

SETON HALL

A home for the mind, the heart and the spirit

Winter/Spring 2016

Pope Francis in America

SETON HALL AND THE HISTORIC PAPAL VISIT

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SETON HALL

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Cover: Pope Francis greets well-wishers at the Apostolic Nunciature to the United States as he travels to the U.S. Congress. Photo by Molly Riley/AFP/Getty Images; Facing page: photo of the University Green by Matt Lester.

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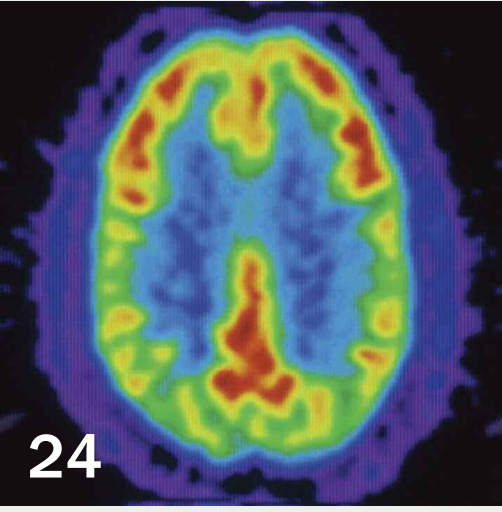
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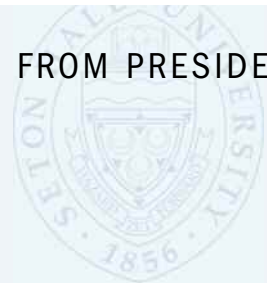
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The Seton Hall Difference

As members of the Seton Hall community, we are thoroughly acquainted with the concept of servant leadership, which has informed our institutional culture and mission for nearly 160 years. The principle is so deeply ingrained at Seton Hall that we may fail to realize its distinctiveness in American higher education.

Popular culture too often sends young people messages that emphasize personal success rather than concern for others. And there is a growing perception that universities amplify this problem through their admissions practices — by placing greater value on high school students' individual achievements at the expense of their efforts to serve society.

In January, administrators from 87 colleges and universities spoke out against this troubling trend in a report titled "Turning the Tide: Inspiring Concern for Others and the Common Good through College Admissions."

Without question, individual accomplishments have received undue prominence at some institutions. And parents who want their children to attend those institutions often reinforce the primacy of stockpiling personal triumphs.

Consequently, many students internalize this narrow definition of success. When the report's authors asked more than 10,000 middle- and high-school students what mattered most: high individual achievement, happiness or caring for others, only 22 percent answered caring for others.

"Turning the Tide" also noted that excellent students from poorly funded schools have fewer opportunities to amass personal accomplishments, such as Advanced Placement classes and leadership in extracurricular activities. These teenagers are often passed over by top universities even if they are equally capable in the classroom and perform more service than their affluent peers.

Ultimately, according to the report, many institutions enroll students who are academically and culturally homogenous and who possess an extreme self-focus, not knowing how or why to foster their own nascent affinity for ethical citizenship. "Turning the Tide" calls for universities to reform their admissions processes to better serve students, themselves and society as a whole.



What are the group's recommendations? Deflate need-less academic performance pressure that often drains the time and energy students have to contribute to others. Place a higher emphasis on recruiting students who serve their communities in authentic and meaningful ways. And redefine achievement to create greater equity and access for those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

I hope you will agree that these recommendations — and the transformative changes they are meant to create on campuses nationwide — have long been essential components of Seton Hall's academic programs, campus life and institutional style.

As it has done for generations, the University recruits worthy students who will make the world a better place — now and in the future. That many of our peer institutions are realizing the benefits of this approach is certainly gratifying, and constitutes a robust validation of the Seton Hall experience.

I take pleasure in issuing regular updates on the growing academic quality of our freshman classes. And for good reason. Each year we draw from a stronger applicant pool and each year the University's intellectual environment is further enhanced by our new students.

