubs in two towns each month. “I know it’s ambitious,” she says, “but I think I can do it.”

Those who know her agree: they consider Brown one of the hardest workers around — someone whose emails start at 5 a.m. and keep coming past midnight. “To many people, she has already arrived,” Robinson says. “But she continues to push herself all the more. She still works just as hard.”

Packed as her schedule may be, friends say Brown always finds time for others. She’s completed five 60 mile walks to raise money through the Susan G. Komen organization. She drove six hours to attend a protégé’s wedding in Vermont. She’ll make time for a phone chat even as she’s about to get on a plane.

And that high-school nickname? It’s now in use by another generation of friends.

“She’s kind of like my ‘Legal Mom,’” Robinson says. “She really believes in supporting younger attorneys’ growth and development. She has been all that I could ask for in a mentor and much more.”

Molly Petrilla is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.
died two days after Christmas.

On Christmas Eve he could not get out of bed. With a sedative, he slept until midnight, when he awoke to see that Elizabeth was not sleeping. "No love," she told him. "Christmas Day is begun — the day of our dear Redeemer's Birth … the day he opened to us the door of everlasting life." When Will asked for Holy Communion, Elizabeth put a little wine in a glass and they said portions of Psalms and prayers. "We took the cup of Thanksgiving setting aside the sorrow of time, in the view of the joys of Eternity."

Elizabeth stayed at Will's bedside around the clock. He wanted no one else in the room. When he imagined that he had won the lottery, and that his brother James had written to say that all their financial problems were solved, Elizabeth thought it best to let him think so. When he dreamed that he saw Rebecca, their infant daughter, Elizabeth worried about the sickly baby she'd left behind. "Is she too in heaven — thy will be done — how do I know how many are gone — thy will be done."

On the night after Christmas, a cold sweat washed over him. He wanted the candle taken out of the room. "Tell all my dear friends not to weep for me, that I die happy, and satisfied with the Almighty will," he murmured. Elizabeth knelt by his bedside, in the dark, holding his hand, praying aloud. She heard Will following her prayers; when she stopped for a moment, he continued to pray: "My Christ Jesus have mercy." At four o'clock in the morning he stopped talking. At quarter past seven, "his dear soul separated gently, without any groan or struggle."

Elizabeth sent for Anna, embraced her, and they knelt by Will's bed to "thank our Heavenly Father … for the Joyful assurance that thro' our Blessed Redeemer he had entered into Life Eternal and implored his Protecting care and pity for us who have yet to finish our course."

At eleven o'clock next morning, Will was buried in the graveyard at St. John's Anglican Church in Leghorn, the prayer service led by Reverend Hall. The grave marker read: "Here lies the remains of Will Magee Seton, Merchant of New York, who departed this life at Pisa, the 27th day of December 1803."
What would become of us?

Even in a country where Catholicism was the state religion, the Filicchis were prodigiously Catholic — Amabilia rose for Mass at four o’clock every morning — and promptly began trying to interest Elizabeth in their faith. In New York, Catholics were the despised immigrants ... now Elizabeth found that Catholics could be her social equals, and then some. Antonio had studied philosophy and law, Filippo spoke five languages and had been named by President Washington to be American consul at Leghorn. When they brought in a scholarly Jesuit priest, Peter Plumket, to talk about Catholicism, Elizabeth was amazed. “I am hard pushed by these charitable Romans ... but they find me so willing to listen to their enlightened conversation, that consequently as learned people like to hear themselves, best, I have but little to say”

Filippo Filicchi gave her a copy of The Devout Life written by St. Francis de Sales, who the Devout Life Filippo Filicchi gave her a copy of The Devout Life written by St. Francis de Sales, who...
It was somewhere between South Africa and Australia, in the middle of the Southern Ocean — where storms roared up from Antarctica and the swells rose 50 feet or more — that Meg Reilly truly understood the meaning of “awesome” — an adjective she had tossed around so casually when she was a student at Seton Hall.

She was on the bow of a 70-foot clipper, on the third leg of an 11-month race around the world, changing a sail as the biggest waves she had yet seen were rolling in from behind. As she looked back she saw a looming wall of water dwarfing her crewmate at the helm. “It just made him look like an ant, and I’m just sitting up there for a moment smiling, like ‘This is awesome,’” she says.

They surfed right down the face of that swell, and the one behind that, and the one behind that, all through the storm, hitting speeds of more than 30 knots, and nowhere along the way did she wish she had stuck at her desk job in Manhattan instead of signing up for a once-in-a-lifetime journey that induced in her an enduring state of awe.

“I compare it to why people watch scary movies and like roller coasters,” she says. “It scares you to life.”

