

SETON HALL

A home for the mind, the heart and the spirit

Summer 2015

Medical Breakthrough

**Seton Hall and Hackensack Launch Plans
for New Jersey's Only Private Medical School**

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL EARNS NCAA TOURNAMENT SPOT FOR FIRST TIME IN 20 YEARS



SETON HALL

Summer 2015 Vol. 25 Issue 3

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On the cover: University President A. Gabriel Esteban (left) and Robert C. Garrett, president and CEO of Hackensack University Health Network, review plans for a new medical school.
Photo by Michael Paras

Facing page: Photo by Milan Stanic '11

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Seton Hall *at* Its Best

Early in 2015, Seton Hall and Hackensack University Health Network announced a memorandum of understanding to establish a school of medicine.

In the months since the announcement, reactions from the University community, state business leaders and the higher education spectrum have been overwhelmingly positive. I was particularly pleased that so many of you contacted me directly to express your congratulations and encouragement.

Medical schools are the purview of leading higher education institutions — exactly the type of institution we know Seton Hall to be. We seek deeper involvement in the world of health care as part of our mission to improve the human condition and cultivate the next generation of servant leaders. I know that Seton Hall's school of medicine will further that mission in profound and exciting ways.

Shortly after the medical school announcement made headlines, the University marked the 15th anniversary of the Boland Hall dormitory fire that took the lives of students Frank Caltabillota Jr., John Giunta and Aaron Karol. About 120 people, including several survivors and their families, attended a Mass offered by Father Gerald J. Buonopane and other members of the campus priest community. The memorial featured a homily by Monsignor Anthony Ziccardi that was both moving and rich with insight.

Monsignor Ziccardi reminded the gathering that

just as the innocent suffering and death of Jesus was not in vain for Him or for us, so the suffering and death of the fire victims — though it never should have happened — will not be in vain for them. They will rise to eternal life.

Monsignor Ziccardi also said, "No one should do evil, and no one should have to suffer evil. But as long as evil exists, it is better to be the recipient of evil than to do evil."

After the Mass, a candlelight ceremony at the Remember Memorial demonstrated that the victims and survivors will always be a part of the University family and will never be forgotten.

These events showed Seton Hall at its best — committing itself to a bold vision for the future while not forgetting that its success is rooted in the time-honored bonds of community. Truly, Seton Hall is among the few colleges or universities that can enact transformative goals without sacrificing the feeling of family that has always been part of its essence.

Grounded in our Catholic spirituality and with your support and your prayers, the University will retain the best of what has always made it great, as it strides ever more confidently toward a future that grows brighter each day. ■

"We seek deeper involvement in the world of health care as part of our mission to improve the human condition and cultivate the next generation of servant leaders."



On Friday, June 5, Hackensack University Health Network (HackensackUHN) and Seton Hall University signed a definitive agreement to form a new, four-year school of medicine. (Standing, from left) Patrick Murray, chair of Seton Hall's Board of Regents and Joseph Simunovich, chair of HackensackUHN's Board of Trustees. (Seated, from left) A. Gabriel Esteban, president of Seton Hall University, and Robert Garrett, president and chief executive officer of HackensackUHN. Photo by Michael Paras

Unanue Institute Celebrates 10 Years

The Joseph A. Unanue Latino Institute marks its 10th anniversary in 2015 and has planned a yearlong series of events to celebrate. Since 2005, Joseph and Carmen Ana Unanue have contributed more than \$4 million to Seton Hall with a desire to help Latino students gain access to higher education and, upon graduation, become leaders in their fields. The institute and the Unanue’s scholarship program have worked to promote understanding and appreciation of the Latino culture and its people while providing financial assistance through three competitive scholarships to more than 130 Seton Hall students interested in Hispanic tradition and culture. The institute’s mission is to inspire, educate and transform students into the next generation of servant leaders in an ever-changing global society.



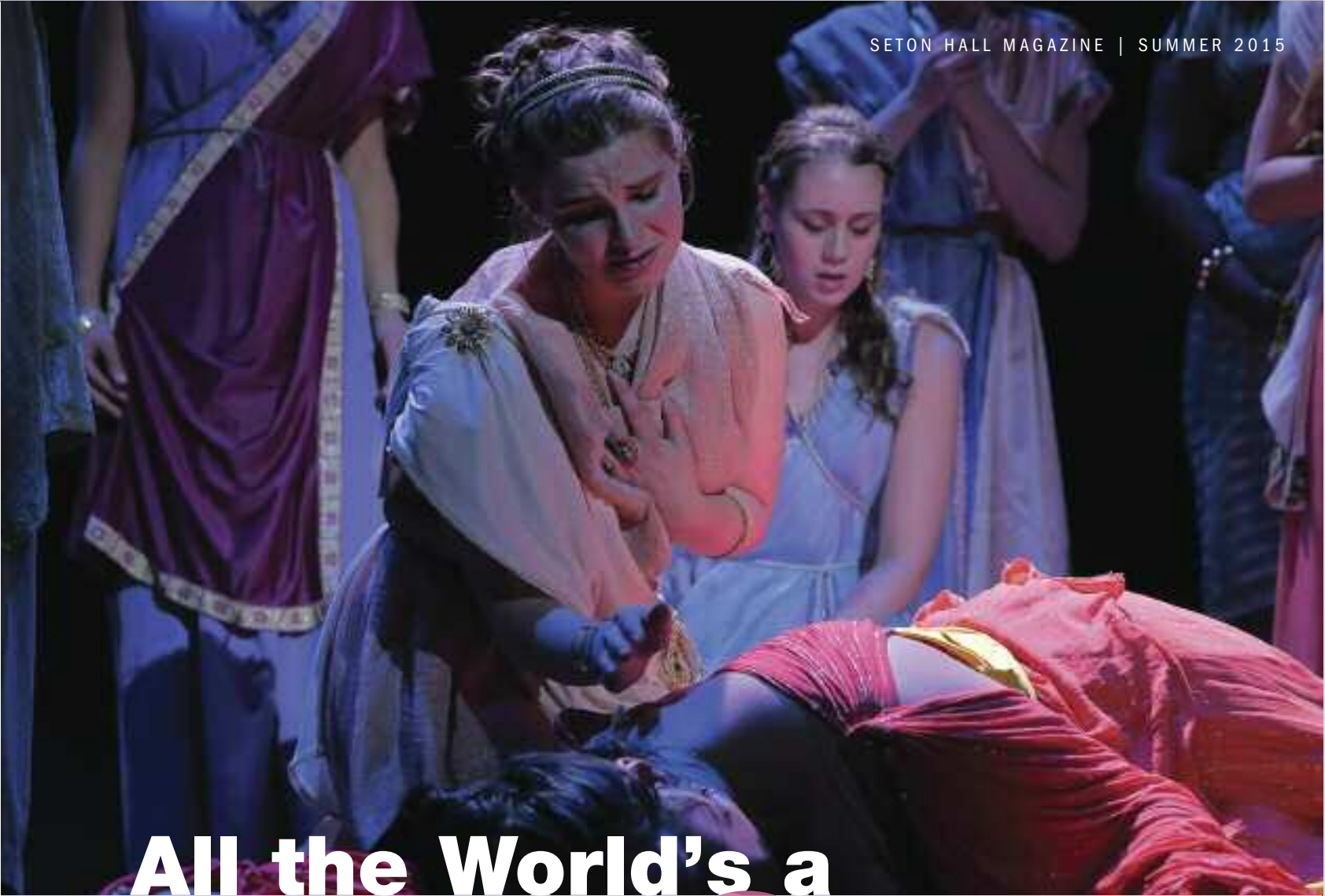
“I am delighted to see that in 10 years so much has been accomplished and so many students have been transformed by the institute,” says Carmen Ana Unanue (at left). “My late husband, Joseph, would be very proud.” “I believe our best opportunities lie ahead,” says Denisse Oller, the institute’s executive director, citing scholarly work involving Latinos and Latin America. In March, Grammy nominee Bobby Sanabria and Quarteto Aché gave a public concert and lecture as part of a “Masters of Afro-Cuban Jazz and Beyond” program, and an in-depth discussion on “The U.S., Cuba and the Vatican” was held for the University community. Cardinal Sean Patrick O’Malley, the archbishop of Boston, visited the University on April 22 to speak about “Pope Francis and the Hispanic Presence in the Church.” (In 2013, Pope Francis appointed Cardinal O’Malley to an advisory board to help him govern the Catholic Church and reform its central administration.) Celebrations will conclude with the institute’s annual gala and fundraiser, which will be held on Oct. 21 at the New York Athletic Club.



ART in the HALL

The walls of Seton Hall’s new academic building (formerly Stafford Hall) will showcase the creative talents of the University community. After construction was completed last fall, the Office of the Dean of Students launched its first “Art in the Hall” contest, open to students, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni, with a theme of servant leadership. More than 50 pieces were submitted, including watercolors, oil paintings, photos, pencil drawings and sculpture. The contest’s selection committee — consisting of students, faculty, staff, a member of the priest community and a member of the Board of Regents — chose Daniel Foltá (at left), a freshman honors student majoring in Asian studies, as the winning artist for his painting, “Troy.” Judit Papp ’14 won second place for her photo, “Dakota Pirate.” Honorable mentions were awarded to Elyse Carter, Kenneth Hoffman, Angela Martone, Amanda Reid, Karam Tannous and Milena Walczyna. The artwork will be displayed through December 2015.

Photo of Daniel Foltá by Milan Stanic '11; photo of Mrs. Unanue by Michael Paras



All the World’s a Stage

Christine Byrne never imagined that her career path would lead to singing opera professionally while still in college. But that’s where the musical theater major from Valley College, N.Y., found herself last fall. The college senior was cast to play the slightly devious page — a traditional first role for opera singers — in the MidAtlantic Opera Company’s production of “Rigoletto.” The experience gave Byrne what she needed most — a glimpse at the professional life she dreams of pursuing. “I received some very helpful advice on what it’s really like to be a crossover singer who performs both opera and musical theater,” she says. “I wasn’t sure it was even possible to do that. But I learned that with persistence, hard work and an ability to overcome failure, it can be done.” Byrne has performed in a variety of Seton Hall

productions, from the operatic “Dido and Aeneas” to theater classics such as “To Kill a Mockingbird” and “Twelfth Night,” and she took on a directorial role with a run of “A Christmas Carol.” In 2014, she received a coveted invitation to perform in The Kennedy Center’s college theatrical competition. Byrne is keeping her options open after graduation, applying to master’s programs in London and the United States in drama, musical theater and opera. “Working in the performing arts means you have to be smart,” she says. “The most important thing you need is a plan. A goal without a plan is just a dream.”

Christine Byrne (center) performing in “Dido and Aeneas.” Photo by Rich Kowalski

| LINDA KARTEN, M.A. '11

66 SHU in the news

“I call it the paradox of choice.”

— Daniel Ladik, Stillman School of Business, *The Wall Street Journal*, on why people will wait in line around the block for an iPhone.

“The identity crises in Hong Kong, Xinjiang, Taiwan and Tibet will surely become Beijing’s real tests and dilemmas. How well the Chinese leadership deals with these crises will determine China’s rise and future development.”

— Zheng Wang, School of Diplomacy and International Relations, *Time*, on the student protests in Hong Kong.

“This is not a political appointment. It’s a religious appointment.”

— Jo-Renee Formicola, College of Arts and Sciences, *Chicago Tribune*, on the late Cardinal Francis George’s battle with cancer, and Pope Francis’s selection process for Chicago’s next archbishop.

“He will get an extraordinary reception. It will easily be similar to Pope John Paul II. The numbers [of people] that turn out will be off the charts.”

— Monsignor Robert J. Wister, Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, *Japan Times*/Bloomberg, AP, on Pope Francis’ South Korean tour.

“A lot of these students are going it alone, not getting the assistance and support from their families or their schools that they might need to really understand how to negotiate [high-school choice].”

— Carolyn Sattin-Bajaj, College of Education and Human Services, WNYC’s “Brian Lehrer Show,” on navigating high-school choice for children of immigrant families.

“Being open, transparent [and] honest; it’s what [the Pentagon] needs to do, and what they should’ve done long ago. That is the only thing they can do to mitigate political damage right now.”

— Matthew Hale, College of Arts and Sciences, *Newsweek*, on American service members’ complaints of chemical warfare exposure in Iraq.

“Our students are very engaged academically ... we also want them to make friends and be happy.”

— Alyssa McCloud, Enrollment Services, *U.S. News & World Report*, on what makes schools attractive to students.

“Politicians use religion for intimidation and manipulation.”

— Ines Angeli Murzaku, Department of Catholic Studies, Russian Federation News Agency (RIA), on the role of interfaith education in building lasting peace and stability.

“The chief downside to this technology is that it might fail to reach those who could most use it.”

— Christopher Hanifan, School of Health and Medical Sciences, Fox News, on the use of mobile apps in medicine as a doctor’s virtual assistant.

“So many inner-city students are rudderless. And they need some kind of support from people who have made it [and] can offer guidance.”

— Denisse Oller, Joseph A. Unanue Latino Institute, *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education*, discussing the success of the Exito Mentorship Program.

BY THE NUMBERS

Faculty Research

8.75 million

Grant dollars received (2013–14)

106

Faculty experts who appeared in the media (2013–14)

30

Faculty books published (2013–14)

29

Nations where faculty presented their research (2013–14)

4

Faculty Fulbright Awards (2013–14)

3

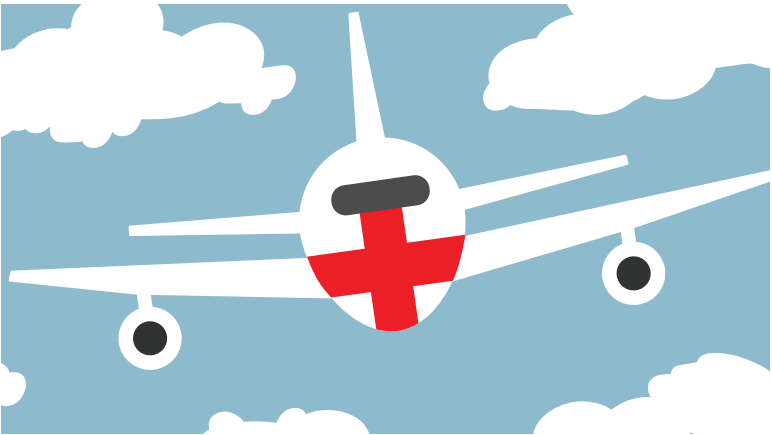
Faculty patents filed (2014)

57

Faculty articles in the highly selective ScienceDirect database (2014)

12

Seton Hall’s rank among Catholic national universities in ScienceDirect (2014)



Savior in the Skies

On a flight home from Rome last August, nursing student Stefanie DeSimone found herself confronted with some unexpected, high-stakes clinical practice. About three hours into the nine-hour flight, a man who was walking to the lavatory suddenly collapsed. DeSimone, seated nearby, sprang into action.

“His face was very white,” said DeSimone. “I checked for a pulse and there was none.” She called for flight attendants — in both English and Italian — to bring blankets, pillows and a defibrillator. Then DeSimone and her cousin, an occupational therapist traveling with her, began CPR. After the patient regained a pulse, only to lose it again, the team, which included other healthcare professionals who had come to help, finally managed to stabilize him.