As you may know, Seton Hall has advanced 13 places in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual college guide over the past five years; SAT scores for incoming freshmen have grown by 95 points since 2009; and last fall 1,408 freshmen boosted the total number of undergraduates to 6,093 students — the largest undergraduate population at the University in more than three decades.

You may not know that roughly 30 percent of our undergraduate student body is made up of students whose families are eligible for federal Pell Grants, which are given to individuals of modest means. (See page 9 for more details.) I am especially proud that some state universities, which were created specifically to provide affordable educations, enroll a smaller percentage of Pell-eligible students than Seton Hall does. And many of our peer institutions — both Catholic and non-Catholic — are nowhere close to us in terms of Pell-eligible students.

This is what makes Seton Hall unique in the American educational landscape: our ability to advance in stature — which we will continue to do year after year — while simultaneously upholding our legacy of access to outstanding students from diverse backgrounds.

Why do we hold so dearly to this mission?

Of course, for students to be successful in the workforce they need excellent preparation. But they also must learn to work with individuals from different backgrounds because today's workforce is increasingly diverse — a characteristic that will only increase in the coming years.

Moreover, we would be remiss as a Catholic institution if we didn't serve those who otherwise would not have the opportunity to attend a prominent private university. When I speak to our alumni, I hear again and again, "I was the first person in my family to go to college," or "If not for Seton Hall, I would not be where I am today."

That is the opportunity that lies at the heart of our University. Throughout its history, Seton Hall has opened its doors to excellent students from all backgrounds, accepting those who understand and appreciate the singular educational experience that only Seton Hall can offer. [n](#)

Building a Just Society



Two well-known Catholic writers came to speak at Seton Hall this fall, offering insights into how to be successful business leaders as well as a moral and ethical human beings.

Chris Lowney (top left), a onetime Jesuit seminarian who later served as a managing director of J.P. Morgan, appeared on November 4. The author of four books, including *Pope Francis: Why He Leads the Way He Leads*, Lowney chairs the board of Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the largest healthcare systems in the United States. His talk, “Doing the Laundry, Dusty Shoes and the Monastery Bell,” focused on the idea that just as the Prophet Micah bid us “to seek justice, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God,” Pope Francis’ life story reminds us to do the same in our business lives. Lowney urged his listeners to take the time to “step back from the world every day, be grateful, lift your horizon and review your day.” When we think of leaders,

Lowney said, “the first people we need to think of ... is ourselves.” On November 16, the Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology welcomed Michael Novak (bottom left), theologian, teacher, author and former ambassador to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights under President Ronald Reagan. His many books include, most recently, *Social Justice Isn’t What You Think It Is*. Novak spoke on the subject of “Pope Saint John Paul II and Pope Francis on an Authentically Human Economy.” His thought-provoking talk focused on how historical forces conspired to help humans develop moral ideals within the capitalist society. “One aspect of Michael’s ‘message’ to the world,” says Joseph Rice, associate professor of philosophical theology, “[is] that one important way of responding to the gift of the Creation is to build a just society ... in which every person is fully able to live his vocation from God.”

Live from Carnegie Hall

Seton Hall students, faculty and community members met onstage at Carnegie Hall on October 17, 2015, to help perform “A Prayer for Peace,” a concert that was the brainchild of Jason Tramm, assistant professor and director of choral activities in the College of Communication and the Arts. Wanting to produce art that “heals rather than divides,” Tramm envisioned the concert as a way to address “the high level of discord in the world” by featuring the works of Jewish, Muslim and Christian composers. The concert featured the MidAtlantic Opera, of which Tramm is artistic director, combined with the Seton Hall University Choir

and five vocalists as featured soloists, including tenor Theodore Chletsos. More than 2,000 people packed into the Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall for the event. One-third of net proceeds from “A Prayer for Peace” — \$8,000 — was donated to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for refugee relief. “A Prayer for Peace” was the third in a series of “Peace Trilogy” concerts presented by Tramm during 2015. Buoyed by the success of the Carnegie concert, Tramm says that talks are under way with Carnegie Hall to host the entire “Peace Trilogy” in 2016.