Until a few months earlier, Reilly’s seafaring adventures had mostly been confined to the placid waters of Barnegat Bay, N.J., in her family’s 25-foot powerboat on summer vacations. After graduating in 2012 with a bachelor’s
her studies and her job that she managed to find a sponsor, 4POINT4, a sports apparel company.

Although she had worked hard to get the money to study, the price tag was $67,000, and she did not hail from the kind of tony sailing haven where that might be regarded as pocket change.

She had never owned a boat longer than 30 feet, but she applied immediately, telling no one. “I just had a gut feeling that I had to do it and I didn’t want someone to tell me no,” she says.

Next she had to learn how to sail. She trained for three weeks in England, where the Clipper Race was founded in 1995, and where the 12 boats in the most recent race launched from last summer. The open ocean left her feeling both exhilarated and nauseous.

“I saw my first shooting star and then I saw two more and I’m like, ‘Sold, you got me,'” she says. But she was seasick, too. “I was kind of mentally preparing myself to feel sick for a year. That was my new normal — I’m going to feel horrendous but I’m going to do it anyway because I’m a quite stubborn individual.”

The Clipper race is not a pampered, leisurely cruise where the sunrises and sunsets look the same. “The transformation of an amateur sailor into a competitive racer is tremendous,” she says. “Nobody can prepare you for when you’re on the water.”

The crew named the dish Pasta Henri Lloyd, for the name of their boat, which was named after their sponsor, a British marine apparel company.

Her father traveled to England to see her off in September 2013, and left her with some advice from his own time at sea. A Navy veteran and a professional mariner who worked for many years for an oil-spill response company, he has most recently been rebuilding hurricane-damaged jetties on the Texas coast and has his own time at sea. A Navy veteran and a professional mariner who worked for many years for an oil-spill response company, he has most recently been rebuilding hurricane-damaged jetties on the Texas coast and has his own time at sea.

“I realized this is a team sport and it could never be just about an individual.”

Kevin Coyne is a New Jersey writer who teaches at Columbia’s Graduate School of Journalism.

degree in business administration, she had landed exactly the job she was aiming for, with Young & Rubicam, the giant marketing and communications company. But after four months she was restless enough to be moved to action by a story she spotted on CNN.

“My heart was pounding,” she says. The story was about the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, almost a year at sea with other similarly restless souls, many of them sailing novices like her. “I’ve never had a reaction like that.”

She applied immediately, telling no one. “I just had a gut feeling that I had to do it and I didn’t want someone to tell me no,” she says.

Offered a spot, she then had to figure out how to afford it. She had saved some money and paid down her student loans by living at home and commuting to Manhattan, but the price tag was $67,000, and she did not hail from the kind of tony sailing haven where that might be regarded as pocket change.

She did, however, know enough about marketing from her studies and her job that she managed to find a sponsor, 4POINT4, a sports apparel company.

Through Stormy Seas: Reilly faced treacherous conditions on her voyage (above), including 50-foot swells, but returned safely home to her family with a gold-medal finish (right).
Perhaps the most impressive student-athlete performance delivered during the 2013-14 academic year was the dazzling breakout of baseball pitcher Josh Prevost. After collecting just five wins in nine starts during his first three years at Seton Hall, as a senior, Prevost blossomed into one of the most dominating pitchers in the nation.

But, to stake his claim at the top of the BIG EAST baseball hierarchy, the 6-foot-8 right-hander had to overcome his share of adversity.

Prevost started the final game of the 2013 season, a heart-breaking 7-6 extra-inning loss to Pittsburgh in the BIG EAST Tournament. When he left the mound after surrendering three earned runs in five innings, he thought it might be the final time he’d pitch in college. Major League Baseball teams were interested in drafting him, and the sting of not making the NCAA Tournament, despite a memorable season, was fresh.

Then in January, Prevost’s world was shaken when his father passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. Bill Prevost was a staunch supporter of his son’s career and the two were very close. Despite the pain, Bill’s passing gave Josh a renewed sense of focus. He decided that he would return to Seton Hall for his senior year and dedicate the season to his father.

“I wanted to honor my dad,” Prevost said. “I wrote ‘Dad’ in the bill of my cap, and every time I faced adversity on the mound, I’d look up and would be able to refocus. He was a huge part of my career before he died and just as much after.”

One day shy of the one-month anniversary of his father’s death, Prevost made his first start of the 2014 season and shut down the University of Oklahoma over six innings for his first win of the year. The tepid, inconsistent starter had transformed into a composed, dominant ace who would dispose of opposing lineups throughout the 2014 season.