It was clear from the beginning that DeSimone was in charge of the scene. In fact, it was DeSimone the captain consulted with when deciding to make an emergency landing at a military airstrip in the Azores, islands off the coast of Portugal.

DeSimone, who wants to work in an intensive care unit after graduating, credits her training at Seton Hall with having the knowledge and confidence to save the man’s life.

“You really need to assess the situation. Professor [Patricia] Pappas, one of my nursing instructors, was in my head the whole time,” she said. “I could hear her asking me, just as she did in class and during clinical rotations: ‘OK, what are you going to do now? OK, the patient passed out, what do you do first?’”

One of the others who was helping her that day turned out to be a Seton Hall nursing alumna, Marie Truglio-Londrigan, M.S.N. ’81. When the two finally had a chance to speak, DeSimone asked why her fellow Pirate hadn’t stepped in and taken over. “You did a fabulous job,” Truglio-Londrigan told her. “You were doing everything right! You will be a great nurse.”



New Dean for College of Nursing

Marie C. Foley was named dean of Seton Hall’s College of Nursing in February. She served as acting dean of the college since August 2014.

Having started at Seton Hall as an instructor in 1985, Foley joined the faculty as associate professor in 2005 and was named chair of the graduate department in 2012.

During her tenure at the University, she has served as program director for the certificate and master’s in school nursing programs, as well as the University’s director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant.

Foley, who earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing from Farleigh Dickinson University and her master’s and doctoral degrees from New York University, has researched and presented extensively in the fields of school nursing and child temperament.

She has received many awards and distinctions, including the Outstanding School Nurse Educator Award from the National Association of School Nurses and the Research Article Award from the *Journal for Specialists in Pediatric Nursing*.

In Brief...

- **Omer Gokcekus**, professor of international economics and development at the School of Diplomacy and International Relations, appeared on NPR’s “Marketplace” to discuss finding new ways to track government corruption around the world, including looking at the number of luxury cars being sold.
- **Sona Patel**, director of the Voice Analytics and Neuropsychology Lab and assistant professor of speech-language pathology, received a \$380,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders to conduct research on voice control in Parkinson’s disease and Alzheimer’s disease.
- The American Alliance of Museums appointed **Sally Yerkovich**, director of the Institute of Museum Ethics, as the chair of the Task Force on Direct Care. The task force will help define the term “direct care,” which is used in museum ethics to determine how a museum may use funds acquired through deaccessioning, the process by which items in a collection are sold to raise funds.
- **Petra Chu**, professor of art history, received the Distinguished Teaching of Art History Award from the College Art Association. The association, a 13,000-member organization of art historians and fine artists working in academia, awards this honor to one recipient each year.
- **Brian B. Shulman**, dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences, was named a fellow of the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions in recognition of his efforts to promote excellence in teaching, research, service and leadership in allied health. He also was elected to the association’s board of directors.
- **Mark Molesky**, associate professor of history, was featured in “God’s Wrath,” a documentary about the Lisbon earthquake of 1755 that appeared as part a miniseries produced for the Canadian History Channel. The miniseries was broadcast in the United States by the Smithsonian Channel.
- **William H. Haney**, professor of design, won two gold awards and one silver for design and illustration from the Art Directors Club of New Jersey, a statewide nonprofit organization of art directors, graphic designers, digital media experts, illustrators, photographers and art educators.
- **Anisa Mehdi**, adjunct professor of documentary film, created “The Hajj,” a PBS special that follows pilgrims from Boston as they travel to Mecca. The documentary is one part of a six-part series called “Sacred Journeys with Bruce Feiler.”
- The **Master of Healthcare Administration program** was accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME) in 2014, making it the only M.H.A. program in New Jersey accredited by CAHME.
- **Anca Cotet-Grecu**, assistant professor of economics, won a “Bright Idea Award” from the NJPRO Foundation for scholarly research on a business-related issue deemed educational to New Jersey firms. Selected by a distinguished panel of deans and business professionals, Cotet-Grecu is one of only 10 winners in the state.
- **The Gerald P. Buccino ’63 Center for Leadership Development** of the **Stillman School of Business** received \$100,000 from Securitas North America. The gift, the second of this amount from Securitas, will support a study abroad program, as well as other innovations at the center.
- **The Stillman School of Business** has maintained its accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International for its business and accounting programs. Fewer than 1 percent of the world’s business schools have achieved accreditation from AACSB International in both business and accounting.
- Barnabas Health awarded **Maureen Byrnes**, assistant clinical professor of nursing, and **Luz-Patricia Torres**, instructor of nursing, with an award recognizing healthcare educators who help to integrate simulation training into their curriculum.

Photo of Dean Foley by Milan Stanic '11



Support for the Chesterton Institute

Seton Hall University received a \$700,000 gift from the G.K. Chesterton Society in Canada, which will be used to support the University’s G.K. Chesterton Institute for Faith and Culture.

The gift will help continue the work of the institute by providing opportunities for the University community to explore the insights of the English novelist, playwright, philosopher, journalist, poet, essayist and artist — a man of many gifts widely praised for his eloquent defense of Christian doctrine and human dignity. Among his best known works are *Orthodoxy*, *The Everlasting Man* and the *Father Brown* series.

Founded in Canada in 1974 and located at Seton Hall since 1999, the Chesterton Institute last year celebrated its 40th anniversary and the 40th anniversary of its academic journal, *The Chesterton Review*. The institute also supports scholarly research on Chesterton around the globe.

“Chesterton believed that the imagination was an organ of perception,” said Father Ian Boyd, founder and director of the institute at Seton Hall. “His insights into life, the life of our nation, of America and the Western world, are still relevant today.”

“I am profoundly grateful to Seton Hall for giving our work a home,” Father Boyd said.

“What we do is central to Seton Hall’s mission as a Catholic university, as a place where ‘the Church does its thinking,’” he said. “This gift will ensure that we can continue to pursue this important work for the next 40 years and beyond.”

PIECE of CONGRESSIONAL HISTORY

Last fall, the Archives and Special Collections Center at the Walsh Library announced the acquisition of the Donald M. Payne Papers, records from the late Donald M. Payne '57, New Jersey’s first African-American congressman, who represented the state’s 10th District in the House of Representatives from 1989 to 2012.

The collection contains more than 13,000 items, including legislative documentation, research files, news clippings, photographs, audio-video recordings and USB flash drives. Held within these documents are the records of Payne’s contributions to shaping U.S. policy on

key issues, such as education, human rights and social justice, and foreign affairs in Africa, Northern Ireland and the Balkans. The collection also highlights the congressman’s projects on behalf of his constituents, including air noise regulations, jitney service, college funding, the Montclair Art Museum and police funding.

“Congressman Payne was a proud Seton Hall alumnus, and the University is honored to be chosen as the home for the records of his time in office,” said University Libraries Dean John Buschman. “Documents such as these are not always available to the public so quickly.”

86 percent

Seton Hall Class of 2014 employment rate in career-related jobs six months after graduation

Source: Seton Hall Career Center

67 percent

National employment rate for graduates with bachelor’s degrees

Source: National Association of Colleges and Employers’ Class of 2014 First Destinations Survey

Timeline

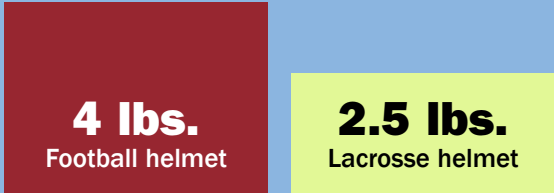
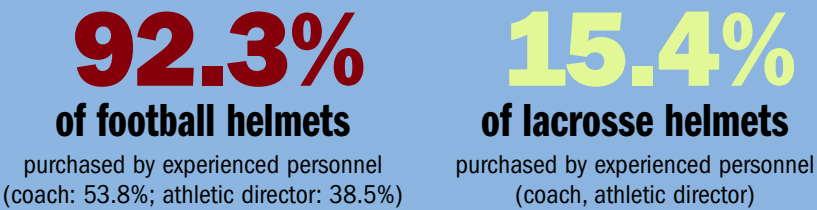


SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO SOFTEN THE BLOW

Lacrosse is booming. It is one of the fastest growing sports in the country among both boys and girls, particularly in the Northeast. It's also one of the sports with the highest number of concussions, behind football and ice hockey. And while football players' helmets are generally fitted and maintained in a consistent manner, the way schools handle lacrosse helmets isn't yet standardized.

A new study by **Richard Boergers**, assistant professor of athletic training, highlights areas for improvement in lacrosse helmet safety. He and several graduate students interviewed more than 50 athletic trainers in public and private high schools in New Jersey and New York that have both football and lacrosse programs. Here are some highlights of their findings.

HELMETS: WHO BUYS THEM



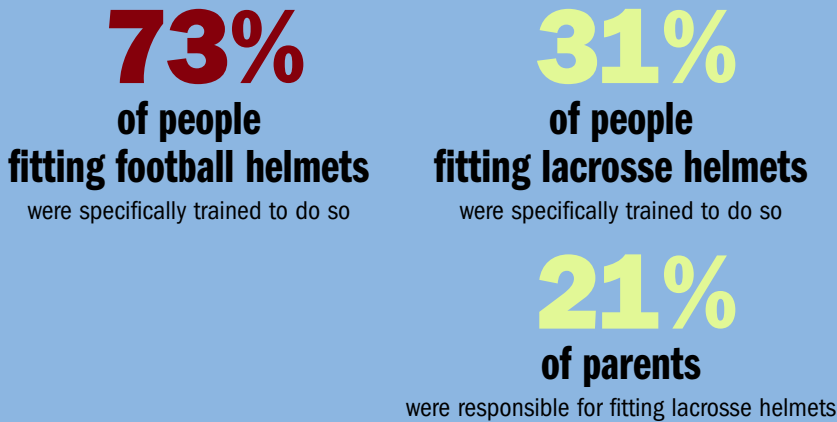
AVERAGE WEIGHT



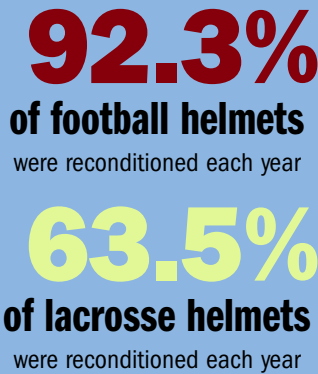
VS



WHO FITS THEM



RECONDITIONING



GIRLPower

REPRESENTING THE U.S. AT THE INTERNATIONAL G(IRLS)20 SUMMIT GAVE CYNTHIA SULARZ THE SPARK SHE NEEDED TO FOLLOW HER PASSION — EMPOWERING OTHER YOUNG WOMEN.

As the United States' delegate to the 2014 G(irls)20 summit, Seton Hall junior Cynthia Sularz spent a week in Australia network- ing with prominent women from around the world.

But it was a woman who wasn't there who influenced her most.

Mirroring the Group of 20 economic summit, the G(irls)20 event brought together delegates from G-20 member nations, as well as a selection of other countries, including Pakistan and Afghanistan, to draft a communiqué encouraging their governments to address female economic issues.

Fatima Hashimi, the G(irls)20 delegate from Afghanistan, was prevented from traveling to Australia when the government of Afghanistan denied her exit visa. But on the final day of the summit, she joined the other women via Skype to speak about increasing girls' access to education.

Sularz had been working for years on a personal project to help young women gain the confidence to speak out in the classroom, but she had not yet brought the topic into her formal studies. Listening to Hashimi speak with self-possession and passion about increasing access to education despite the obstacles young women in many developing nations face sparked an epiphany.

"Our experiences have been so different, and yet they led us to similar conclusions about what we want to change in the world — to make this world better for women and girls," Sularz says.

"Cynthia is built to soar," says Farah Mohamed, the CEO of G(irls)20. "She's very clear on the fact that she wants to do something important with her life. ... Fatima was an example to all of the girls of what they're fighting for: They could relate to her because she's trying to do what they're trying to do, which is to chart their own futures. But she has a set of challenges they won't have to deal with. And Cynthia was very impacted by that."

A diplomacy and international relations major, Sularz traces her interest in international affairs to her parents, natives of Poland, who discussed the news of the day through a global and historical lens. Her studies have taken her to Poland and Germany, and last summer, she taught English to children in Russia.

Even as she was focusing on global issues in her coursework, Sularz was working on an extracurricular project exploring why girls tend to apologize more than boys in the classroom. But while she hoped to create some kind of educational program on the topic, she was unsure of how to do it until the G(irls)20 summit gave her the tools.

Over the course of a week in August 2014, she and her fellow delegates participated in workshops on communications and leadership skills, entrepreneurship, and activism and grassroots campaigns. They then spent 24 hours composing the communiqué to be presented to the G-20 representatives with recommendations supporting the economic



Photo by Joy Yagid

"I want to devote the next few years of my life to empowering adolescent girls."

advancement of women and girls worldwide.

The process gave the delegates a platform to discuss topics that affect young women in each of their nations. From wage equity and the prevention of sexual violence and harassment in the workplace to the integration of women into the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and the guarantee of basic sanitation in schools, they educated one another about the economic consequences of social-justice issues.

As she listened to the delegates speak, Sularz says, her passion for women's issues crystallized into a career focus. Since the summer, she has been interviewing young American women for a video project exploring gender and confidence.

"I want to start a dialogue by getting a grassroots perspective on these issues from actual college students: the fears they have, the ideas they have about the future, how socialization has affected them to this point in their lives," she says. "My overarching goal is to give girls who haven't been able to talk about these things a place to express themselves."

Sularz plans to expand the project into an educational workshop. She is also working on initiatives with the international organizations PeaceWomen and Girl Up.

"I'm not sure if I want to go the bureaucratic route or the NGO route," Sularz says, "but I am 100 percent sure that I want to devote the next few years of my life to empowering adolescent girls." ■

Tricia Brick is a New York-area writer.

Text SUPPORT

YOUNG HOMELESS MOTHERS LEARN CRITICAL LESSONS IN PRENATAL AND INFANT CARE THROUGH A TEXTING PROGRAM INTRODUCED BY THE COLLEGE OF NURSING’S MAUREEN BYRNES.

Having a baby can be a bewildering experience for anyone. But if you’re young and homeless, the prospect can be downright terrifying. Motherhood prompts so many questions, and trustworthy information can be hard to find.

In spring 2013, Maureen Byrnes, an assistant nursing professor and certified nurse midwife, launched a project to make the experience a little less daunting. Byrnes helped new mothers, ages 18-21, at a Newark homeless shelter enroll in a service that provides text messages about how to keep babies healthy, before and after birth.

Text4baby, which launched in 2010, is an education campaign designed to promote maternal and child health. Women receive three free texts a week, with messages timed to match the woman’s due date or the baby’s date of birth and continue through the baby’s first year of life.

So a woman in her first trimester might receive this message: “Morning sickness may be caused by a change in your hormones. Try eating crackers or dry cereal. Eat small meals often. Don’t go without eating.”

A new mom, on the other hand, might receive a text that says, “Your baby’s mouth needs cleaning now — even before the first tooth! Wipe your baby’s gums each day with a wet washcloth or use a soft baby toothbrush.”