BY THE NUMBERS Campus Grounds and Beauty

- 4 Acres of flower beds
- 11 Varieties of annuals and perennials
- 62 Tree species
- 48 Shrub species
- 80 Feet high, tallest tree on campus
- 45 Trees replaced after Superstorm Sandy
- 14 Full-time groundskeepers maintaining the grounds



Literary Lights Shine



One of the most famous young poets in America — Nicky Beer (left) — and a widely praised fiction writer who was the recipient of a 2013 MacArthur “Genius” award — Karen Russell (below right) — visited Seton Hall this fall as part of the acclaimed “Poetry-in-the-Round” series. Both Beer and Russell, says Nathan Oates, director of the series

and associate professor of English, “were funny, personable and engaging. Nicky Beer got the audience involved by giving them a role — the shouting of ‘huzzah’ between stanzas — in her final poem, which many students told me surprised and delighted them.” “Poetry-in-the-Round” has brought writers to Seton Hall for more than 30 years; Oates has been director since 2010. He says: “I aim to invite some of the best living writers in America to our series, and I believe we have managed to do that. I also take into consideration the author’s ability to entertain and engage the audience.” While artistic quality is primary, he says, he wants the audience, especially the students, many of whom have not attended a literary reading before, to be entertained and have fun.

One advantage to directing “Poetry-in-the-Round” is meeting some of America’s most talented writers; Oates has especially enjoyed his encounters with the short story writer Deborah Eisenberg, “one of my literary heroes,” as well as luminaries such as E.L. Doctorow, Joyce Carol Oates, Russell Banks and C.K. Williams. But Oates also aims “to bring up-and-coming writers,” like poet-novelist Ben Lerner, who read at Seton Hall before he became well known. This spring, the series sponsored or co-sponsored writers such as novelist Jamaica Kincaid, February 17; poet Thomas Sleigh, March 16; and United States Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera, April 11.





- **Marta Deyrup**, librarian and professor at Seton Hall's University Libraries, was invited to The American University of Central Asia in Kyrgyzstan as a Fulbright specialist in early 2016 to assess user services and collection development policies at the library.
- **The Gerald P. Buccino '63 Center for Leadership Development** earned, for the second year in a row, a No. 1 ranking in the Leadership 500 Excellence Awards sponsored by *HR.com*. Specifically, the Buccino Center was named the No. 1 Certificate Program with Emphasis on Leadership/Organizational Development.
- **Mark Maben**, general manager of WSOU, was named one of the "Best Managers in Radio" by *Radio Ink*.
- **Sergiu M. Gorun**, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry, was granted a patent for self-cleaning, corrosion-resistant coatings, along with his co-inventors, graduate students Karpagavalli Ramji and James Sullivan. Their work continues through a grant from the U.S. Air Force.
- **Dr. Ning Zhang**, professor in the Department of Interprofessional Health Sciences and Health Administration, was appointed editor of the *International Journal of Health-care Technology and Management*.
- **William Haney**, professor of design, and **Christine Krus**, associate professor of art and design, won multiple Davey Awards in 2015, honoring the best in Web, design, video and advertising from small agencies worldwide.
- **Richard J. Boergers**, assistant professor of athletic training, received a \$57,500 grant from the National Athletic Trainers' Association Research and Education Foundation for his study of on-field treatment of spine-injured athletes.
- College of Nursing Associate Dean **Marcia Gardner** won the 2015 Academic Educator Nurse of the Year Award from the New Jersey Chapter of the March of Dimes.
- **Kurt Rotthoff**, associate professor of economics and legal studies, was one of only 10 business-school faculty throughout the state to be honored with a 2015 "Bright Ideas Research Award" from the New Jersey Policy Research Organization Foundation.
- The Environmental Education Fund and N.J. Environmental Lobby recognized **Marian Glenn**, professor of biological sciences, **Judith Stark**, professor of philosophy, and **Michael Taylor**, associate professor of political science, with awards for advancing programs of environmental studies in New Jersey.
- Through the Woodrow Wilson International Center, **Zheng Wang**, associate professor of diplomacy and international relations, facilitated problem-solving workshops with scholars from South Korea, Japan, China and the U.S.
- **Marianne Lloyd**, associate professor of psychology, was the recipient of the 2015 Collegium Visionary Award in recognition of her leadership advancing the Catholic intellectual tradition.
- Father **Joseph Laracy**, adjunct professor of mathematics and computer science, was one of 15 educators in the U.S. awarded a grant from the John Templeton Foundation to develop a course designed to integrate scientific literacy into seminary formation.