He guided the Pirates to a 39-15 record, the most wins by the program since 2000. As the team’s regular Friday starter, he pitched to a 12-2 record with a microscopic 1.62 earned run average with 111 strikeouts and just 20 walks. A consensus All-American, Prevost was named a semifinalist for the prestigious Golden Spikes Award, which honors the nation’s best college baseball player. Named Seton Hall’s first BIG EAST Pitcher of the Year since 1992, Prevost earned conference Pitcher of the Week honors six times and was placed on the Weekly Honor Roll an additional three times. Prevost was also named ECAC Pitcher of the Year, among 300 member schools, and NJCAA Pitcher of the Year as the top hurler in the State of New Jersey. A unanimous First Team All-Conference selection, Prevost finished the 2014 season as the BIG EAST leader in wins, ERA, strikeouts, opponent batting average, innings pitched, complete games and shutouts.

In May, Prevost again found himself starting in the BIG EAST Tournament. This time, he was the team’s undisputed ace and took the mound as the reigning BIG EAST Player of the Year. Saving his best college career performance for the largest stage, Prevost dominated St. John’s, recording a complete-game shutout, in Seton Hall’s 1-0 victory. It was his conference-leading sixth complete game of the season. He scattered just four hits, struck out seven and walked only one batter.

“It’s amazing what a difference a year makes,” Prevost said. Although the Pirates’ season ended shortly after his marquee performance, the personal accolades continued for Prevost. On June 6, he realized a childhood dream when he was drafted in the fifth round of the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft by the New York Mets.

Many have pitched for Seton Hall, but precious few have matched Prevost’s magical 2014 season.
Championship Season for Women’s Golf

The Seton Hall women’s golf team — launched just four years ago — won the BIG EAST Championship in 2014, defeating the rest of the field by seven strokes.

Seton Hall led the three-round event wire-to-wire and entered Saturday’s final round leading by 13 strokes. The Pirates fired a 24-over par 312 in round three to comfortably win the title over Georgetown. Seton Hall finished the event at 64 over par. Georgetown finished at 71 over, while St. John’s finished at 73 over.

“This is proof that hard work and determination pay off in the end,” said the team’s head coach, Sara Doell. “I am truly overwhelmed with pride.”

The title is Seton Hall’s first team championship since the baseball team won the 2011 BIG EAST Championship.

Erin McClure and Megan Tenhundfeld led the Pirates in Saturday’s final round. McClure shot a 4-over-par 76 that day, while Tenhundfeld fired a 5-over-par 77. Both golfers tied for second place among all individual golfers. They finished three strokes behind Harin Lee of St. John’s, who won the individual championship for the second time in her impressive career.

Both McClure and Tenhundfeld finished the tournament with a very consistent 13 over par overall.

“It’s hard to explain my emotions,” McClure said. “It’s truly amazing to come together as a team and win. It’s an incredible feeling.”

“Everyone contributed to this win, whether through their score or simply their support,” Tenhundfeld said. “Personally, I was really happy with how I was able to contribute. I’m really glad to see my hard work paying off.”

Ali Kruse placed ninth overall at 16 over par. She led Seton Hall in scoring average this year, has an individual tournament championship, and now can add a BIG EAST title to her impressive list of career accolades.

“I feel beyond blessed to be a member of this BIG EAST Championship team,” Kruse said. “Deep down, we all knew we could win and I couldn’t be more proud of my teammates.

We stayed in the moment, took everything one shot at a time and are bringing home a trophy for ‘The Hall! Go Pirates!’”

Hannah Basalone, one of the team’s founding members and arguably the program’s most decorated golfer, graduated as a champion. She tied for 13th place among all individual golfers at 22 over par.

“To see this program develop and be a part of it from the very beginning has been so cool,” Basalone said. “If you told me four years ago we’d win the BIG EAST before I graduated, I probably wouldn’t have believed you. I’m so proud of the entire team for what we’ve been able to accomplish. I couldn’t think of a better way to end my time at Seton Hall.”

Karlie Zabrosky shaved nearly two strokes off her scoring average from her freshman to sophomore year and was a major contributor all season. She tied for 19th place at 30 over par.

“When I came to Seton Hall last year, I didn’t think I’d experience anything quite this awesome,” Zabrosky said. “With the BIG EAST Championship, Seton Hall earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Regional Championships as part of the NCAA Division I Women’s Golf Championships, May 8-10, in Tallahassee, Fla. There, the Pirates played against some of the country’s best teams: Vanderbilt, Duke and Stanford.