When Byrnes first learned about Text4baby as a student in Seton Hall’s doctoral nursing program, she was intrigued. She and her students began offering their clients the option to enroll. One morning, as Byrnes was driving to Seton Hall, a new idea came to her. Why not make it accessible to homeless women?



No one had implemented Text4baby within a homeless population before. But Byrnes could already see the potential benefits. “It’s a perfect platform to get evidence-based health information to them in a manner they’ll utilize,” she says. “You could hand a young mother a brochure; that doesn’t mean she’s going to read it. But they do read text messages,” she says.

Byrnes had also recently learned a striking statistic: African-American babies born in New Jersey are 3.5 times as likely to die before their first birthday as white infants. This disparity exists, at least in part, because of a lack of access to health information.

Between May and August 2014, Byrnes made weekly visits to Covenant House, a homeless shelter in Newark, and Raphael’s Life House, an affiliated residence for new or expectant mothers in nearby Elizabeth. She met with



Photos by Joy Yagla

pregnant women and new mothers to talk to them about the service and recruit them to join. For the women who didn’t already have mobile phones, Byrnes connected them with a federal assistance program that provides cellphones to people who are eligible.

When Byrnes proposed the project to Meghan Leigh, associate site director of Covenant House, Leigh wasn’t sure if Text4baby would appeal to the women at the shelter. She need not have worried. “The girls weren’t hesitant,” she says. Of the 12 women eligible for enrollment at Raphael’s Life House, 10 signed up. “I thought that was astounding,” Byrnes says. What’s more, nine of those moms agreed to become ambassadors and share the service with others.

The messages seem to have a real impact, and Leigh says she was surprised to hear women referencing the texts. For example, a mother might tell a staff member, “Text4baby reminded me I have to get the baby shots, so can you help me make an appointment?”

Text messages can’t provide all the information these

young women need, Leigh says. But they provide some basic education. “It keeps them mindful,” she says. “It proved to be really beneficial to our young mothers.”

Of course, part of the project’s success might be due to Byrnes. The women seemed to respond to her, Leigh says. “They felt really loved, and she really wrapped her arms around them to make them feel confident about their mothering and their parenting abilities.”

In February, Byrnes presented her findings at the Care4 International Scientific Nursing and Midwifery Congress at the University of Antwerp in Belgium.

For Byrnes, the project was a chance to give back to people living in the community where she was raised. Byrnes grew up in Newark, too. She was never expected to go to college, let alone receive a doctorate degree. “Education changes everything. This project is a full circle — a gift of gratitude for everything I’ve been given,” she says. ■

Cassandra Willyard is a freelance writer in Madison, Wisconsin.

Commercial Success

Shannon Morris '92/M.A. '94 displays an enviable ability to orchestrate a whirlwind of activity into formidable success. A day's work includes running New Jersey's top-ranked ad agency, raising four children and finding time for reflection.

Proof of Morris' mastery has come in the form of a number of accolades. In 2014, *AdWeek* magazine proclaimed her agency — Sigma Group — No. 1 in New Jersey. *AdAge* named it the top small agency in the Northeast. *Inc.* magazine placed it among its Fastest Growing 5,000 companies. *BtoB* magazine nominated Sigma for the Top Creative Campaign of the Decade. And in 2013, the Stillman School of Business picked Morris as the first woman to be inducted into its Entrepreneur Hall of Fame.

Obviously, Morris doesn't handle everything alone. More than 60 Sigma employees produce the company's award-winning, results-driven marketing campaigns. And her husband, Jeff '93, whom she met at Seton Hall, gave up a career as a high-school math teacher to take on the role of stay-at-home parent. What also helps is that Morris recently relocated Sigma — where she has worked since 1999 before purchasing the firm in 2012 — within a mile of her home in Upper Saddle River, N.J.

"I'm a very good multitasker," she says. "I have to be, because I juggle a lot. Thank God for technology."

Time management was no doubt just as critical to creating her outstanding record at Seton Hall. After arriving from a small town in Oregon somewhat intimidated by the thought of living in the Greater New York area, Morris proceeded to complete a bachelor's degree in communications, as well as a master's degree in communications with a focus on marketing and public relations.

All the while, as an undergraduate, she competed on

SHANNON MORRIS '92/M.A. '94
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the swim team as a Division I athlete and was named a BIG EAST Academic All-Star for three years. "I was very influenced by the athletic side of my experience at Seton Hall," she says. Competitive swimming, she points out, combines personal and team goals to win. This is particularly true in relay races, where Morris swam both a key leg and was the team's captain. That helped build "a great sense of confidence."

Such experience, where "you have to hit those goals to carry a team," directly translated to managing creative types in advertising and public relations, she says. The same principles apply: "vision, goal-setting, hard work and a great deal of commitment." The net effect is to "create a sense of your own destiny."

Like the black lane lines on the bottom of a pool, these guidelines keep Morris on course in a business that is not only traditionally frenzied, but is also widely varied and constantly evolving. Indeed, she manages campaigns for "everything from Pert Plus Shampoo to Panasonic Toughbooks."

Beyond hard work and juggling tasks effectively, Morris' business success depends "very much on relationships," she says. These only thrive in an atmosphere of "honesty, integrity, transparency and partnership." New ways may emerge to get messages out to the public, but the heart of a marketing firm remains the same: "People are people; that never changes."

As a female business owner, she offers the insight that "the biggest challenge for women is finding peace for themselves." To recharge, Morris uses meditation. Her time for reflection, she says, "is not as perfect as when I was in the pool, taking all those laps," but it makes her more productive.

The same is true for her firm, where she schedules

one-hour "boot camps" in the middle of the workday for her employees. A personal trainer helps them increase fitness and decrease tension. She also hires a masseuse and conducts yoga lessons for team-building.

Beyond altruism, she says there are sound financial reasons for relaxing, de-stressing and de-cluttering the minds of her people. "Everything in marketing is ideas: How can you be more creative? How can you out-think someone in a big pitch? How can you be creative in retaining talent?"

Morris' advice to people starting careers is to "be a student of the business and be willing to work hard." She calls that "real authenticity," as opposed to "trying to impress people."

As to Sigma's future — and her own — she quotes a line used by both poet Robert Browning and singer Frank Sinatra, saying, "The best is yet to come." ■

Bob Gilbert is a writer based in Connecticut.

Photo by Milen Stanic '11



In 2014, *AdWeek* proclaimed
 Morris' agency — Sigma Group —
 No. 1 in New Jersey.

LAQUAN FORD '13
NEEDED A HELPING
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THEY FORMED HAS
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THEM BOTH.

One Powerful Connection

For an inner-city Newark teenager, the son of a father who sold drugs and a mother who was addicted to heroin, life at Seton Hall University was once unimaginable.

"As a very young boy, I wondered what Seton Hall was," recalls Laquan Ford '13, who used to earn money raking leaves in the lush nearby neighborhoods of South Orange. "I never knew it was a college because I didn't know what a college was then."

What Ford did know about was parental absence. He grew up in the care of an ailing great aunt — whom he calls his grandmother — until she died, when Ford was still in high school. Afterward, he found shelter with friends.

There was another thing that was unfathomable to Ford growing up: Accustomed to abandonment and discord, he was "not comfortable with love and caring."

But time has changed Ford's perspective. Seton Hall gave him a fundamental lesson in the value of both education and loving commitment. And for this, Ford — now seeking a graduate degree in social work at Loyola University Chicago — credits the supportive environment of the University community and the efforts of one man in particular: Nick Scalera '63.

Scalera arrived in Ford's life by happenstance. After the recession of 2007–09, scholarship money had become scarce, and Ford was facing the prospect of having to drop out of Seton Hall during his sophomore year.

By then, Ford had established a stable life on campus. He was involved in numerous organizations, even helping to found the campus group Black Men of Standard, a support organization whose motto is "As we rise, so does the standard." But his association with Seton Hall, which dated back to his enrollment in a University-sponsored program at Newark's West Side High School, looked perilous.

Meantime, Nick Scalera was in the process of establishing a scholarship designed to provide assistance to Seton Hall students in need. In 2011, Ford became one of the Nicholas R. Scalera '63 Scholarship's first recipients, awarded to academically proficient students from Essex County who demonstrate "substantial financial and social need." It is a strictly needs-based scholarship, which is critical to the University, and is designed to "bridge the gap" between aid, loans and other scholarships.

For Laquan Ford, it was the monetary equivalent of the cavalry arriving. That first year, two of the scholarship recipients were officially homeless, but Ford's needs "were truly overwhelming," Scalera says. The scholarship kept Ford in school.

Over time, Scalera's donation has worked to transform both their lives. In fact, Scalera had an ability to understand the young man in a way few adults could. He once headed up New Jersey's child protection and welfare agency, an organization Ford had encountered multiple times growing up.

Today, Ford sees Nick as a father figure who has not only helped shape his future, but also gave him his first real understanding of family. Scalera sees a version of himself, growing up as he did in an Italian working-class family that struggled to put him (the first member of his family to enter and graduate from college) through Seton Hall.

After the two met at the scholarship's induction luncheon, they saw a basketball game and later met for coffee. "I wound up becoming his mentor," Scalera says. "It was not by design. But when I saw how hard he was struggling, I just had to respond."

At one of their get-togethers, Scalera handed Ford his business card. "I said, 'Feel free to call me. Don't just sit there waiting for the sky to fall.'" It was an outreach, he explains, to "someone hurt many times by adults who promised things and never delivered."

Respect and trust deepened as their relationship developed over time. Last Christmas, since Ford had no family to come home to from Chicago, he was welcomed by Scalera's extended family. "It seemed like their entire focus was on me," Ford says of the holiday. "It was unbelievable. It was the first time I ever had a gift under a Christmas tree."

What's more, getting to know Scalera has inspired Ford to find his life's purpose. Today, his goal is to become either a high-school superintendent, college dean or the head of New Jersey's child protection agency, as Scalera once was.

Will he succeed? Scalera's prediction is a resounding yes: "Here's a young man who went through an incredible amount of adversity, yet he never gave up. He's not bitter, he's not angry. All he does is look forward and set his eyes on his goal." ■

Bob Gilbert is a writer based in Connecticut.

For more information about the Nicholas R. Scalera '63 Scholarship, please contact Brigitte A. Bryant at 973-378-9864.

Photo by David Joel

Medical Breakthrough

SETON HALL AND HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY HEALTH NETWORK LAUNCH PLANS TO CREATE NEW JERSEY'S ONLY PRIVATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

It is a proud but finite club — doctors who earned an M.D. from Seton Hall. But it is about to start growing again, as the University plans to open a medical school after more than 50 years without one.

"It developed a lot of good physicians," said Dr. Gerald Levey, M.D.'61, one of the 348 graduates of the original Seton Hall medical school, who went on to become one of the nation's leading medical educators. "We started with 80, but at the end of the second year we had pared the group down to about 69. The grading was very tough."

Seton Hall had a medical school from 1956 until the mid-1960s, when it was absorbed into what became the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and discussions about starting another one have persisted over the decades since.

Over the last few years, the conversations became more focused. And in 2010, the University engaged a premier national healthcare strategy consulting firm to assess the feasibility of developing a medical school.

The analysis determined that — under specific conditions — this kind of undertaking was clearly achievable. A new medical school was strategically, politically and technically feasible. With the appropriate clinical partner, the project was also economically feasible.

Once the analysis was complete, Seton Hall began the extensive, yet delicate, effort to find an appropriate institutional relationship and partner.

"It has been an intense, concentrated endeavor," said Brian B. Shulman, dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences.

Photo by Michael Paras



At a packed press conference in January, officials from Seton Hall and the Hackensack University Health Network announced their intention to establish a new four-year medical school. The location being considered is on part of the sprawling site in Nutley and Clifton, N.J., vacated two years ago by the pharmaceutical company Hoffmann La Roche, Inc.

When it opens, Seton Hall will become one of only five Catholic universities in the nation to have an allopathic medical school.

"We determined early in our deliberations that we wanted to have a relationship, and we found the right partner with the same values toward health care. The whole notion of servant leadership and compassionate

care — that was all very important from our standpoint," said University President A. Gabriel Esteban. "Hackensack will provide clinical opportunities not just for our potential medical students, but for our nursing, physical therapy, physician assistant, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, athletic training and healthcare administration students. And in us they see a partner whose quality of graduates is well-known in the region."

HackensackUHN, which is the largest healthcare provider in New Jersey now that its merger with Meridian Health is complete, has long been interested in a medical school, too. "Our academic reputation, combined with our clinical expertise, will guarantee the establishment of a world-class academic institution in the Garden State,"



said Robert C. Garrett, president and CEO of Hackensack-UHN. “New Jersey has long been known as a home to the healthcare and pharmaceutical industries, and it is imperative we continue to support our future workforce through a premier school of medicine.”

Officials from Seton Hall and HackensackUHN have been meeting to discuss the details of their partnership and plan the shape of what will become the only private medical school in New Jersey.

“We know that by continuing to grow our academic core, we are going to grow our economic core as well,” Gov. Chris Christie, J.D. ’87 said at the announcement. “This would not have happened if it wasn’t for the willingness of Mr. Garrett and Dr. Esteban to step forward and say, ‘We will lead.’ That is the indispensable part of any great accomplishment — to have a person or people who are willing to step forward and take risks and lead — and that is what we have in both these gentlemen. That gives me great confidence about the future of the Hackensack University Health Network and my alma mater, Seton Hall.”

PREVIOUS PAGE: On Friday, June 5, Hackensack University Health Network and Seton Hall University signed a definitive agreement to form a new, four-year school of medicine. Robert C. Garrett (left), president and CEO of Hackensack UHN, and Seton Hall President A. Gabriel Esteban review plans for the new medical school. **ABOVE:** President Esteban and Gov. Chris Christie at the press conference announcing the initiative. Photo above by Aaron Houston for NJBIZ

Several things were apparent as Seton Hall contemplated starting a medical school: it filled an identifiable need and it would further enhance Seton Hall’s reputation.

A new medical school would prepare more doctors in a state that needs them; the New Jersey Council of Teaching Hospitals expects the state to fall 3,000 doctors short of its needs by 2020. And a new school would meld naturally with the healthcare-related disciplines the University already educates students in: biology, chemistry, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, athletic training, physician assistant, health-care administration, health law, health sciences and post-graduate medical residencies and fellowships.

“The viability, need and benefit to the University were clear. The question was how feasible it would be for us to create a medical school,” said Larry A. Robinson, provost and executive vice president.

A medical school is a natural extension of Seton Hall’s mission as a Catholic university. But what helped persuade the provost, and in turn the president, that a new medical school was a feasible goal right now was the consulting firm’s report that examined the prospect of a partner in the venture. “Our deliberations led us to the point that if we had the right partner, if we had the right relationship, then it might be something that we might seriously want to consider,” Robinson said.

HackensackUHN emerged as the best fit, both philosophically and financially. “We’re all on the same page in terms of how we want to prepare future healthcare professionals,” Shulman said. “The future of health care is here and healthcare practitioners — whether they are physicians, nurses, or physical therapists, and others — need to learn about each other’s professions and need to learn to work together as members of the healthcare team to make a difference for the patients and the families they serve. This has always been my dream, to bring all of our professional health-science programs together.”