- **Bruce Freeman**, adjunct professor of management, was appointed contributing editor at Pearson Higher Education, one of the largest college textbook companies in the world.
- **Monsignor Joseph R. Reilly**, rector and dean of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology; **Alan Delozier**, university archivist and adjunct professor of Catholic studies; and **John H. Shannon**, associate professor of legal studies, were selected for the *Irish Voice's* 2015 "Irish Education 100" listing of leading figures in Irish education across the United States.
- **Mary Ellen E. Roberts**, assistant professor of graduate nursing, represented nurse practitioners as a cardiovascular expert at the National Policy and Science Summit on Women's Cardiovascular Health.
- **Michael Osnato**, chair of the Department of Leadership, Management and Policy, was appointed by the New Jersey Commissioner of Education as a special liaison to the cities of Newark and Paterson as they prepare to return to local control of their school districts.
- **Stephanie Koprowski-McGowan**, associate dean of assessment and accreditation in the College of Education and Human Services, was named to the New Jersey Department of Education's State Program Approval Council, which reviews the quality of K-12 educator preparation programs.

Seton Hall was named the No. 1 College in the Nation for Holiday Events by *Best College Reviews*

BIG EAST Champions

Seton Hall's men's basketball team won its first BIG EAST Championship title in 23 years on March 12 by beating Villanova 69-67 in front of a sellout crowd at Madison Square Garden.

Sophomore Isaiah Whitehead led in scoring, with 26 points (14 of which came in the second half), and he was named the recipient of the Dave Gavitt Trophy as the tournament's most outstanding player. Sophomores Khadeen Carrington and Ismael Sanogo also took home All-Tournament accolades.

The team earned its first NCAA Tournament berth since 2006 and the 10th in school history. Seton Hall's women's basketball team also earned a spot in the 2016 NCAA Tournament, its second appearance in two years.

"I am so proud and happy for our guys," head coach Kevin Willard said. "Last summer I knew we had a special group of young men who were eager to work hard and get better. When you start five sophomores and come off the bench with two freshmen and one senior, our whole focus was just trying to get better game by game. These guys did that, and their effort paid off with a BIG EAST Championship. I couldn't be more proud of them."

Just a few days earlier, Willard was selected by his coaching peers as the 2016 BIG EAST Co-Coach of the Year, sharing the honor with Villanova head coach Jay Wright.



Diving into the SHARK TANK

Placed into a tank with sharks, you can sink, swim, or, well, get eaten.

Stillman School of Business students Ashley Jefferson '15 and Zach Blackwood '15 not only managed to avoid getting made a meal of, but actually

thrived under pressure when they were selected from college students nationwide by Kevin O'Leary, a panelist on the ABC show *Shark Tank*, to be featured in a sales challenge that aired on 20/20 in October.