“Four years ago we began this program and we have an incredible feeling. To see this program develop and be a part of it from the very beginning has been so cool,” Basalone said. “If you told me four years ago we’d win the BIG EAST before I graduated, I probably wouldn’t have believed you. I’m so proud of the entire team for what we’ve been able to accomplish. I couldn’t think of a better way to end my time at Seton Hall.”

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The American Craft Beer Cookbook: 155 Recipes From Your Favorite Brewpubs and Breweries
By John Holl ’02 (Storey Publishing, $19.95)
A craft beer revolution has taken place in the United States: more than 3,000 independently owned breweries have opened their doors and produce upward of 100 different styles of beer. Craft brewpubs and brewpubs not only have transformed beer culture, but they also have elevated the food traditionally enjoyed with beer. Chefs now are using the complex flavors imparted by different varieties of malt, hops, water, yeast and yeast to realize the full taste potential of dishes ranging from salads to steaks. Journalist John Holl traveled the country to collect more than 150 recipes from your favorite brewpubs and independent breweries not only have opened their doors and produce upward of 100 different styles of beer.

The Brunswick Boys in the Great Rebellion
Inspired by a collection of letters written by her great-grandfather during his Civil War service, Joanne Hamilton Rajoppi spent a year culling through dusty records at libraries and historical societies as well as family albums and cemeteries. Her careful research has come together to tell the story of “The Brunswick Boys” — 700 men and boys from New Brunswick, N.J., driven by patriotism and the prospects of better pay and adventure to enlist in the Union Army. The Brunswick Boys” — 700 men and boys from New Brunswick, N.J., driven by patriotism and the prospects of better pay and adventure to enlist in the Union Army.

New Brunswick and the Civil War: The Brunswick Boys in the Great Rebellion
By Joanne Hamilton Rajoppi, M.P.A. ’88 (The History Press, $19.99)
Invented by a collection of letters written by her great-grandfather during his Civil War service, Joanne Hamilton Rajoppi spent a year culling through dusty records at libraries and historical societies as well as family albums and cemeteries. Her careful research has come together to tell the story of “The Brunswick Boys” — 700 men and boys from New Brunswick, N.J., driven by patriotism and the prospects of better pay and adventure to enlist in the Union Army.

Innovation Breakdown: How the FDA and Wall Street Crimp Medical Advances
By Joseph V. Gulfo ’84/M.B.A. ’95 (Post Hill Press, $27)
How do you convert a potentially life-saving new idea into a product available to doctors and patients? The seemingly simple first step is submitting the product for approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, but Joseph Gulfo found the process far more complicated than it appeared. Through the lens of his 10-year struggle to move a new melanoma-detection device to market, he writes about the bureaucracy of the FDA and the destructive influence of Wall Street — two entities he believes block the availability of major medical advances. Gulfo proposes a solution to the problem through a detailed “medical innovation manifesto,” aimed at shifting the system’s focus back to public health.

In New Jersey and Metropolitan New York: Cultural Identity, Hybridity, and Commemoration
Edited by Marta Mostrovic Deyrup, Ph.D., librarian/curator, University Libraries, and Maura Grace Harrington, M.A., Ph.D., instructor of English (Lexington Books, $85).
In 2010, Seton Hall unveiled The Irish Studies Discussion Series, which focuses on the Irish-American experience in the New York/New Jersey area. The series features speakers from legal, military and performing-arts backgrounds among others. Marta Mostrovic Deyrup and Maura Grace Harrington present this collection of essays about Irish Americans to a wider audience in this book. It puts chapters written by series speakers, historians and scholars in the wider context of Irish-American studies, assimilation and contributions to American life. The contributors derive into what it has meant, and means, to be Irish-American in this region, and what this ethnic identity will signify in years to come.

350 Years of New Jersey History: From Staytusven to Sandy
By Joseph G. Wite, ’65/M.A. ’92, James M. Madden & Harry Ziegler (The History Press, $19.99)
This year, New Jersey celebrates its sesquicentennial, the 350th year since its founding in 1664. In honor of this milestone, Joseph Bilby, James Madden and Harry Ziegler have compiled this year by year chronicle of the state’s tragedies and triumphs, including notable people and events. The book covers New Jersey’s growth and diversity, including its transition from agricultural to industrial and postindustrial economies, technological innovations, military service and settlement of immigrants from around the world. Ever wonder what Pieter Stuyvesant, Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein, Felix the Cat and Bruce Springsteen have in common? They all are woven into the story of New Jersey. History and pop culture are covered side-by-side as readers are introduced to the state’s most important leaders and innovators as well as the famous faces that serve as Garden State leaders and innovators as well as the world.