Seton Hall’s vision is ambitious enough for more than just a medical school. The University also is considering physically co-locating its School of Health and Medical Sciences and College of Nursing with the medical school, giving each the capacity to expand to meet growing demands, freeing up space on the crowded South Orange

The New Jersey Council of Teaching Hospitals expects the state to fall 3,000 doctors short by 2020.

campus, and putting the new facility at the forefront of the recent movement in healthcare education known as IPE — interprofessional education.

“In order for all healthcare providers to understand each other, they need to better communicate, and it can start with their education,” said Marie Foley, the new dean of the College of Nursing. “There are certain things we can do together and certain things we cannot do together. This would be a phenomenal opportunity to move in this direction.”

“We have synergies I thought we could draw on,” President Esteban said. “We can model it on where we see health care going, which is the integrated approach to healthcare delivery.”

And the emphasis will be on preparing the kind of doctors both the nation, in general, and the state, in particular, are most in need of: primary care physicians. “They’re the ones who are going to coordinate your health care in the future, and that’s a great spot for someone who has a Seton Hall background,” said Esteban, whose own father was a primary care doctor who helped start a medical school in his native Philippines. “You get that sense of service that’s particular to a Catholic university and that’s what we hope to instill — that sense of giving back. That’s why we think they’re going to end up being in primary care, because if we’re successful in imbuing our values as a Catholic institution then I wouldn’t be surprised if more and more of our graduates decided to serve in a field where they’re going to impact the greatest number, and that tends to be primary care.”

That would please Dr. Levey, who retired in 2010 after serving 15 years as dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. “I think the country realizes now

that we do have a deficit,” said Levey, who was an early advocate for the cause of educating more general practitioners when he became chairman of the Department of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh in the late 1970s. “Whatever healthcare system we ultimately settle on, it’s very evident now that this country will at some point produce a good number of generalists. They better — it’s a real need.”

When Levey was a student, the medical school was in Jersey City, adjacent to Jersey City Medical Center, a location that made life easier, and cheaper, for him. “That’s the understatement of the year,” said Levey, who grew up on Van Houten Avenue in the city’s Greenville section, and lived at home as a medical student. “My mom’s cooking and having everything done, the laundry and everything else. It was really something special.”

The old medical school holds a prized spot in his memory. “We were very proud of that school,” he said. “It was a great bunch of young men and women trying to be successful. The students had that gung-ho spirit. It was just a very, very special time, I think, in all our lives.”

The old school was also special to Nicholas DeProspero, who first arrived at Seton Hall’s biology department in 1947, not long after serving as an Army medic in the Battle of the Bulge, and spent 25 years as the premed adviser for undergraduates. He was the founding dean of the School of Graduate Medical Education, which was renamed the School of Health and Medical Sciences. “I’m completely elated,” DeProspero said about plans for the new medical school. “It’s a dream come true. At age 91, it’s good to see something like this.” ■

Kevin Coyne is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.

When students are moving through Saint Benedict’s Preparatory School in Newark, between classes and at either end of the day, Father Edwin Leahy ’68 likes to station himself at one end of the main corridor. It is the pulpit from which he does some of his best preaching. “You working today?” he asked one the students hurrying past from an exam, grasping his shoulder. “Of course,” the student answered. “That’s the way to say it,” Father Leahy said, patting him on the back and propelling him on his way.

It was the next-to-last day before Christmas break, and the traffic inside Saint Benedict’s was two-way — current students heading out, former students heading in to offer greetings to the headmaster they know as Father Ed. “How’s school?” he asked one of the recent graduates back from his first semester at college. “It’s a lot of work.” “That’s the way life is, my friend,” Father Leahy said. “Come on. Courage.” “How’re the grades?” he asked another recent graduate. “Engineering? Fighting your way through, right? That’s what you’ve got to do, fight your way through.” Father Leahy’s voice is loud and raspy from decades of exhortations on behalf of the school where he has spent most of the last 56 years — to his fellow monks for the faith to resurrect Saint Benedict’s after it died in 1972; to alumni and other benefactors for the money to keep it alive; and to the students, most of them African-American and Latino, for the commitment demanded of them by the school that sends almost all of them to college. “It’s a good place, because everybody’s got to go by you,” Father Leahy said of his spot in the corridor. “The worst thing they ever created in a school is the office because it gets adults tucked away from the kids.” It’s a good place, too, because it gives him a view into the past — the spot at the far end of the corridor where he had an epiphany when he was himself a freshman. “Something told me I was home,” he said, marking the spot where he was standing in his first week at Saint Benedict’s in 1959. A sign of more recent vintage hangs on the wall above: “It’s a Wonderful Life,” in recognition of the movie whose schoolwide screening has become an annual Christmas ritual.



Guided by the Rule of Saint Benedict

THE SUCCESS OF FATHER EDWIN LEAHY ’68 IN RUNNING SAINT BENEDICT’S PREP IN NEWARK HAS GENERATED NATIONAL ATTENTION AND INSPIRED A NEW DOCUMENTARY.

“Now if I theologize about it, I guess it was the Holy Spirit. I just had this sense that this is where I belonged.” Founded in Newark by Benedictine monks in 1868, Saint Benedict’s educated the sons of successive waves of immigrant Catholics for more than a century. The front door on the brick building at 520 High Street, shaded by a Tiffany stained-glass awning, was their gateway to college and professional careers. But that gateway led away from Newark for most of its graduates, and as the city changed, the school did, too: There were fewer students, and more of them were African-American. During city riots in 1967, National Guardsmen slept in the gym. Enrollment dropped further. In 1972, after years of

internal dissent, 14 of the monks moved out of Newark Abbey, and the school closed. In 1973, the monks who remained reopened the school. Father Leahy, just 26 and not yet ordained, was headmaster then and is still. “When you reflect on it now, at 69 years old, you say to yourself, ‘What the heck were you thinking?’” Father Leahy said. “But the anger that I had motivated me. I thought that it was just too easy for people to interpret the closing of the school and blame it on African-Americans — ‘See, here’s another great institution that goes down the chute as soon as they start going to it’ — which wasn’t the case at all. It was a problem of a lack of faith and infighting within the community.”

The school’s mission — to offer a hand up to promising boys — didn’t change after it reopened, but its methods did. The students were more often from poor families and needed more scholarships, and from broken homes and needed more extracurricular guidance. The school itself needed more help, too, which came from wealthy alumni.

Saint Benedict’s grew in both size and stature, gaining attention far beyond Newark. The 12-acre campus now straddles both sides of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard — the former High Street — and includes a 60-room dorm that is home to students whose own homes are plagued by too many risks. After graduation, 98 percent of the students continue directly to an array of colleges that would induce envy in guidance counselors at the wealthiest suburban high school. This incredible record recently attracted a pair of Newark-based documentary filmmakers who wanted to show the rest of the nation what it might learn from a small band of monks whose vows have bound them to a battered city.

“They’re graduating their kids and sending them to college, and a college degree means a job and a job means a reduction in poverty — that’s concrete,” said Jerome Bongiorno, who with his wife, Marylou, chronicled Saint Benedict’s in “The Rule.” The documentary, which has been showing on public television nationally since the fall, takes its title from the 6th-century Rule of Saint Benedict that guides the lives of the monks, and that has shaped the school. It is a long document, with 73 chapters, but its core values can be summarized in a few words: “Prayer and work in community,” Father Leahy said.

“We felt so strongly that this was not a story only about the school, but about the monastic influence and impact on its evolution,” Marylou Bongiorno said.

Among the vows that Benedictines take is a vow of stability. “It’s the exact opposite of most religious congregations,” Father Leahy said. “We make a commitment to a place.”

The place he committed himself to, though, was initially hesitant to commit itself to him. An honor-roll student at Saint James School in Woodbridge, he did poorly on the admission test, and his application was rejected.

“So my father goes to the pastor and he writes a letter — ‘You’ll be helping a good Catholic family and I believe you’ll be fostering a vocation,’ ” he said. “So I get in, and I’m still here.”

In high school, he was a backup quarterback on the football team, swam, wrestled and played tennis, and graduated in 1963. After a year at a Benedictine college in Alabama and



PREVIOUS PAGE: Father Leahy surrounded by some of his students, 98 percent of whom go on to a host of prestigious universities after graduation. **ABOVE LEFT:** Father Leahy does some of his best preaching in the hallways of Saint Benedict’s Prep, here with students Franciss Chafart (left) and Troy Moore-Kasilag. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Father Leahy takes time from his administrative duties to share a joke with student Andrew Brice. *Photos by Michael Paras*

another at one in Minnesota, he entered the novitiate. He spent his final two undergraduate years at Seton Hall, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy in 1968, and was disappointed that his superiors wouldn’t let him try out for the football team. He was a commuter — taking the bus in from the abbey in Newark one year, driving in from the Benedictine abbey in Morristown the other year — and the classes that stuck with him longest were the ones that challenged him the way he challenges his students now.

“Most people, when they were in his class, the first day they ran out of it, but I loved the guy,” he said of an upper-level philosophy class with Professor Vincent J. Ferrara. “He was demanding as all get-out. I appreciated his insights and I also appreciated the level of expectation he had.” Father Leahy was similarly challenged by classes in genetics and art history. “I was a little bit in over my head; I knew that, but I just loved it.”

He had no training as an educator when he became headmaster at Saint Benedict’s, but he had learned much from watching the pastor whose letter had opened the door for him, Monsignor Charles McCorristin, who ruled his parish like a mayor for three decades — greeting the merchants as he walked the downtown streets each afternoon; handing out every report card at the school; taking note of which politicians turned up at midnight Mass on Christmas.



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“The town was Catholic, and he was going to make sure it stayed that way,” Father Leahy said.

Father Leahy has been similarly ubiquitous at Saint Benedict’s — presiding at his post in the corridor, patrolling the halls, cheering at the athletic events (the soccer and basketball teams are perennial powerhouses), greeting by name each of the 550 students and many of the 5,000 alumni, listening through the window of his room in the monastery, which overlooks the front door.

“They don’t know they’re telling me everything, even though I tell them, ‘Guys, watch out, I live at the front of the building,’ ” he said.

Because Saint Benedict’s has proved so good at a job that has proved so hard elsewhere — educating young men from the inner city, and steering them away from the traps that snare many of their peers — Father Leahy is often asked how other schools might do the same. “You need two things to have a chance at it,” he said: to have the people who run the school live at the school, and to be open around the clock, “like a diner.” Which sounds a lot like the Benedictine vow of stability.

“Nobody has cracked the code with young men, not even the best charter schools. We’ve probably come closer than anybody has, but we’re not knocking it out of the park every time either,” he said. “The people who think that I’m like the Delphic oracle on education, they don’t know what they’re talking about because I’m not that at all, not even close. All I know is how to try to accompany teenagers through this part of their life. That’s all we’re trying to do here.”

This year Father Leahy has begun to step back from daily administration — he has handed off to an assistant both his

office and his job of addressing the schoolwide convocation in the old gym that starts each day — to spend more time on broader tasks, like raising the \$5 million in donations he needs each year to keep Saint Benedict’s solvent, and thinking about the school’s future. There are 13 monks in the abbey now, less than half the number when the school reopened.

“Will we sustain it? We won’t — God does,” he said. “I don’t know where God will lead us, but if you told me 42 years ago that I’d be sitting here, I would have said you’re out of your mind, there’s no way that’s going to happen.”

As the fall semester was ending, he also had some smaller decisions to make. For many years it has been a tradition at the school to gather in the auditorium to watch “It’s a Wonderful Life” on the last day before Christmas break. But now there was a conflict: The school’s longtime nurse had died, and her funeral was scheduled for the same time in the adjacent church. Paying respects to the dead is important in the Saint Benedict’s community; just a week earlier eight buses had taken students to Saint James in Woodbridge for the funeral of Father Leahy’s mother.

“Nobody dies on schedule,” Father Leahy said. “What the kids need to learn is that they need to respond to people’s needs and people’s grief when they have it.”

The church would not hold all the students, so he made a Solomonic decision: The older students, who had already seen the movie, would go to the church. The younger ones would go to the auditorium, where they would see just how much of a mark one man’s life can leave on others. ■

Kevin Coyne is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.

The Long Road Home

Daisha Simmons at Seton Hall

For Daisha Simmons, a Jersey City native, the decision to transfer to Seton Hall University and use her final year of collegiate eligibility playing basketball with the Pirates made sense.

After graduating in December 2013 from the University of Alabama, Simmons learned that her older brother Chaz was facing a deteriorating health situation — he suffers from end-stage renal disease, which requires dialysis treatment several times per week and eventually necessitates a kidney transplant.

Her mother, Christena, who works two jobs — as a postal carrier in Jersey City and as a cashier at Target — was facing health problems of her own. By transferring to Seton Hall, Simmons could help her family, work toward earning her M.B.A., and play one final season of collegiate basketball.

Academically, Seton Hall offered an M.B.A. program with a sport management concentration that was appealing to Simmons. And on the court, the Pirates were a program on the rise, winning 20 games during the 2013–14 season and advancing to the WNIT Third Round for the first time.

Simmons' transfer request was not immediately supported by Alabama. Typically, once a student-athlete earns an undergraduate degree they can transfer and enroll in a graduate program at another NCAA institution and be eligible to compete immediately. However, because Simmons had transferred once before, a letter of support from Alabama would be required by the NCAA in order for Simmons to gain eligibility.

Simmons had begun her collegiate basketball career in 2010–11 at Rutgers University, and at the end of her first



season, she transferred to Alabama. After sitting out one year due to NCAA transfer rules, she started for two years, averaging 13.6 points per game during the 2013–14 campaign.

In an unprecedented move, the NCAA granted Simmons a sixth year of play — for what would be the 2015–16 season — something rarely seen, and never issued for a student-athlete who had never missed a season due to injury. That would mean Simmons could play for Seton Hall, but she would have to sit out a year first, unless Alabama reversed course and supported her decision to transfer.

Simmons turned 24 in early 2015, and although having that extra year was a relief, she was eager to finish her

A Glorious Season

The 2014–15 Seton Hall women's basketball season will go down in the record books as one of the finest in school history. Under the guidance of second-year head coach Anthony Bozzella '89, the Pirates made a return to national prominence.

Seton Hall saw its school-record 28-win season culminate with a trip to the 2015 NCAA Tournament, its first in two decades. The Pirates won the BIG EAST Regular Season Championship for the first time, and Bozzella was named the BIG EAST Coach of the Year.

Seton Hall had three players, Ka-Deidre Simmons, Janee Johnson and Daisha Simmons, earn All-BIG EAST accolades, the most all-conference honorees the program has ever produced.

collegiate career during the 2014–15 season, and continued to fight for the right to play at Seton Hall immediately.

Simmons' story initially drew media coverage locally in Alabama; then her struggles were chronicled by print outlets in New Jersey. But once her situation drew the attention of well-known members of the national media, such as ESPN's Keith Olbermann, Jay Bilas, Dick Vitale '62 and Mechelle Voepel, everything changed.

A letter supporting her decision to transfer was sent to the NCAA, and finally on Oct. 9, with the season-opener looming in just 30 days, Simmons was declared immediately eligible to compete for the Pirates.

Everything worked out for Simmons in the end. As a result of playing close to home, she was able to assist her family while juggling the stresses that accompany playing high-level Division I athletics and working toward a graduate degree. Her mother does not drive, so Simmons takes her brother to doctor's appointments when she can and helps run errands with the family.