Jefferson finished as runner-up in the final challenge, which involved selling a new product — Wicked Good Cupcakes — from a food truck on a busy Manhattan street. She graduated with a dual major in finance and information tech-

nology management in May and is working for Prudential Finance; Blackwood is pursuing his M.B.A. at Seton Hall. Both participated in the Buccino Center for Leadership Development and credit the center's director, Michael Reuter, with encouraging them to step out of their comfort zones and apply for the show.

Reuter sees *Shark Tank* "as a snapshot of a part of what the 'real world' holds ... of what life is beyond our sacred and hallowed Hall. Its message for us all is: if you choose to succeed, you have to be good. Really good."

The goal of the Buccino Center, he says, is to provide a foundation of skills, support and knowledge for students like Jefferson and Blackwood to be successful in stressful situations such as the ones presented on *Shark Tank*. The two succeeded, according to Reuter, because "they have the enthusiasm, excitement, professionalism and poise that epitomizes great leaders ... they brought fire to the stage."



FOUNDING MEDICAL SCHOOL DEAN

Dr. Bonita Stanton, a nationally recognized expert in pediatric medicine, was named the founding dean of the new school of medicine created by Seton Hall University and the Hackensack University Health Network (HackensackUHN).

For the past four years Stanton has been vice dean for research at Wayne State University School of Medicine, and previously was head of pediatrics and professor at Wayne State. Her background includes pediatric work in Michigan, West Virginia and Maryland, and she spent a number of years working on global health issues abroad.

“Whether working with low-income populations in the United States, women and children in Bangladesh, migrant workers in China or rural youth in Africa, Dean Stanton’s calling has been to bring the healing and compassion of health care to the world’s most vulnerable peoples,” said President A. Gabriel Esteban.

“Working with major universities and hospitals as well as the World Bank, the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization, she exemplifies the servant leadership spirit that is a profound part of our mission at Seton Hall.”

Stanton graduated from Wellesley College and Yale University School of Medicine, completed her pediatric residency at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital (Case Western Reserve) and her pediatric infectious disease fellowship training at Yale University School of Medicine.

“President Esteban and I are confident that Dr. Stanton, with her outstanding background and accomplishments, will lead this school of medicine to become one of the finest in the U.S.,” said Robert C. Garrett, president and chief executive officer of HackensackUHN.

Last year, Seton Hall and HackensackUHN agreed to form a new, four-year school of medicine to help curb the critical physician shortage. The school is expected to open in fall 2018.

ASPIRING KINDNESS

Seton Hall hosted a mock fire emergency exercise on October 7 in honor of National Fire Prevention Week. The exercise was made possible through a donation from the Aspiring Kindness Foundation, created in 2010 by friends of Aaron Karol as a philanthropic tribute to him and two other victims of the January 2000 Boland Hall fire, Frank Caltabilota and John Giunta. The foundation has raised more than \$100,000 to support emergency responders and service providers and their programs.



SHU in the news

“In addition to affecting the quality and amount of sleep teenagers are getting, bedtime smartphone use seems to be having a negative impact on their level of alertness during the day and on their grades in school.”

— Vincent DeBari, School of Health and Medical Sciences, *U.S. News & World Report*, discussing research he undertook with Peter Polos, M.D., and Sushanth Bhat, M.D., on the health hazards of bedtime texting of American teenagers.

“People know that we are Catholic. Instead of looking at it as a disadvantage, I look at it as an advantage. ... We have quite a few students who are not Catholics or are non-Christian. When I talk to them, they say they feel comfortable here practicing their faith because it is a very spiritual place.”

— President A. Gabriel Esteban, *NJBIZ*, on Seton Hall’s Catholic identity.

“If you look at it objectively, these folks, these refugees from Syria, are running away from terrorism and a ruthless dictatorship.”

— Vicente Medina, College of Arts and Sciences, *U.S. News & World Report*, criticizing the results of a poll showing a majority of Americans believe it is dangerous for the U.S. to accept Syrian refugees.