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Note to authors: To have your commercially published book considered for “Pirates in Print,” send your information and a review copy to Seton Hall magazine, 510 South Orange Ave., South Orange, NJ 07079. Please request our guidelines first by writing to shumedia@setonhall.edu. Book descriptions contain direct quotes from book covers and publisher-provided materials.
Through it all, she learned the value of forging relationships between students and alumni.

“I have my education and job because of Seton Hall,” she notes, “but even without that, the relationships — both personal and professional — that I made would have made my time there worth it.”

As a young alumnus who has donated consistently since she was an undergraduate, Keen enjoys the satisfaction that comes with being engaged. Her job responsibilities, which include working evenings directing Dickson’s phone-a-thon, prevent her from attending many alumni events in her area. Undeterred, she has stepped in to volunteer her time to make phone calls that personally welcome incoming freshmen.

She even planned a send-off picnic in a local park for new Seton Hall students from her area. Keen believes that being True Blue means staying active and involved, giving back and sharing school spirit.

“It’s the best way to show support for the programs at the University,” she says. She is especially proud that two of her cousins just moved into Seton Hall as members of the Class of 2018, in part thanks to her glowing reviews.

“I’m almost jealous,” she says. “I wish I could go to the institutions that gave them so much.”
Social Media

www.facebook.com/theshallaumni
Get up-to-the-minute news and information on the life and progress of Seton Hall. Connect with fellow Pirates and stay informed about campus news.

LinkedIn

www.shu.edu/go/elmullinkedin
Join the group to discuss your career, network with fellow library and alumni students, share advice, ask questions, and build your professional community.

www.flickr.com/setonhall
Seton Hall shares pictures of campuses and regional events on Flickr. Visit to view and share photos.

View a complete list of the many University programs and departments that maintain a social media presence:
www.shu.edu/social-media.txt

90s

Y. "Sergy" Ranchey-Mead '90 was elected treasurer at the 2014 Membership Assembly of the American Nurses Association. .. Mark Bealer, J.D. '95, is of counsel with Fisher & Phillips LLP's Fort Lauderdale office. ... Margaret C. Decker '94 wins Fair Facts for the Mother/Lung Nurse Clinical Orientation in a video. ... Paul J. Fortini, J.D. '92, was appointed vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at Curtis-Wright Corporation. ... James E. Higgins '93 is appointed vice president of sales and marketing at Conax, a conference center network. ... Thomas Roach, M.A.E. '93, was the unanimous choice to become the Harness Maew, school district's business manager after serving as Hanover High School principal. ... Anamario Simone, J.D. '93, was elected president of the board of trustees of the Resource Center for Senior Inc., a nonprofit agency serving veterans of domestic abuse. ... Blake Cullen '94 was appointed vice president of business development for Mayne Pharma's U.S. generic products division. ... Jon Paul Tay '95 was promoted to sergeant for the Bernardsville, N.J., police department. ... George Mansalov '95 was appointed vice president of administrative affairs for That's Code, which provides database support and professional services. ... Frank M. Bocca '95 is a partner at Locke Liddell & Sapp, a law firm in Los Angeles. ... Carmen Garcia '93 was sworn in as an state assemblyman representing New Jersey's 33rd Legislative District in February. ... Vindzi C. Mnena, J.D. '98 was appointed chief human resources officer at PNC Financial Services Group Inc. ... Juan S. Gilto, M.A.E. '98 was appointed as the new principal of Intermediate High School in Somerville, N.J. ... Christopher R. Bader-Watson, M.D. '98 was nominated by the Glass Truth to the New Jersey Superior Court bench. ... Lauren A. Pine, M.A. '99, was honored as a VIP Woman of the Year 2014-15 by the National Association of Professional Women for having outstanding excellence and dedication to a profession and the achievement of women. ... Nicole A. Bittner '99 was named chief of staff to the chancellor at North Carolina A&T State University. ... James Wozniak '99 was sworn in as the Cranford, N.J., police chief.