"I'm thankful for everyone that spoke up about this situation," Simmons said, after being declared eligible to play. "It would have been easy to just go about life, but they chose to speak up and voice their opinion, not only for me, but for the well-being of student-athletes, and I thought that was terrific." ■

FOUGHT TO PLAY: (Above) Simmons, seen here huddled with her teammates, made the most of her unique opportunity, earning the title 2015 BIG EAST Defensive Player of the Year. (Below) The women's basketball team won a school-record 28 games during the 2014–15 season.

Photos by Gabe Rhodes, M.A.E. '06





WINNING SEASON: (Above) Senior Shelbey Manthorpe added to her list of career accomplishments in February when she was named Seton Hall's first-ever BIG EAST Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year. (Facing page) Junior Amanda Hansen (left) and sophomore Danielle Schroeder will attempt to repeat their success next season.

A First for Volleyball

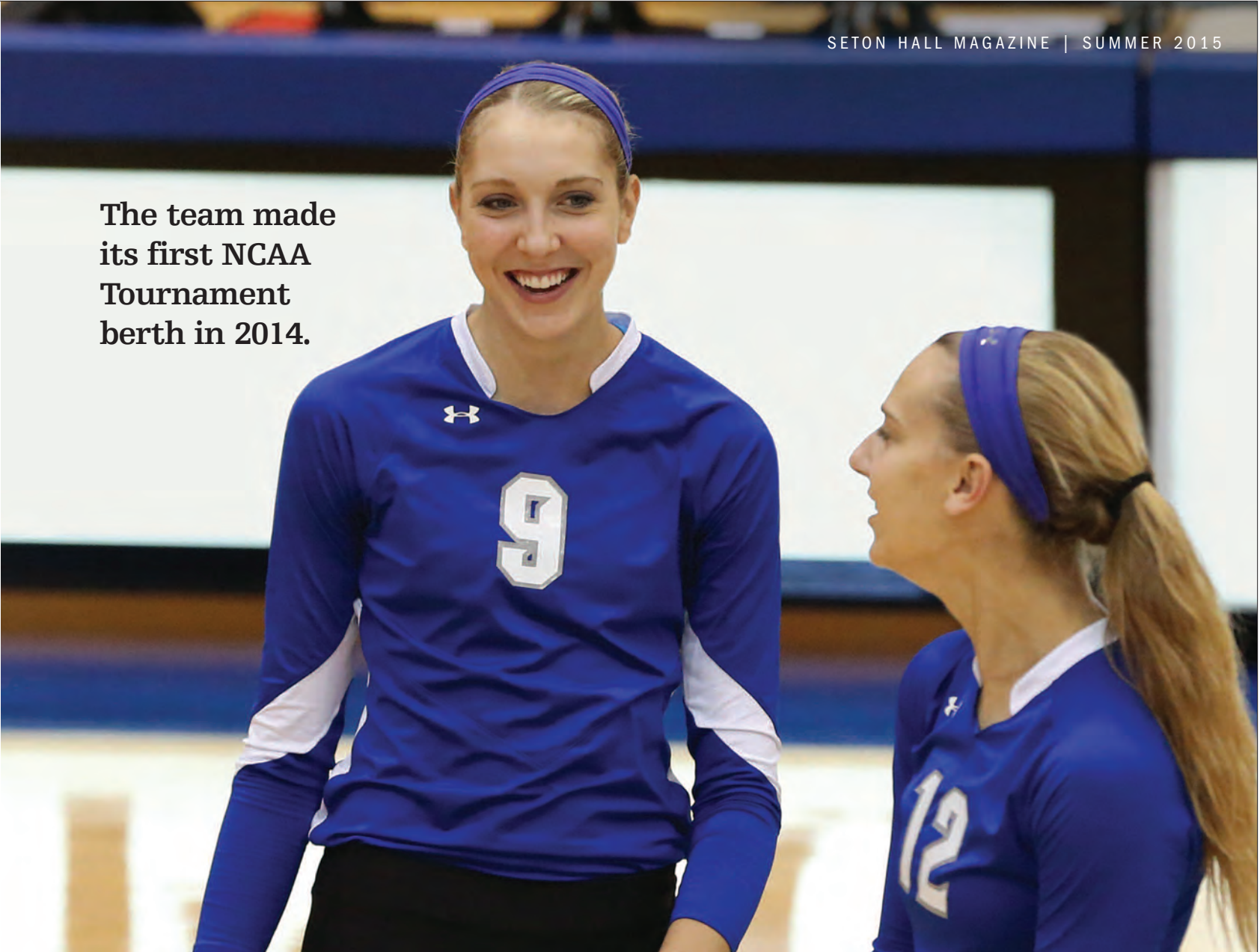
While a number of Seton Hall's athletics teams enjoyed success in the 2014-15 season, one notable surprise was women's volleyball. All but one of the previous year's players returned to the team, led by third-year head coach Allison Yaeger. The team — known for its defense — did lose staunch defender Alyssa Warren, a two-time BIG EAST Libero of the Year.

But the team did not lose stride. Sophomore Tessa Fournier stepped into Warren's starting role, and the team saw a 12-win increase from 2013. They finished with a 28-8 final record overall, earning the second-most wins in the program's history, and marking just the third time in team history it had a single-digit loss season. Seton Hall's 15-3 BIG EAST Conference record was also a program record; the Pirates' previous best in conference play had been just eight wins. Qualifying for the BIG EAST Tournament for the first time since 2011, Seton Hall finished as runner-up for the third time ever and first time since 1994.

Most notably, the team made its first-ever NCAA Tournament berth in 2014, earning an at-large bid and facing the eventual national runner-up, Brigham Young University, in Tucson, Ariz., on Dec. 4. Seton Hall's improvement of 12 wins over 2013 is tied for the fourth-best turnaround in the NCAA last year and further stamped Yaeger's credentials for BIG EAST and AVCA Regional Coach of the Year. The team's memorable run marked the end of the collegiate careers of six seniors: Sam Duncan, Jamie Froning, Simona Sekulova, Ashani Rubin and twins Shelbey Manthorpe and Stacey Manthorpe.

As a senior, Rubin emerged as one of the best middle blockers in the country. The Philadelphia native led the BIG EAST with 1.43 blocks per set and ranked second in the nation with 189 total blocks, the second-highest single-season total in Seton Hall history. Shelbey Manthorpe became the first player in school history to earn post-season All-BIG EAST honors in all four seasons. She is also the first female student-athlete at Seton Hall to be named BIG EAST

The team made its first NCAA Tournament berth in 2014.



scholar-athlete of the year. Named to the BIG EAST All-Tournament Team, she finished the season ranked third in assists per set and 14th in digs per set. One of only four players in Seton Hall history to have more than 4,000 career assists, she is the only player to have had more than 4,000 assists and 1,400 digs. Stacey Manthorpe earned All-Conference honors for the third time in 2014, becoming Seton Hall's third First Teamer. She was named BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Week on Nov. 3 and was on the BIG EAST Weekly Honor Roll five times during the season. Named to the BIG EAST All-Tournament Team, Stacey led the Pirates with 22 double-doubles in 2014. She finished sixth in kills per set and 11th in digs per set. Stacey graduates as the only player in Seton Hall history to rank in the career top-five in both kills and digs.

Among those players returning to the team in 2015, Fournier shined in her first season as starting Libero. The Redondo Beach, Calif., native was named BIG EAST Libero of the Year and to the All-Conference First Team. She led the BIG EAST in digs and digs per game, and her 5.38 per set ranked 14th in the nation. Fournier tied Seton Hall's single-match record with 45 digs vs. DePaul on Nov. 15 and she broke the Pirates' single-season record with an even 700 digs, fifth-most in the nation, in 2014. Amanda Hansen, a record fourth all-BIG EAST selection in 2014, will also return for her senior season in 2015. The 6-foot-2 middle blocker led the Pirates and ranked fourth in the BIG EAST in attack percentage. Hansen also ranked fourth in the conference in total blocks and blocks per set. ■

Photos by Gabe Rhodes, M.A.E. '06



80s

Dr. Timothy Arnold, M.S. '80/M.A.E. '93 was named chief medical officer at Alliance Health Center in Meridian, Miss. ... **Timothy Gearty, M.B.A. '80/J.D. '83** was recognized as one of the Top 100 People of Influence in the Accounting Profession by *Accounting Today*. ... **The Honorable Mary Gibbons Whipple, J.D. '81** was assigned to the Superior Court's Appellate Division, New Jersey's intermediate appellate court. ... **Bob Leszczak '81** wrote two books titled *The Odd Couple on Stage and Screen* and *The Encyclopedia of Pop Music Aliases 1950–2000*. ... **David L. Coppola '83** was inaugurated as the 10th president of Keystone College in La Plume, Pa. ... **Donna M. Cusano '83** was appointed head of field communications at Sanofi in Bridgewater, N.J. ... **Vito J. DiGiovanni '84** was appointed chair of the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies Board of Advisors at the Stillman School of Business. ... **Doreen Fitzpatrick '84** achieved certification as a diabetes nurse educator. ... **Michael K. Gilchrist '84** was named president of the Morris/Sussex chapter of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants. ... **Dr. Joseph V. Gulfo '84/M.B.A. '95**, CEO of Breakthrough Medical Innovations, was featured as part of a panel of medical technology experts by Pannam Imaging. ... **Ann Noble '84** was appointed the first female member of the board of directors for Manasquan Savings Bank. ... **Michael B. Zerres '84** was designated “Lawyer of the Year” for Plaintiff Medical Malpractice Law in the Newark metropolitan area by *Best Lawyers*. ... **Nadine Eissler, J.D. '85** was a speaker at the 2014 Claims & Litigation Management Alliance Claims College. ... **James Orsini '85** was named chief integration officer for VaynerMedia LLC. ... **Greg DiGiovine, M.B.A. '86** was named energy adviser for USource, an energy advising firm. ... **Paul Napoli, M.B.A. '86** was named vice president of power markets for PSEG Long Island. ... **John T. Saccoman '86** and **Daniel J. Gross '77** co-authored a book titled *Spanning Tree Results for Graphs and Multigraphs: A Matrix-Theoretic Approach*. ... **Jane Katirgis '87** wrote two children's books in the “STEM Jobs You'll Love” series titled *STEM Jobs with Cars* and *STEM Jobs in Food and Nutrition*. ... **Robert G. Stefan '87** started a company called After All These Years, Senior Transportation Inc., which provides homebound seniors personal transportation at reduced rates. ... **Dr. Dominick Zampino '87** was named medical director of academic affairs and program director at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center in Pomona, N.J. ... **Pamela Caporale Falcone, M.A.E. '89** wrote a children's book titled *Epiphany: The Twelve Gifts of Christmas*. ... **Madeline Cox Arleo, J.D. '89** was unanimously confirmed by

Weddings: (Clockwise from top left) Andrea Kieko Martin '11 and George Courtemanche '11 married April 25, 2014. Karissa Genovese '07 and Rory Cummings '05 married September 13, 2014. Rachel Misenko '08 and Jason Cosma '08 married May 24, 2014. Robin Danyus '07/M.A.E. '11 and Ryan Bramwell married July 12, 2013. Sloane Miller '09 and Richard Boyce married April 12, 2014.

the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Commission by Gov. Chris Christie. ... **Arthur Doweyko '69** wrote a book about the world beyond Earth titled *Algorithm*.

70s

Frederick Nugent, J.D. '71 is a member of the Santa Fe, N.M., Community College Foundation board. ... **George B. Babula, M.A.E. '72** was elected to the Harmony Township, N.J., Board of Education. ... **Alan Maio '72** was sworn into the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County, Fla. ... **Joseph S. Boschi, M.B.A. '74** published a book titled *The Puzzle*. ... **Anthony Principi, J.D. '75** was appointed to the board of the Talbot Hospice Foundation in Easton, Md. ... **Roger Newman '76** wrote a novel titled *Occam's Razor*. ... **Andrew Alcorn '77/J.D. '80** was elected to the national board of directors of Prevent Blindness. ... **Daniel J. Gross '77** and **John T. Saccoman '86** co-authored a book titled *Spanning Tree Results for Graphs and Multigraphs: A Matrix-Theoretic Approach*. ... **Brian Alleman '78** was appointed as chief financial officer of Zynex Inc., a medical technology company. ... **Thomas Massarelli '79/M.A.E. '84/Ed.S. '88/Ph.D. '98** received the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award from the New Jersey Psychological Association and the Professional Development Award of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society.

40s

Seymour Miller '49 received the Distinguished Service Medal from New Jersey for service during World War II.

50s

Ralph Conte '50/M.A.T. '00, the first Democratic mayor in Bloomfield, N.J.'s history, discussed the programs, policies, successes and disappointments of his administration in the 1960s at a program presented by the Historical Society of Bloomfield. ... **Joseph C. Kennedy '50** wrote a novel titled *A Hoarse Half-Human Cheer: An Entertainment* under the pen name X.J. Kennedy. ... **John J. Mooney '55** received the Research & Development Council of New Jersey's highest award, the Science & Technology Medal.

60s

Maria Mazziotti Gillan '61 wrote and illustrated a collection of poems and paintings titled *The Girls in the Chartreuse Jackets*. ... **Shirley R. Carvatt '62** wrote a book titled *Skirmish at Van Nest's Mill*. ... **Joseph G. Bilby '65/M.A. '82** co-authored a book titled *Hidden History of New Jersey at War*. ... **Jim Gleason '66** celebrated the 20th anniversary of his heart transplant. ... **Albert F. Inserra '67/M.S. '69** was appointed president of Dowling College in Oakdale, N.Y. ... **Ray Chambers, M.B.A. '68** was appointed to



Technological advancements have exploded in professional sports, and the NBA is no exception. Coaches and team owners today understand how technology can create a significant competitive advantage.

At the heart of the Brooklyn Nets' efforts to capitalize on these developments is Brennan Blair '12.

As coordinator of basketball technology, the self-described “utility man” supports the team's front-office operations by scouting for the Nets throughout the Northeast, managing video operations and overseeing the operation of the Barclays Center's six SportVU cameras.

The SportVU system, developed by sports data firm STATS, was installed throughout the league at the start of the 2013–14 season. This revolutionary system precisely tracks the positions of players and the ball and uses the data to produce statistics on everything from player separation to the effectiveness of different defensive alignments with previously impossible accuracy.

“The last five to 10 years have seen a flood of information become available,” Blair says. “The next five to 10 years will be working on how to code the data to get the most useful information from it.”

Blair notes that these changes will be seen not only in the front offices of the NBA, but by fans as well. The SportVU system allows commentators to infuse live game coverage with more real-time statistics. More content is also available to fans on mobile devices, giving them a courtside experience wherever they go — without the expense of courtside seats.

To see how similar technology is used in other sports, Blair attends a comprehensive conference each year. He is particularly interested in the European soccer clubs, who he says use a system much like SportVU, but have to track 11 players, compared to basketball's five.

The greatest challenge of the job, Blair says, is the hypercompetitive nature of professional sports — “Whatever you do, 29 other teams are trying to do, only better.”