“Bond has always conveyed an insouciance, a debonair, devil-may-care quality that is the wish-fantasy of the audience, certainly boys and men. His stunts and gadgets are far less the subject of jealousy than his bearing. It’s not incidental that JFK, a member of America’s always-poised royalty, was a Bond fan.”

— Christopher Sharrett, College of Communication and the Arts, *San Jose Mercury News*, on the endurance of the James Bond franchise.

A Powerful Message

On the day after President Barack Obama’s final State of the Union address in January, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power came to Seton Hall to speak at an event hosted by the School of Diplomacy and International Relations.

In her opening remarks, Power spoke of the fights against climate change, Ebola and terrorism, noting that, in the modern world, it takes coalition building — “a global response” — to combat situations that cross borders.

The discussion that followed featured questions from selected student leaders and the general audience. It was moderated by David Ushery, news anchor at NBC 4 in New York, and covered questions of Obama’s foreign policy, from the historic opening of Cuba to the Palestinian-Israeli peace process. Power also spoke to the displacement of people in war zones, pointing out that because “conflicts are not ending” and “people are staying displaced longer,” the world has an unprecedented refugee crisis. (A number of international refugees attended the event.)

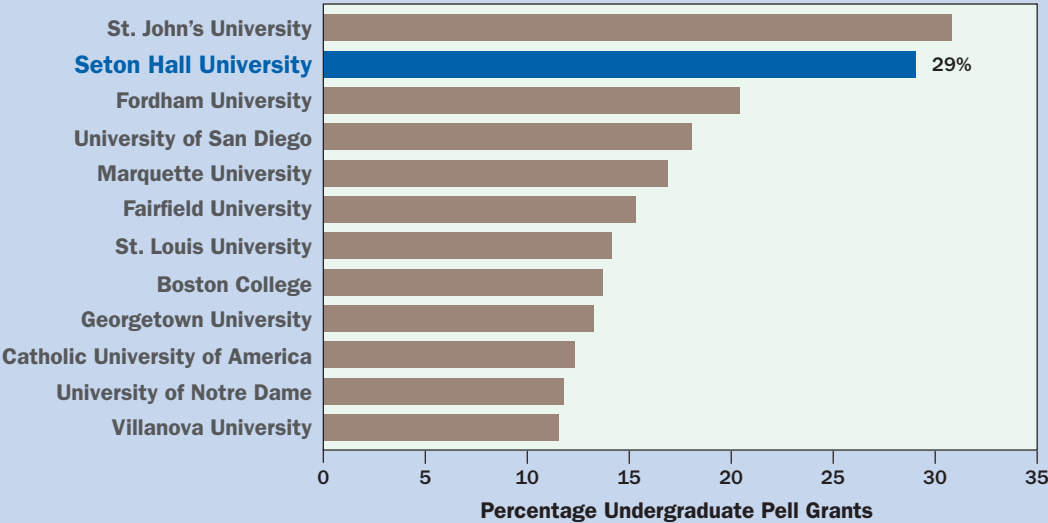


Power praised Seton Hall for its history of activism and “long tradition of embracing people of all faiths, ethnicities and nationalities — including refugees.” People from all over the world are “coming every day into our communities,” Power said, and she urged students to welcome refugees and to volunteer with humanitarian organizations to help in any way they can.

University of Opportunity

Throughout its history, Seton Hall University has remained committed to making education accessible to students with limited economic means. One important measure of that commitment is the percentage of Seton Hall’s students receiving Pell Grants, which has increased to 29.5 percent in 2014–15 from 20.5 percent in 2007–08. Here’s how Seton Hall compares with other Catholic universities:

Sources: Seton Hall University and College Scorecard, March 2016



A Supreme Experience

A COVETED INTERNSHIP BROUGHT SETON HALL JUNIOR ELIZABETH DONALD TO THE HALLOWED HALLS OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT.