00s

Pauleen A. Holligan, M.A., O.S.'02, J.D. '02 has joined the law firm of Sloan & Sloan in Lawrenceville, N.J., office. ... John K. Terry, M.M.A. '02, chief operating officer of the New Jersey Israel Medical Center, was presented with the Corporate Award from the Orange-Maplewood unit of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at their 2014 Annual Freedom Fund Dinner. ... Jennifer V. Domingo, B.A. '02, named to the law firm of Einhorn, Harris, Archer, Bartlett, & Poet, R.C., was sworn in as the vice president of the Asian Pacific Americans Lawyers Association of New Jersey. ... Richard G. Gilis II L.T.C R D.D. M.A., '02/MA '02 was promoted to the rank of colonel and assigned to the United States Army at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. ... Loren L. Spoleidi, J.D. '02, partner attorney with Abetemps, P.A., law firm Gross McGinley LLP, was awarded a Leigh Valley Forty Under 40 designation by Lehigh Valley Business. ... John M. Patone, M.A., was named to the 2014 New Jersey Super Lawyers list. ... Greg Lowery '02/03 was one on a sixteen-person team that won a 13-mile international outrigger canoe race in the Hudson River. He was also on a world champion dragon boat racing team and has competed in several international events. ... Jame Shreen, J.D. '04, is an anesthetist at Jefferson Medical Center in West Virginia. ... Cristiana Guerra, E.D.S., '05 wrote a book of fiction titled Flames of Truth Beyond the Darkness of Wall Street West. ... Daniel Rosseau, Ph.D. '05 was appointed president and chief executive officer of Richmond University Medical Center. ... Andrew Lester Chew '06 finished his master's degree in nurse anesthesia in 2012. ... Candice Clawson '06 was named director of undergraduate affairs at Pop to Prep in New York. ... Marianne Gallway, S.G. '06, was hired as the new superintendent of the Pre K 8 school district in Longwood, N.J. ... Liliana Esposito, J.D. '06 was named chief communications officer of the Wendy's Company. ... Kelly E. Flexik-Vilte '06 was appointed assistant biomedical communications in the Mayo Clinic Office of Medical News. ... Ashley Grace '06 now the ACLS Young Investigator Award for her research wrote. ... Aurora F. Paniola, J.D. '06 was appointed associate to the commercial litigation practice at Seedwick LLP. ... Mark Garcia '07, creative director for Mjsystik Apps, was awarded one of three grand prizes in the IBAU Mobile Developer Challenge. The win was based upon the firm’s proposal for the “Top of the Future” dubbed Fang (Friendly Anthropomorphic Networked Genomic). ... Paul Roper '08 was hired as a seasonal producer in the Florida region for IMG College in Winston-Salem, N.C. He will also be the score board and studio host for the University of Florida football and basketball radio broadcasts on the Sun Sports Network. ... Michael Bras '09 was appointed principal at the Academy of Our Lady at Mount Carmel in Trenton, N.J. ... Jessica Janevski, J.D. '09, was nominated by the Governor to the board of directors at Maria Spinnwa, a nonprofit charitable organization in Elizabeth, N.J. ... Ellen Regan '09 was named principal of Queen of Peace Elementary School for the 2014-15 academic year. ... Francisco Espion '09 is an attorney at Ryan Smith & Carretto, Ltd., and was elected to the board of the Morris County Bar Association. ... Architects ... Melissa Avelino Rodriguez '10 graduated from Pace Law School in White Plains, N.Y., with a juris doctor degree. ... Doug Soudal, M.A.E. '12, of Montville, N.J., drove on her skills as an English instructor to help under- privileged students participate in a program called Scholars, a program of the United States Department of Education Excellence, Dedication, Success. ... Victor P. Hayek, E.D.D. '12, was named superintendent of the South River- Riker School District region. ... Michelle Rosario '13 was given the U.S. Public Service Recognition for Service for Future FT Professional of the Year award. ... Joseph Sedalis, D.P.T. '14 received an award for Exceptional Clinical Excellence, a research award for his final project, and was one of sixty eight doctoral students to be inducted to the Alpha Eta Society for Allied Health.

As a young woman, Rosina A. Evans, M.H.A. '02 suffered a serious illness that kept her hospitalized for nearly a year. Her occupational therapist, she recalled, helped her survive the ordeal. "I would not have been able to get on with my life if not for her," Evans says. "After spending time with her, I knew this was meant to be my calling. I wanted to help other people in similar situations." Evans followed her dream, and 40 years ago she became a physical therapist at Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation Inc., in West Orange — the nation’s largest provider of in-patient physical rehabilitation. She has never left. Today, as chief executive officer for Kessler's West Orange campus, Evans follows the same core philosophy she learned as a therapist: provide patients with the best possible quality of life while helping them work toward independence. "Whether it's being able to pursue an education, vocation or avocation, independence is key," she says. Kessler therapists also work with caregivers and family members to help make patients become productive and feel useful. With a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from Northeastern University in Boston and a master's in health administration from Seton Hall, Evans believes the field was an ideal path for her life. She loves the problem-solving and strategic planning.