Yet Blair feels well-prepared for this environment thanks to his experiences at Seton Hall, both in the classroom and through multiple internships with the Nets. He identifies Sports Management Center director Ann Mayo and associate professor of sport marketing Laurence McCarthy as having particular influence on his blossoming career. “They run a great sport management program — probably one of the best in the nation,” he says. ■

| WILLIAM F. GOLBA

Alumni Website Gets a Makeover

Seton Hall is overhauling the alumni website to create a more relevant, dynamic experience. The completely redesigned site will feature a wide range of content to explore — from special events and services to social media and recognition programs. Here are some of the highlights:

- A new homepage at alumni.shu.edu
- New, mobile responsive, accessible pages
- An updated portal to manage alumni profiles and preferences
- New, integrated connections to social media accounts

Look for the new site at alumni.shu.edu in the coming weeks.

the U.S. Senate as a U.S. district judge. ... **David L. Flood '89/M.A. '95** was elected chair of the board of directors of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy. ... **Lisa Gross, M.A.E. '89/M.A.E. '03** was appointed superintendent for the K-6 Lester C. Noecker School in Roseland, N.J. ... **Katherine E. Howes, J.D. '89** was promoted to municipal court judge for the Borough of South Plainfield, N.J. ... **Eileen Loftus-Berlin, M.B.A. '89** was appointed vice president, budgeting and student accounts, at Berkeley College. ... **Dawn M. Mrozak '89** completed her doctorate in marketing from Pace University in December 2013. She is an adjunct professor of strategic innovation at Farleigh Dickinson University's graduate school of business, and also serves as a marketing director for Deloitte's consulting business.

90s

Robert Gula, M.B.A. '91 was appointed managing director and chief financial officer of World Business Leaders. ... **Shannon Morris '92/M.A. '94** was appointed vice chair of the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies Board of Advisors at the Stillman School of Business. ... **David A. Pupa '94** wrote a book titled *The Magician*. ... **Laura Prendergast, M.S.T. '95** joined Ernst & Young's Tax Controversy and Risk Management Services group as an executive director in the Iselin, N.J., office. ... **Niobia Bryant '96/'97** launched an urban fiction series under her pseudonym Meesha Mink. ... **Jeralyn L. Lawrence, J.D. '96** was named president-elect of the Somerset County Bar Association and was selected to receive the 2014 New Jersey State Bar Association Distinguished Legislative Service Award. ... **C. Justin Romano '96/M.A. '99** wrote a book titled *The Guildmaster's Gauntlet*. ... **Teresha Hughes '97** wrote a book titled *Where is Sungi Bear?* ... **Colleen Patrick-Goudreau, M.A. '97** wrote a book titled *The 30-Day Vegan Challenge*. ... **Paul Antogiovanni '98** was appointed to senior vice president of oncology products for Millennium Healthcare Inc. ... **Denise Fochesto, M.S.N. '98** joined Newton Medical Center as director of nursing and operations. ... **Neil Mody '98/J.D. '01** was named one of "40 Under 40" by *NJBIZ*. ... **Chantel Robinson, M.B.A. '98/M.S. '99** was promoted to the executive management team at MILSPRAY Military Technologies. ... **James Walters, M.A. '98** was one of the first two African Americans promoted to sergeant in the Hamilton Township Police Department in Mercer County, N.J. ... **Roger A. Demareski, M.B.A. '99** was named vice president for finance and administration at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa. ... **Jennifer Lowney '98/M.A. '00** joined Citi as the head of corporate communications. ... **Fruqan Mouzon, J.D. '98**, of Gibbons P.C., was named general counsel of the New Jersey Senate Democratic Majority Office. ... **Beatriz M. Manetta, M.S. '99**, president and CEO of Argent Associates Inc., was named a recipient of the 2015 Enterprising Women of the Year Award in the "Over \$100 Million in Annual Revenues" category by *Enterprising Women*. ... **Bob F. Muscillo '99** was named vice president and assistant KYC/CIP (Know Your Customer/Customer Identification Program) officer in the U.S. financial security division of the French bank BNP Paribas. ... **Nicole Olaya '99**

was appointed director of internal loan review for Columbia Bank. ... **Andy Solages '99** was named an account executive for eLynxx Solutions of Chambersburg, Pa. ... **Dr. Theodore Zaleski, J.D. '99** was appointed vice president of clinical effectiveness for Southern Ocean Medical Center in Manahawkin, N.J.

00s

Matthew LaManna '00 was promoted to sergeant in the Parsippany, N.J., Police Department. ... **Ramy A. Eid, J.D. '01** was appointed by the Jersey City, N.J., mayor as a municipal judge and is the first Egyptian-American municipal court judge in Hudson County. ... **Frank Ng '01** wrote a book titled *Buddha the Bachatero: The Eastern Wisdom of Latin Rhythm*. ... **Kevin Smith, M.A.E. '01** was named superintendent of Wilton, Conn., Public Schools. ... **Susan Castor, M.S. '02** was a recipient of the Nurse Executive Award by the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses. ... **Karen Wetherell, Ed.D. '02** was appointed principal of the J. Ackerman Coles Elementary School in Scotch Plains, N.J. ... **Obadiah English, J.D. '03** was promoted to partner at Mannion Prior LLP, a King of Prussia, Pa., law firm. ... **Simon Filip '03/M.S. '03/M.S. '11** was named senior tax manager at Kreinces Rollins & Shanker LLC, a Paramus, N.J., accounting firm. ... **Peter Litchka, Ed.D. '03** co-authored a book titled *Living on the Horns of Dilemmas: Superintendents, Politics and Decision-Making*. ... **Sergio D. Simoes '03** was named partner at the law firm Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper in Westfield, N.J. ... **Paul Tyahla '03** was named vice president at The Marcus Group Inc., a Little Falls, N.J., public relations firm. ... **Nicole Pullis '04/M.S. '05** was appointed controller for Archive Systems Inc., a Fairfield, N.J., records management company. ... **Dr. David Rosenthal, M.H.A. '04** was named medical director of Value Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania. ... **Alex Paul Genato, J.D. '05** was promoted to partner at the law firm Archer & Greiner. ... **Daniel Ibarrondo, Ed.S. '05** created an online program that teaches teachers how to design online and hybrid courses. ... **Shaneah M. Taylor '05** wrote a collection of spoken word poems, *Medicinal Microphone: Spoken Word Messages to Heal the Spirit*. ... **Michael W. Cole '06/M.S. '07/J.D. '13** spoke at the Minnesota State Bar Tax Conference and the Minnesota Society of CPAs Tax Conference. ... **C. Lauren Schoen, Ed.D. '06**, superintendent of the Mahwah K-12 school district, was named the 2015 New Jersey Association of School Administrators Northern Regional Superintendent of the Year. ... **Juan Torres, M.A.E. '06** was named to the Raritan Valley, N.J., Community College Board of Trustees. ... **Gayle Barge, M.A. '07** was appointed vice president of institutional advancement at Bellevue College in Bellevue, Wash. ... **Andrew Hoffman, M.A.E. '07** opened a new private marriage and family therapy practice in Livingston, N.J. ... **Genevieve Yhap-Zebro '07** took two photos that were chosen for the "Sandy's Wake-up Call" exhibition that was displayed in the Bernardsville, N.J., Public Library. ... **Vivian C.R. James, M.P.A. '08** is director of development for the South Orange Performing Arts Center. ... **Christopher Affinito '09** was sworn into the Berkeley Heights, N.J., Police Department.

Photo by Greg Leshe

Parents Show Their Pirate Pride



Legacy families are an inevitable result of True Blue Pirate pride. As Seton Hall alumni share their love of the University with their families, that pride is passed from generation to generation. Roger Clark '84 is one such alumnus whose son, Phillip, is a freshman at Seton Hall. His wife, Kathy, has been able to see the love of Seton Hall grow in both Roger and, now, their son. Here, the couple shares their story.

The Meaning of True Blue: Being True Blue means I'm still connected to the University no matter how old I get. It means I honor the commitment Seton Hall made to me when I was here and give back to Seton Hall. [Because my son is now a student here] it is also a way to make sure I am still connected in my son's life as he matures and grows. – Roger

Love for Seton Hall: My son's eyes lit up when he saw the chapel. He really loves the chapel and the family feeling you get when you step onto campus. – Kathy

The spirit of Seton Hall stays with you. I'm very hopeful that my granddaughter — who's almost 2 years old — may someday be a Pirate as well. – Roger

Showing Pride: I show my Pirate pride through my alumni license plate that says "Seton Hall," and by participating in University events and giving back. – Roger

Why I Give Back: It costs money to have a good University and to continue to expand it. For those who haven't been here and haven't seen it [lately], the transformations that continue to happen are amazing. Each year I come back it's different.

I think it's important for all of us who have benefited [from Seton Hall] to find those things that we can give back to and support. Seton Hall is a place where I think my money is well served. [A gift from me] provides a benefit to future students, to this campus, and to what this University means. So as I try and determine where I'll give back to honor those who have given to me, Seton Hall is one of the places I choose. – Roger ■

| PAMELA M. DUNGEE, M.A. '04
AND WILLIAM F. GOLBA

The True Blue program recognizes alumni, students, parents and friends who are involved with the University each year. For more information go to www.shu.edu/trueblue.



Do you 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.

10s

Barbara B. Blozen, Ed.D. '10 was appointed to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing by Gov. Chris Christie. ... **Kevin Donnelly, M.A.E. '10** was named director of admissions and financial aid for the Ranney School in Tinton Falls, N.J. ... **Wesley Escondo, M.A. '10** was named chief executive officer of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Wisconsin. ... **Valerie Persinger '10** was promoted to manager of business operations of the East Coast Hockey League. ... **Bianca Falcone '11** presented her award-winning thesis, "Finding Redemption in Captivity: The Role of Women as 'Spiritual Dependents' in New England Captivity Narratives" to the Livingston, N.J., Historical Society. ... **Samuel Gardner III, M.A. '11** joined CBS 3 and The CW Philly's *Eyewitness News Team* as assignment manager. ... **Adenike Ashley Gbadamosi, M.S.N. '11** was honored by the New Jersey League for Nursing with the 2014 Nurse Recognition Award. ... **Emily Meredith, J.D. '12** was promoted to vice president of communications and membership of the Animal Agriculture Alliance. ... **Nick Barnes, M.S. '13** joined the tax department of the accounting firm Dannible and McKee LLP of Syracuse, N.Y. ... **Myron Cox, M.A. '13** was sworn in as a sergeant of the North Brunswick, N.J., Police Department. ... **Marc M. Aquino '14** graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio, Texas. ... **Earlene Cruz '14** won the Innovation Award at the 2014 New Jersey Small Business Internet Marketing Week Pitch Competition. ... **Ashley Duvall '14, Jessica Fahey '14 and Angela Yee '14** were among the first to pass the Certificate in Principles of Public Relations test through the Universal Accreditation Board, administered by the Public Relations Society of America. ... **Elizabeth A. Matecki, J.D. '14** was admitted to the New Jersey Bar. ... **Kyle Saverance, M.A. '14** was appointed vice president for marketing and communications at Coker College in Hartsville, S.C.

Marriages

Michelle Novak '94/M.S. '02 to Robert Bischoff on January 10, 2014
Amy Mellin '02 to Bret Kerlin on October 31, 2014
Evanie A. Figueroa '06 to Edward William Kulesza II on May 2, 2014
Robin Danyus '07/M.A.E. '11 to Ryan Bramwell on July 12, 2013
Karissa Genovese '07 to **Rory Cummings '05** on September 13, 2014
Rachel Misenko '08 to **Jason Cosma '08** on May 24, 2014
Bradley J. Nolan '09 to Michelle Vitale on October 19, 2014
Sloane Miller '09 to Richard Boyce on April 12, 2014
Jessica L. Hill '11 to **Daniel Chin '08** on November 15, 2014
Andrea Kieko Martin '11 to **George Courtemanche '11** on April 25, 2014

Baby Pirates

Christine (Del'Re) Rue '00 and **Alan '01**, a girl, Peyton Ann, on July 21, 2014
Lizette (Graiff) Goodman '01/M.B.A. '05 and **Brian, J.D. '05**, a boy, Brady Robert, on April 16, 2014
Jamie (Nardino) Macaluso '01 and Jason, a girl, Juliana Carmella, on June 5, 2014
Aliza (Grutt) Gratale '03 and **Michael '03**, a girl, Ashlyn Mina, on July 30, 2014
Vanessa (Musella) Schubring '04 and **Richard '03**, a girl, Rebecca, on September 30, 2014
Brian D. Stanchak '04 and Kristen, a boy, Mason Brian, on November 17, 2014
Michelle (Sabey) Day '05 and **Mike '03/M.P.A. '05**, twins, Kendall and Kiersten, on May 30, 2014
Kristin (Onimus) Moroney '05/M.A.E. '11 and **Sean '06**, a boy, Kellen, on May 13, 2014
Melissa (Selman) Donovan '08/M.S. '10 and **Patrick '08**, a girl, Mckenzie Elizabeth, on April 9, 2014
Steve Quigley, M.B.A. '10 and Dawn, a boy, Luke, on June 21, 2014.



Baby Blues: 1. Rebecca, daughter of Vanessa (Musella) Schubring '04 and Richard '03. 2. Mckenzie Elizabeth, daughter of Melissa (Selman) Donovan '08/M.S. '10 and Patrick '08. 3. Juliana Carmella, daughter of Jamie (Nardino) Macaluso '01 and Jason. 4. Melissa '00, Susan '70, and Robert Warcholik '03, with Robert's daughter, Rebecca. 5. Ashlyn Mina, daughter of Aliza (Grutt) Gratale '03 and Michael '03. 6. Kellen, son of Kristin (Onimus) Moroney '05/M.A.E. '11 and Sean '06. 7. Luke, son of Steve Quigley, M.B.A. '10 and Dawn. 8. Kendall and Kiersten, watched over by parents Michelle (Sabey) Day '05 and Mike '03/M.P.A. '05.

Celebrating the Class of 1965



Golden Pirates Reunion
Sunday, October 4, 2015

Come home to The Hall during Seton Hall Weekend for special reunion activities and an opportunity to get reacquainted with your classmates.

Golden Pirates include all alumni who attended or graduated from Seton Hall more than 50 years ago, as well as members of the priest community, retired faculty, staff and administrators.

For more information about the event or to serve on the committee, contact Carol Ann Koert at carolann.koert@shu.edu or 973-378-9849.