On a lovely mid-spring morning in April 2015, the nine justices of the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in one of the many highly charged cases on the docket for the term. Outside, there were soft, white clouds scattered across blue skies, and a light breeze rustled leaves in the trees. As often happens, supporters and opponents of the issue at hand filled the broad space below the courthouse steps to make their opinions known.

For Elizabeth Donald, a junior at Seton Hall University and intern at the Supreme Court, it was a day of heightened excitement and anticipation. The court building was a beehive of activity, and from her station checking in members of the bar, she observed the tumult “as clerks

strode down the halls to prepare for the case and a countless number of attorneys lined up for a chance to enter the courtroom.”

“It was very surreal, to say the least,” Donald says. That, in fact, sums up her time at the court as a participant in the School of Diplomacy Semester in Washington, D.C., Program. “Having a dream of being a lawyer and getting to work at the highest court of the land is just surreal; that is the best word I have to explain it,” she says.

The time she spent in Washington was made all the more thrilling by the fact that the court heard several significant cases while she was there, including ones addressing lethal injection, the Affordable Care Act, freedom of speech

and housing discrimination. That level of on-the-spot exposure “made me fall even more in love with the study of law,” she says.

After she graduates in May with a bachelor’s degree in modern languages — she is fluent in Spanish (in which she conversed with Justice Sonia Sotomayor) and French, knows advanced Latin (handy in a legal setting) and is conversational in Portuguese and Italian — Donald plans to pursue her passion in law school. In fact, she has already been accepted into several top law schools.

At the age of 21, she has begun to lay the foundation for her future career. “I expect that it is going to be very distinguished,” says Wesley W. Horton, senior partner in the Hartford, Conn., appellate firm of Horton, Shields & Knox, where Donald spent this past summer gaining more first-hand exposure to the practice of law.

Donald is the first undergraduate that Horton’s firm ever hired. After reviewing her résumé and noting that she had been an intern at the Supreme Court, “we thought she would be interested in seeing what a law firm does,” Horton says. “We would pay her a small sum and she would answer the phones and do small things like that around the office.” It didn’t take long — “only a few days,” Horton says — before he and others realized that Donald “had an incredible knowledge of the law for someone who had not yet gone to law school.” Soon they had her doing

work on a par with second-year law students. “She really surprised us,” Horton says.

That should, in fact, be no surprise at all, says Robert M. Pallitto, associate professor of political science and public affairs at Seton Hall and Donald’s pre-law adviser. She is a student “who shows exceptional intellectual maturity,” he says. He recounts the time when he met with Donald in his office and she noticed a poster on his door promoting his new book, which was about the Magna Carta and constitutional law. “We began to discuss constitutional interpretation, and I was amazed by everything she had already read,” Pallitto says. “She knew not only major cases and Supreme Court justices, but also the latest legal scholarship by people like Akhil Amar (a constitutional scholar at Yale, where Donald has set her sights for law school).”

That desire to delve deeply into the intricacies of jurisprudence was further evident in the introductory course Donald took with John Shannon, associate professor of legal studies. “She decided she would extend her study beyond the scope of the required subject matter to include a significant dive into the Uniform Commercial Code,” a byzantine tome of some 2,700 pages that governs commercial transactions in the U.S., Shannon recalls. “She exhibits unusual intellectual curiosity.”

There is much to look forward to in Donald’s future — her law-school education, private practice focusing on the First Amendment, perhaps even a position on the bench, and “the sky’s the limit,” says Pallitto.

But as she looks toward her bright future, Donald reflects back on the semester she spent at the nation’s highest court. “I have yet to experience an opportunity that compares to that of interning at the Supreme Court,” she says. “Not only did I gain a better understanding of the elegance of our system of constitutional law, but I witnessed historic moments that have changed our nation. To live in a nation that not only permits but thrives on freedom of speech and fights to improve itself every day should not be taken lightly.” ■

David Greenwald is a writer based in Los Angeles.