"In Seton Hall’s health administration course, your life experience matters," she says, adding that instructors placed major emphasis on “learning while doing,” and crediting the work of University administrators who helped start the University’s online graduate degree program. Kessler has a strong connection to the campus; many Seton Hall students intern there, and alumni work throughout the organization. Evans’s commitment to her chosen profession is evident through the mentoring she offers her younger colleagues. “I am proud I am able to influence the careers of those who share my passion,” she says. 
Baby Pirates

John A. Niziol ’68, a grandson, Connor Aroski, on Dec. 17, 2013
Norma M. (Murgado) Carroll ’92/J.D. ’96
Ben Potvin ’94
Stacy (Slater) Kisla ’96
Michele (Dudzinski) Simeone ’97
Violeta (Gulevska) Kopec ’00/M.A.E. ’03/Ed.S. ’05
Sandra Kaminski ’04
Zuzel (Herrera) Brescher ’01/’04/M.S. ’09
Mary Beth (Kipila) Albert ’06
Joseph L. Linares, M.B.A. ’09
Rebecca Nugent, M.A.E. ’10
Wendy Ekua (Quansah) Da’Cruz ’12

In Good Company

The ever-growing popularity of LinkedIn and other networking sites highlights the fact that being connected at work has never been more important to career success. Recognizing the tremendous power of personal relationships and face-to-face interaction, Seton Hall has set out to help alumni network with colleagues within their own organizations and the Seton Hall community at large.

Alumni Relations is launching several initiatives to make this possible. The first is a series of corporate clubs that will bring together individuals at organizations that have a large number of Seton Hall employees working within them. The other will engage prominent alumni in greater ways within the Seton Hall community by giving them opportunities for speaking engagements — on panels and in the classroom — mentoring students professionally and academically, and serving on advisory panels or boards.

For more information about launching a corporate club, please contact Robert Mayers, associate director of alumni clubs, at (973) 378-9821 or robert.mayers@shu.edu.

For more information about speaking engagements, mentoring and serving on panels, please contact John Borgese, director of corporate alumni engagement, at (973) 378-9868 or john.borgese@shu.edu.


Pirate Alumni Volunteer in Sea Bright

On Saturday, June 28, 2014, alumni, parents, students and family gathered in Sea Bright, N.J., for a day of service. The group constructed a large stretch of “snow” fencing to keep visitors to the beach from walking on, and damping, the dunes and dune grass put into place after Hurricane Sandy.

To learn more about Seton Hall’s ever-expanding list of volunteer opportunities, visit www.shu.edu/go/volunteer or contact Erika Hängcr in Alumni Relations at (973) 378-9827.

To receive the alumni Pirate Press e-newsletter, subscribe and receive exclusive discounts on Seton Hall merchandise as well as special promotions. To subscribe, e-mail Alumni Relations at alumni@shu.edu.
Have you been promoted? Earned an advanced degree? Been honored for professional or personal achievements? Recently married? Added a baby Pirate to the ranks? We want to know! Visit us at alumni.shu.edu and share your success. Your news may be published in an upcoming issue of the Seton Hall magazine. If you can’t log on to alumni.shu.edu, fill out the form below with your news and send it to:

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Alumni News and Notes
457 Centre St., South Orange, NJ 07079
Fax: (973) 378-2640

Name
Class Year(s) and Degree(s) from Seton Hall
Home Address
Phone
Email Address
News to Share:

Jessica, daughter of Matt Stevenson ’97 and Nicole Stevenson ’00

Share your news...

Seton Hall wants to hear from you!

#HallAlumni

Use #HallAlumni to share your photos, comments, questions and Pirate Pride. Seton Hall continuously monitors social media for alumni showing off their love for the University and randomly rewards them with re-tweets, shout-outs and prizes.

Many Are One

On Friday, June 13, 2014, the 28th annual Many Are One alumni gala honored the outstanding achievements of 13 Seton Hall graduates. Selected for their professional accomplishments, service to others and devotion to Seton Hall, the honorees exemplify the University’s mission to educate students to become leaders in our global society. More than 400 alumni, parents, students and friends attended the black-tie event, and proceeds raised will provide scholarship funds for relatives of alumni who attend Seton Hall.

Gerald P. Buccino ’83
President, The Buccino Foundation

Dick Vitale ’62
ESPN College Basketball Analyst

Gregory E. Williams ’89 and Mary (Christiano) Williams ’89
Senior Software Developer/Consultant, TIBCOsystems and Senior Programmer/Analyst, Lincoln Investment Planning, Inc.