In Memoriam

Franklin D. Freda '41
John F. Merrigan '48
Charles M. Alberto Sr. '49
Arthur C. Barletta '49
Mortimer W. Berliner '49
James J. Halton Jr. '49
Robert W. Jenkinson '49
Anthony J. Mazziotti Sr. '49
Patrick Sharkey '49
John F. Ward '49
Edward P. Brogan '50
Leonard J. DiMaio '50
William J. Dolan '50
Arthur W. Engelberger Jr. '50
Robert S. Gruchacz '50
Robert Poeltler '50
Fred M. Benjamin '51
Robert I. Berridge '51
Americo Bonavita '51
Joseph P. DePalma Jr. '51
Thomas C. Fanning '51
Charles F. Fortunato '51
James J. Hannan '51
Chester R. Kosarek '51
Joseph W. Duff '52
Carmen T. Melone '52
Father John D. Sweeney '52
George E. Tompkins '52
Judith Adler, M.A.E. '54
Joseph A. Byrnes '54
Peter J. Dwyer '54
Edward J. Jachim '54
Robert M. Chmely '55
Edward P. Clemens '55
Donald C. Fox '55
William J. Ward, M.A.E. '55
Peter T. Baab '56
Alfred C. Coppola '56
Jane R. Larkin, M.A.E. '56
Elizabeth A. McGowan '56
Marie E. King '57

Agnes N. Parisek '57
Hirsch L. Silverman, M.A.E. '57
John C. Turnbach '57
Elizabeth S. Breza '58
Kenneth S. Kramer '58
Hugh M. Leonard '58/J.D. '63
Catherine Rotonda '58/M.A.E. '60
Robert J. Goldsack '59
Thomas E. Hess '59/M.B.A. '67
Walter J. Pietrucha '59
Bertram J. Ryan '59
Joseph N. DeSantis, M.B.A. '60
Donald W. Jackson '60
Richard F. Kroeper '60
Orlando Mainero '60
Anthony T. Melillo '60
John Scholan, M.D. '60
Sandra A. Adinaro '61
Monsignor James M. Cafone '61/
M.A. '67
Jerry H. Gutwetter, M.A.E. '61
Joseph K. Hynes '61
Alfred G. Martz '61
Richard L. Ocleppo '61
William J. Wiedmuller '61
Manuel Garcia '62
Marilyn M. Hare '62
William F. Rhatican '62
William J. Woods '62
John G. Bruckman, M.S. '63
Robert J. Burns '63
John E. Maguire '63
Michael A. Nigro Jr. '63
Angelo A. Rancatti Jr. '63/M.A.E. '68
Alfred R. Triano '63
Warren E. Baunach '64
James Capobianco '64
Sister Mary Garozzo '64
Spencer N. Madsen Sr. '64
Kathleen M. Ryff-Noto '64
Sister Mary Pagano '64

Albert Zarbetski '64
John J. Negrotto '65
Father Mark A. O'Connell '65/
M.A.T. '79
Carson Carr, M.A.E. '65
Michael P. Kenny '66
Father Victor J. Mazza '66
Sister Mary Fattorusso '67
John W. Finamore Jr. '67
George H. Ahlers, M.A.E. '68
Corinne S. Flammer, M.A.E. '68
Bob C. Miliaresis, M.B.A. '68
George Dominguez, J.D. '69
Claire Kontje '69
Mary M. Laird, M.A.E. '69
Steven C. Rubin, J.D. '69
Tyrone Barnes '70
Nicholas L. DePalma '70
Allan J. Peccatiello '70
Thomas E. Resetar '70
Edward J. Gilhooly, J.D. '71
Michael O. Kelly '71
George R. Craig Jr., M.B.A. '72
Joseph E. Lofgren '72
Clarence C. Ricks Jr. '72
Barbara Vigorito '72
Sheila McCormick, M.A.E. '73
Richard J. Nick, M.B.A. '73
Alan G. Rosenkrans '73/J.D. '87
Stephan P. Hardin '74
Rebecca Kingslow, M.A.E. '74
Patricia Murphy '74/M.S.N. '79
Thomas S. Zyckowski, J.D. '74
James Finn '75
Jeanne M. Kirsch '75
Peter P. Muscato, J.D. '75
Grace S. Sowinski, M.A.E. '75
Timothy J. Callahan, J.D. '76
Erma P. Smith, M.A.E. '76
Catherine Bailey, M.A.E. '77
William Dumansky Jr., M.B.A. '77

James S. Hill Jr., M.B.A. '77
Peter L. Kwietniak '77
Sister Reginata Nowicka, M.A.E. '77
Vincent F. Ascolese, M.A.E. '78
Margaret F. Gillen, J.D. '78
John J. Cantagallo '79
William M. Carolan '80
Mabel W. Smith, M.S.N. '80
Maren S. Toth, M.A.E. '80
Diana C. Fenton '81
Louise F. Nuttman, M.S.N. '81
John M. Dragula Jr. '82
Raymond J. Heaney '82
Rosemary A. Barraco, J.D. '83
Ronald Zappia '83
James Goerl '84
Mildred Thompson, M.S.N. '84
Stephen A. Traylor, J.D. '84
Lillard E. Law, J.D. '85
John A. Opar, J.D. '85
Sister Clare Pisaneschi, M.A. '86
Mary C. Hare, M.A.T. '89
Thomas C. Opalack, M.A.E. '90
James Forrester '94
Father Stephen J. Duffe, M.Div. '96
Marilyn E. McGrath, Ed.D. '96
Donna T. Tamayne, J.D. '98
Judith E. Malinowski, Ph.D. '02
Curtina McQueen, J.D. '02
Francis J. Kowalski, Ed.S. '03
Abigail L. Zappel, M.S. '05
Craig A. Bahrs Jr., M.A. '09
Brian K. Day, J.D. '12



Photo by Milan Stanic '11

IN MEMORIAM

Monsignor James M. Cafone '61/M.A. '67 1938 – 2015

Over the past several years, my family and I got to know Monsignor Cafone very well. His infectious smile, warmth and great sense of humor endeared him to us and many others.

However, what struck us most was his love not just for the Seton Hall community but his love for life and everything God created. I am reminded of Saint John of the Cross who wrote, “In the evening of our life, we shall be judged on love.”

Monsignor Cafone served as a member of the University's Board of Regents and Board of Trustees since 2005 and as a faculty member and administrator for 43 years. He served as minister to the priest community for 15 years.

Ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Newark in 1965, Monsignor Cafone was known to generations of Seton Hall students. For many years he taught more students than any other teacher at the University, and his courses were repeatedly over-subscribed.

He was awarded the McQuaid Medal for Administrative Service in 2012. He also received the Administrative Merit Award for Extraordinary Service to Seton Hall University and the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Seminary.

In his ministry as a priest, Monsignor Cafone relished the faith-filled life demanded by his vocation, and as a friend, teacher, counselor and colleague of many in our community he displayed the commitment and compassion of a true son of Seton Hall. He frequently preached Lenten series and served as weekend assistant to many local parishes including Our Lady of Sorrows parish in South Orange and Saint Anne's parish in Raritan. Serving as a sacramental minister for the Office of Campus Ministry, he assisted students with advice and counsel.

Monsignor Cafone was a servant leader in every sense of the word.

He earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in educational administration and supervision from Seton Hall, and a doctoral degree (S.T.D.) in moral and spiritual theology from the Catholic University of America.

We raise our prayers to heaven for his family, brother priests, Seton Hall alumni and faithful friends whom he has left with hearts full of gratitude for his time among us.

– President A. Gabriel Esteban



IN MEMORIAM

Adrian (Bud) Foley '43 1922 – 2015

Adrian (Bud) Foley Jr. '43, a prominent member of the New Jersey legal and political community and long-time Seton Hall supporter, died February 9 at his home in Essex Fells, N.J., just three weeks after his 93rd birthday.

One of New Jersey's top lawyers for more than 60 years, he was described in a *New York Times* article as one of the 15 most powerful men in the state. A founding partner of Connell Foley LLP, he was a gubernatorial appointee who led the state's Constitutional Convention in 1966 and oversaw the early financing for Giants Stadium, among other accomplishments.

He was very active in the University community as well, serving on the Board of Trustees from 1969 to 1980, and as regent emeritus from 2003 to 2012. Among his many other roles, he was associate chair for special gifts and foundation relations for

Seton Hall's 1967 fundraising campaign, and a member of the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology Board of Overseers from 1985 to 1996.

Included among his many lifetime achievements were the University's Many Are One Most Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1985 and Seton Hall Law School's Thomas More Medal in 1994.

He attended Saint Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, then graduated cum laude from Seton Hall. He earned his law degree from Columbia Law School in 1947 after returning home from World War II as a decorated veteran of the Army Air Corps.

For many years he served as legal counsel to the Archdiocese of Newark, which awarded him a Medal of Service. He was a lector, Eucharistic minister and daily communicant at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church in Roseland, N.J.

Friends of the University

Margaret Harkness
Rosemary Lizza

Pirate Pride

Clockwise from top left: Buonaguro Pirate reunion on the Jersey Shore: (left to right) Patricia Buonaguro-Laidig '76, Michael Buonaguro '80/J.D. '87, Jane (Buonaguro) Maloney '81, Dr. Antonia (Buonaguro) Ward '70/M.S. '71, Eileen (Buonaguro) Ray '70/M.A. '74, and Walter Maloney. John McGovern '83 at mile 16 of the 2014 NYC Marathon. Deacon Kevin Kilgore '07 studying in Rome with Saint Peter's Basilica in the background. Dr. Richard Golembioski '81 shares his Pirate Pride with his youngest son, Stephan.

Receive your free Seton Hall bandana by visiting www.shu.edu/alumni and clicking on “Pirate Pride Gallery.”





• SAVE THE DATE •
October 2-4, 2015
Seton Hall Weekend

Come home to the Hall for a fun-filled weekend of exciting events and engaging activities.



TRUE BLUE
Are you True Blue?

Join Seton Hall's Loyalty Recognition Program Today:
www.shu.edu/trueblue

Get Your Alumni Card

Thousands of alumni around the world carry the Seton Hall Alumni Card. **Do you?**

On campus and beyond, your alumni card represents your pride in Seton Hall and gives you access to special discounts, contests and promotions.

Get your free card now at:
www.shu.edu/go/alumnicard.



Twelfth Annual
The Hall on The Hill

All are welcome to celebrate Seton Hall with members of Congress and their staffs, as well as Seton Hall regents, deans, administrators, alumni, parents and friends.

Wednesday, July 22, 2015
5-7 p.m.

Rayburn House Office Building
Gold Room (Room 2168)
Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

www.shu.edu/go/HallOnTheHill
Questions/More information:
973-378-9816 or annette.manso@shu.edu

Photo by Marty Katz

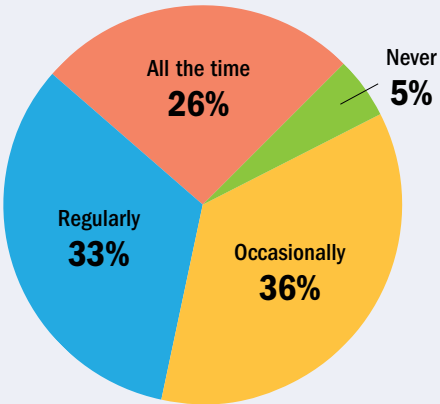
In the fall of 2014, Seton Hall conducted its second comprehensive alumni attitude survey. The University again contracted the PEG Group due to their wealth of experience. They have conducted their surveys at more than 230 universities and colleges over the past 13 years.

22,007 surveys were distributed at random to Seton Hall alumni, resulting in 942 responses. The response rate exceeded the goal necessary for an appropriate sample.

The Office of Alumni Relations would like to thank all of the graduates who completed the survey. We welcome feedback, and encourage all alumni to join the conversation taking place at Seton Hall.

ALUMNI SURVEY

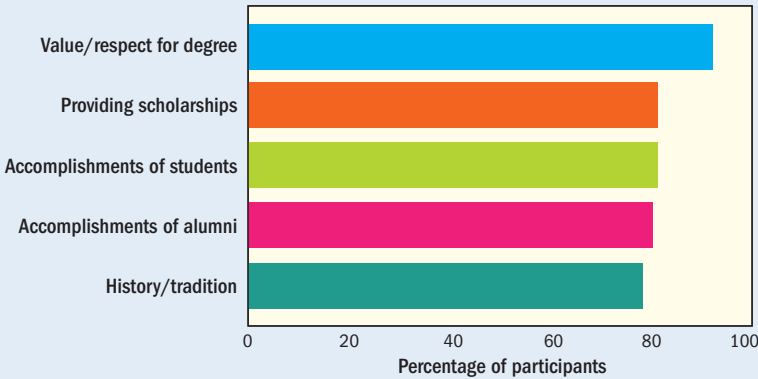
How often do you promote SHU to others?



"For me and for many other students I know, the opportunity to attend Seton Hall is only possible due to the scholarships we have received. Obtaining a quality education, like we do at Seton Hall, is vital to a successful career. Students are able to achieve their full potential with the help of a University scholarship."

– Natalia Davie '15, president, Student Alumni Association

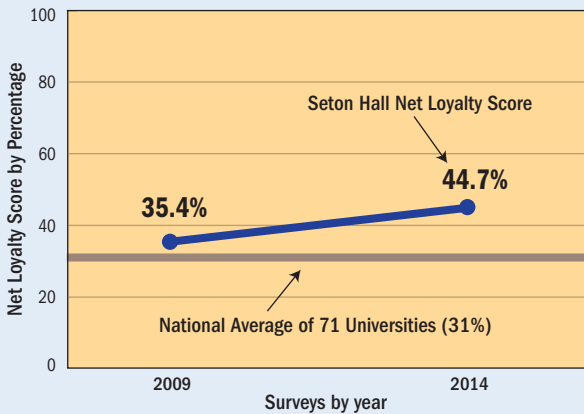
What impacts your opinion of SHU?



"Placement of our graduates is a top priority for Seton Hall. The alumni network is sizable, and we strive to make a difference – when people are enrolled as students and as alumni. Networking and mentoring are key ways alumni help guide our graduates in job placement."

– Dawn Mueller '89, member, Alumni Board of Directors

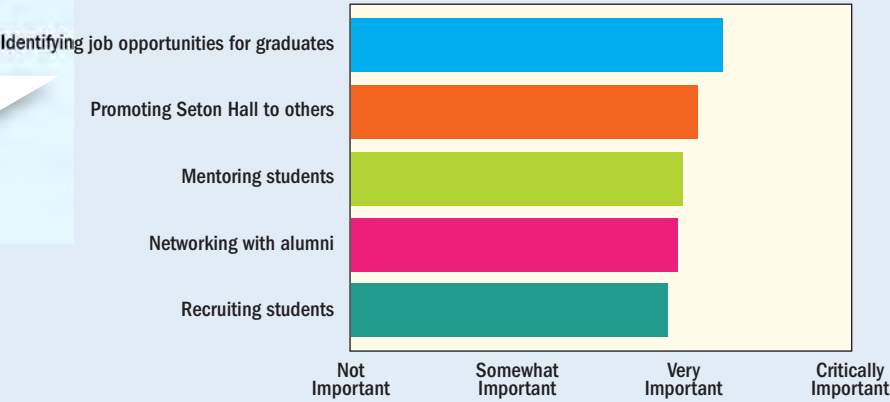
Net Loyalty Score



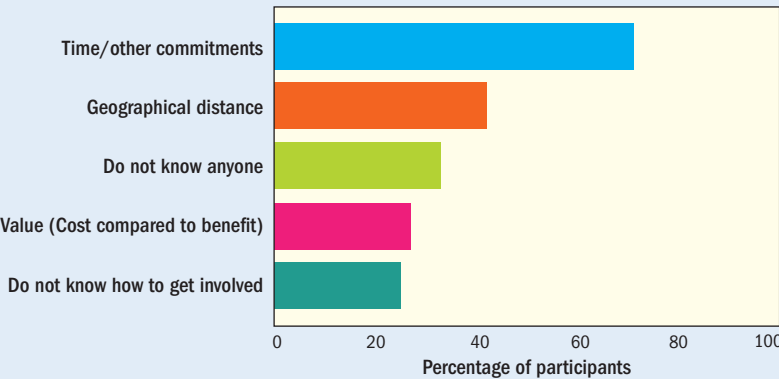
The Net Loyalty Score measures an individual's loyalty and intent to financially participate. It is a combination of several factors including:

- Loyalty to Seton Hall in general
- How well did Seton Hall prepare you for your current work status?
- How well did Seton Hall prepare you for commitment to continuous education?
- How well did Seton Hall prepare you for further graduate education?

Importance of activities in engaging alumni



Barriers to participation in alumni activities



Social Media for SHU Alumni

Thousands of Seton Hall graduates around the world connect to the University and each other every day. Join the conversation!



www.facebook.com/thehallalumni
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.



@SetonHallAlumni
Real-time updates about campus events, news about your fellow alumni, contests, photos, videos and more.



www.shu.edu/go/alumnilinkedin
Seton Hall University Alumni Network Group
Join the group to discuss your career, network with fellow alumni and University administrators, share advice, ask questions and build your professional community.



www.flickr.com/setonhall
Seton Hall shares pictures of campus, student life and alumni events on flickr. Visit www.flickr.com/setonhall to view and share photos.



@SetonHall
Join Seton Hall's fastest growing social media platform and get a daily look into the life of the University and its campus community.

Heard on LinkedIn...

Conversation is buzzing on LinkedIn in the Seton Hall University Alumni Network group, which now has more than 8,000 participants: www.shu.edu/go/alumnilinkedin. Here are just a few of the thoughts shared recently, reminiscing about attending Seton Hall.



What was your biggest achievement at Seton Hall?

“Discovering my love for politics. I came in as an undecided student and walked out a proud member of the political science department. On top of that, all of my internships in the political world led to an amazing job two weeks after graduation.”

– Joe Krause '06

“Being an out-of-state student from Maryland and the first of my mom’s three kids to graduate, with a B.S. in Business Management.”

– Michael Jones '97

What was the best class you took as an undergraduate or graduate student?

“Parasitology with Dr. Katz. This course allowed me to see that Jamaica was filled with liver flukes waiting for Jerseymen to slip into its waters. It was also a good insight into the nature of politics and practitioners of the law.”

– Martin L. Lenhardt '66/M.A. '68

“I didn't realize it at the time I was in school, but my economics classes have served me very well in my career. Understanding terms like money supply, marginal utility and even simpler things like supply and demand are concepts I use every day.”

– Joseph Higgins '77

**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 retweets, shout-outs and prizes.



VOICES from the HALL

Fall 2014 saw the launch of the Voices from the Hall speaker series. These events brought faculty experts and prominent opinion leaders in business, health, marketing, the arts and the humanities to the Seton Hall community throughout the country to share their perspectives on issues affecting our world. President Esteban, Alumni Relations and various University administrators visited cities across the country, including San Francisco, Philadelphia, and New York City, to share the story of Seton Hall rising.



Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Mass and Luncheon

On Jan. 4, alumni and friends gathered at Saint Margaret Church in Spring Lake, N.J., for the Feast Day of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. More than 75 people enjoyed a Mass celebrated by Father John Morley '58.



Share your news...

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:

Department of Alumni Relations
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:

Autumn Eve, daughter of Wendy Ekua (Quansah) Da'Cruz '12, spots herself in the Fall 2014 issue of Seton Hall magazine.



School choice has become a key component of education reform — 46 states and the District of Columbia offer choices through charter schools, vouchers, magnet schools, etc.

Offering families an alternative to the closest public school is touted by many as a way to address low-performing schools and educational inequity. But the practice has attracted its share of proponents and detractors, and it can be difficult to sift through the arguments on both sides.

To learn more about how school choice affects one specific population — immigrant families — Seton Hall magazine editor Pegeen Hopkins spoke to Carolyn Sattin-Bajaj, assistant professor and co-director of the Center for College Readiness.

Sattin-Bajaj was featured on an Education Week list of leaders shaping education for the next generation, and she recently published a book, *Unaccompanied Minors: Immigrant Youth, School Choice and the Pursuit of Equity*.

What are benefits of school choice? Proponents talk about increasing access for disadvantaged kids to higher-performing schools than they would have in their neighborhoods, as well as increasing socioeconomic and racial/ethnic integration.

And economist Milton Friedman was one of the earliest to propose choice as a way to exert market pressures on schools. The idea is if there’s competition for students, schools will get better so that they can attract and keep students.

Also, if kids go to schools better matched to their interests, and the size works for them, and the disadvantaged kids are getting access to the higher-performing schools, then they should do better.

What are some pitfalls of school choice? Choice has not been shown to universally produce these benefits, by any means. Overall improvement in achievement hasn’t been shown empirically.

A big critique is that there is something qualitatively different about families who participate in the charter school lottery or take other additional steps. There’s added motivation and engagement. And maybe their kids are higher-performing to begin with.

So certain schools can siphon off the highest-performing kids, leaving traditional public schools with the hardest-to-serve students. That can create a cycle of failure. Research has shown that kids do better when there’s a mix of achievement levels and socioeconomic levels in a school.

The Limitations of Choice

You’ve studied immigrant families in depth. What specific obstacles do they face when navigating school choice? My first big study was on high school choice in New York City. Every rising ninth-grader must submit a form listing up to 12 schools citywide they want to attend. They get matched to one. This system attempts to increase equity: if you live in a very poor area of the Bronx and the neighborhood high school has a 50 percent graduation rate, you shouldn’t automatically have to go to school there.

The big take-away is that current policy is not designed to help disadvantaged or immigrant families understand how to best utilize school choice. The policy is geared toward middle-class American ways of parenting — with parents who will do the research with or for their kids, speak English and have easy Internet access.

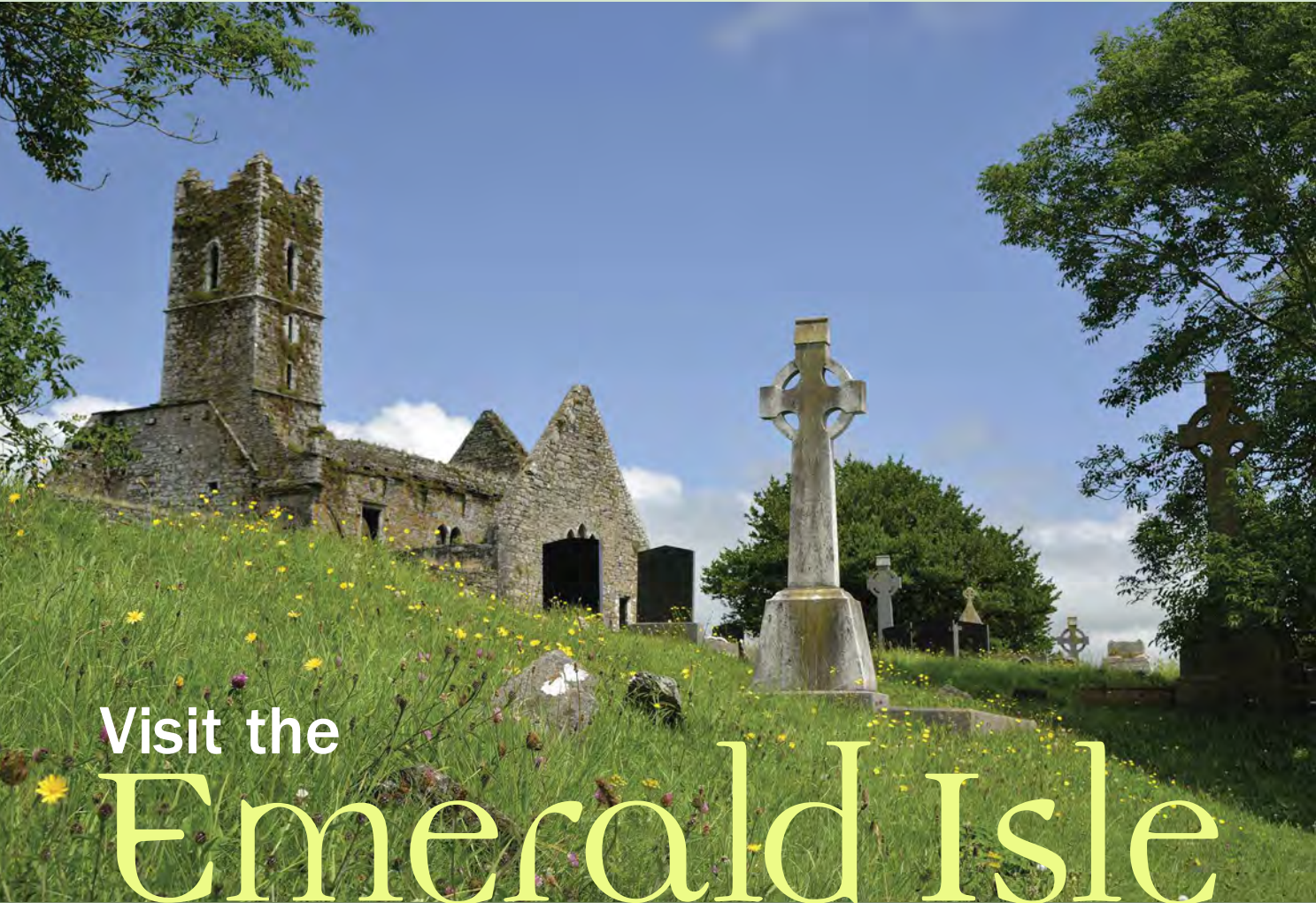
A lot of the school choice materials are only available on the Internet. There are very few printed versions of the translated school directory, which is like a phone book listing all 400-plus city high schools. They don’t produce many printed versions in Spanish or other foreign languages.

What steps can be taken to remedy these issues? My book offers recommendations for the school district and families, because I think school choice is closely connected to the college search process and other important life experiences. Kids and families can develop skills in research and analysis and with computers they can transfer to searching for a college or presenting oneself for a job. Skill-building exercises related to the school choice process can be incorporated into the classroom.

Also, right now, New York City doesn’t require middle-school counselors to complete concrete steps related to the choice process. They don’t say, “You must offer three workshops,” or “You must meet individually with students.” The way in which a middle school works on high-school choice isn’t evaluated.

School districts can encourage middle schools to do more to document what they do to keep families informed. That may mean publishing which high schools eighth-graders get matched to, because a middle school whose graduates go to better high schools will be more attractive than others. That would provide an incentive for schools to work hard to help their students get matched to desirable high schools.

Schools can also engage parents by offering them services and support they need — like tax preparation or English classes — and using that venue to better educate them about the high-school choice process. So it becomes more than just information dissemination; it’s skill-building for parents, too. ■



Visit the Emerald Isle

with Seton Hall

September 24 through October 6, 2015

Join alumni, family and friends as we travel throughout Ireland. Over 13 days, we will visit 16 regions of the Emerald Isle, including Killarney, Galway, Donegal town, Dublin and Belfast.

You won’t want to miss this opportunity to soak in the landscapes of rolling hills and feel the warmth of an Irish welcome with your fellow Pirates. For more information visit www.shu.edu/travel or call Matthew Borowick at 973-378-9847 or email matthew.borowick@shu.edu.





Department of Public Relations and Marketing
519 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079

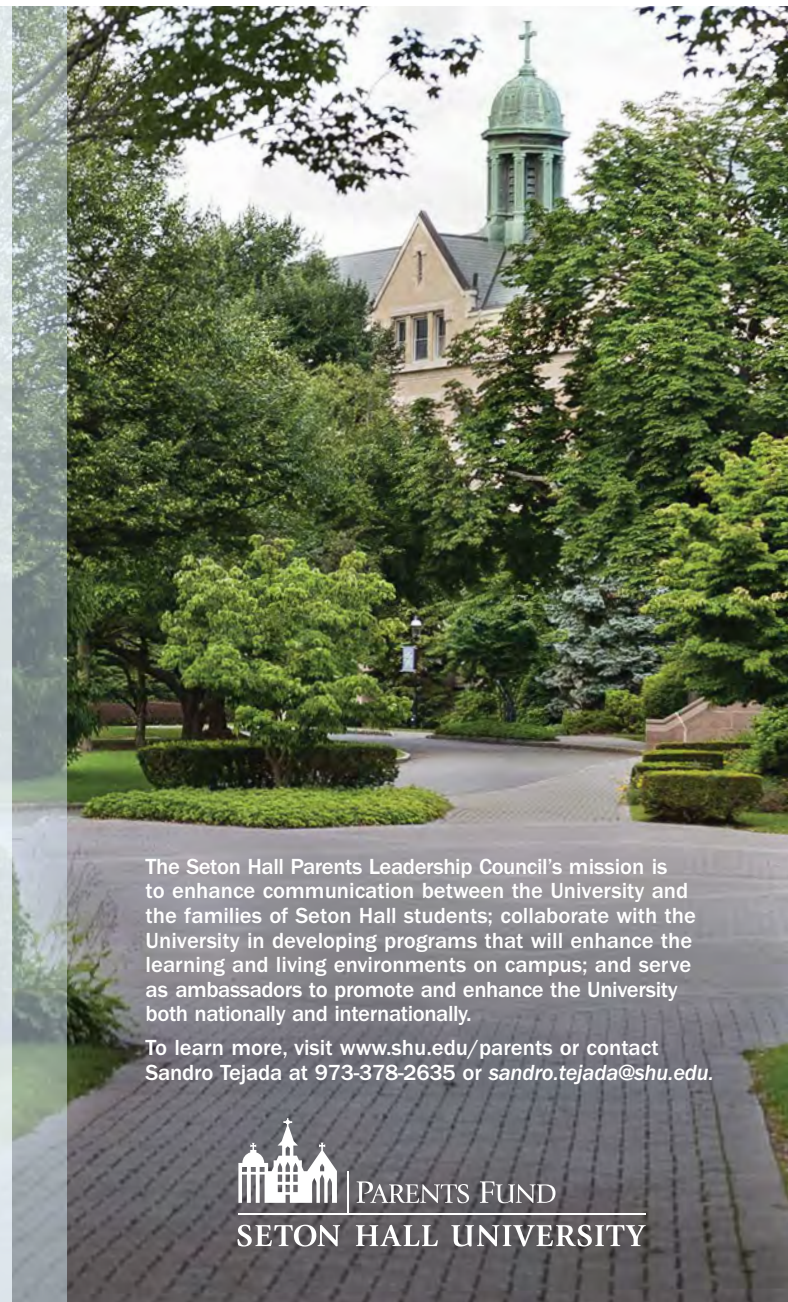


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“From the moment Walter walked onto Seton Hall’s campus, **they wrapped their arms around him.** He knew immediately that it felt different. Being on the Parents Leadership Council allows us to **feel connected** to the people guiding Walter through his college experience.”



Terry Grosenheider and Ave Bie, parents of Walter Grosenheider, Class of 2016



The Seton Hall Parents Leadership Council’s mission is to enhance communication between the University and the families of Seton Hall students; collaborate with the University in developing programs that will enhance the learning and living environments on campus; and serve as ambassadors to promote and enhance the University both nationally and internationally.

To learn more, visit www.shu.edu/parents or contact Sandro Tejada at 973-378-2635 or sandro.tejada@shu.edu.