Monsignor Richard M. Liddy ’60

College of Education and Human Services

Randy Marti, M.S. ’03
School of Health and Medical Sciences

Henry “Hank” J. Knipper ’81
Stillman School of Business

Margaret B. Melady, M.A. ’71
University Libraries

Monsignor James C. Turro ‘44/M.Div. ’48
Intramural-Campus Recreation-School of Theology

Captain Gregory T. Dalessio ’00/M.A. ’04

David V. Calviello, J.D. ’96
School of Law

Francisca (Guerrero) Champion ’60
College of Nursing

Most Distinguished Alumnus

Service Award Recipients

Monsignor Richard M. Liddy ’80
College of Arts and Sciences

College of Education and Human Services

Randy Marti, M.S. ’03
School of Health and Medical Sciences

Henry “Hank” J. Knipper ’81
Stillman School of Business

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College of Nursing

Have you been promoted? Earned an advanced degree? Been honored for professional or personal achievements? Recently married? Added a baby Pirate to the ranks? We want to know! Visit us at alumni.shu.edu and share your success. Your news may be published in an upcoming issue of the Seton Hall magazine. If you can’t log on to alumni.shu.edu, fill out the form below with your news and send it to:

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College of Nursing

Save the Date

Winter Banquet

January 17, 2015

Join us for our Young Alumni Winter Banquet and celebrate the new year with fellow alumni and friends.

For more details, contact Seth Moncrease at (973) 378-9863 or seth.moncreasejr@shu.edu.
Chronic liver disease is a leading cause of death in middle-aged Americans, and now the threat is rising quickly among obese children and adults due to nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. Yet new medications and advanced medical technology in the form of a machine called a Fibroscan are helping doctors at Saint Michael’s Medical Center in Newark treat patients with liver disease. The results at the Liver Center there have been astonishing.

Dr. Jihad Slim, assistant professor and program director of the Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program at Seton Hall’s School of Health and Medical Sciences (SHMS), sits on the Liver Center leadership team. To learn more about the center’s recent advances, Seton Hall magazine editor Pegeen Hopkins turned to one of Dr. Slim’s colleagues, Dr. Jason Dazley, who is a graduate of SHMS’ infectious diseases fellowship program.

What benefits does Saint Michael’s Fibroscan machine offer?

We’re now able to better treat people co-infected with HIV and Hepatitis C. There are not many centers, or even many infectious disease specialists, that do that sort of work. It’s much more challenging to treat the two diseases concurrently.

Until now, to diagnose liver disease we’ve had to do a liver biopsy, punching out a piece of the organ with a surgical device and then reviewing it under a microscope. For that reason, many patients dread getting a biopsy. With the Fibroscan, patients and doctors don’t have to deal with complications of bleeding or infection.

The Fibroscan was approved in Europe first and has been used there for some time. The United States finally gave approval to use it here for viral Hepatitis, and it works a bit like an ultrasound machine. It has a probe — used like a wand — that is placed on the skin where the liver is situated in the body. The Fibroscan shows images that reveal the liver’s stiffness. Using specific calculations, a score is generated and interpreted by a specialist who can tell exactly what stage of liver disease a person has.

It’s a very savvy machine, very accurate.

Is Saint Michael’s one of the few places in the area with a Fibroscan? Last time I checked, some larger universities and hospitals around us had ordered the Fibroscan, but had not received it yet.

Can you talk about the new treatments for Hepatitis C being used? For the last few months, we’ve been utilizing the new oral therapies, with and without injectable therapy. There’s been tremendous success with it. With previous, injectable-only treatments, the success rate was low: 50 or 60 percent. Now we’re already up to 90 to 95 percent success in treating patients and eradicating the virus from their livers. Treatment time is down to 12 to 24 weeks from a full year.

Are doctors at Saint Michael’s involved in research for this new medicine? Most of them are involved in studies where the therapies have already been tested a few times; so we know they work well. As we continue the studies, we’re able to see how different therapeutic combinations will work, especially in co-infected patients.

This also makes it possible for the medicines to be supplied to patients free of charge and increases the range of people we’re able to treat. Many patients come to our hospital as inpatients; most of them don’t have insurance at all.

Some of the research data is showing that as we treat the Hepatitis C, we’re actually improving patients’ HIV as well. Their immune systems are improving because they’re being treated well for Hepatitis C. Many of these patients are already on the brink. They often have irreversible changes — possibly end-stage liver disease, where the liver is very scarred and not working. We frequently detect their disease right before it gets to that late stage. With proper treatment, their quality of life is improved, and we’re able to halt the disease.
Seton Hall’s free webinar series offers alumni, parents and friends the opportunity to continue learning.

**Upcoming Topics:**

- Making yourself more marketable to potential employers
- Mastering the use of new online resources
- Writing graduate school application essays that get noticed
- Tailoring your résumé to land an interview
- Transitioning careers

To learn more, meet the alumni and faculty presenters, and register: www.shu.edu/go/webinars.

**Free and Online.**