HISTORY IN THE MAKING: Donald, pictured here with Justice Sonia Sotomayor (with whom she conversed in fluent Spanish), witnessed several historic cases during her internship at the Supreme Court.

Photo on facing page by Kristine Foley

Student Aid

RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY PROFESSOR ROBERT KELCHEN
HELPED PROMPT A FEDERAL POLICY CHANGE THAT
WILL MAKE APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID EASIER.

Each spring, high-school seniors must make a tough decision about where to go to college. They consult guidebooks, study online rankings, and crunch numbers to figure out what they can afford.

College is expensive, and Robert Kelchen, an assistant professor of higher education and a nationally recognized expert on financial aid and college rankings, wants to give stressed-out seniors information that will help make the decision easier.

"I've always been interested in the financing of higher education, how we pay for this tremendously expensive enterprise," Kelchen says. One common financing option is federal aid, something he has researched intently in recent years.

Students who want financial aid must submit tax information so the government can assess their need. In the past, students submitted their own or their parents' tax returns from the prior year. But that's not ideal, Kelchen says. Though the aid application is available in January, few people have their prior year's taxes completed so early. They might not finish their taxes completely until the April 15 deadline or even later, and by then most students have already received their acceptance letters. Some may have already made a decision.

Two years ago, Kelchen embarked on extensive research to examine how using older tax returns would affect aid recipients. "Robert was really instrumental in running the numbers and forecasting what this would

look like for students," says Megan McClean, managing director of policy and federal relations at the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. He found that using two-year-old income data could potentially help the neediest students, particularly independent students with children.

Kelchen's findings helped prompt a federal education policy change: Starting this year, students starting college in 2017 will be able to file their financial aid applications in October using tax return data from 2015.

"That three additional months may not sound like much," Kelchen says. "But what it means is that students can have an idea of what they would qualify for before they even get acceptance letters from colleges. They can potentially use that information to shop around."

"Robert's work on these important programs really has the potential to influence at a federal level what happens with the student aid programs — how they might be tweaked or improved to be better for students and families," McClean says. "The work is so important, not only for the campus that he's at right now, but also nationally."

Kelchen's interest in education began early. His mother was a teacher, and he spent much of his childhood in classrooms. "She taught everything from kindergarten to eighth grade," he says. But Kelchen always found himself drawn to higher education. As a sophomore in college, he joined student government and began auditing the

student activity fee funds, which finance things like student organizations and intramural sports.

That experience propelled Kelchen into a master's degree in economics, and then a Ph.D. in educational policy studies. As part of his dissertation work, Kelchen assessed how college rankings would change if he incorporated cost-effectiveness. Most rankings don't take into account the price that students pay. The ranking method used by *U.S. News & World Report*, for example, looks at the amount of money colleges raise per student. "It doesn't matter if they use the money to benefit students, or burn the money on the quad," Kelchen says.

**"My goal is to
highlight a set of policies
that make sense."**

In 2012, *Washington Monthly*, a D.C.-based magazine, approached Kelchen to ask if he would take over their college rankings and incorporate affordability. Kelchen jumped at the chance to apply his research. Some rankings focus on prestige or earnings. "We focus more on what colleges do for the public: Are they educating students well at reasonable prices? Are they producing cutting-edge research? And are students involved in various types of community and national service?" he says. The magazine's "Best Bang for the Buck" list is now in its fourth year.

In some ways, Kelchen's job is getting easier. Over the past couple of years, the Obama administration has been refining a tool aimed at providing consumers with information about college costs and value. The latest version of the federal College Scorecard, released in September 2015, includes a deluge of data. "What surprised us was the sheer number of elements that got released," Kelchen says. "I'll probably look to include

some of these new metrics in the *Washington Monthly* rankings next year."

Rankings are just one way of holding colleges accountable. Colleges also face increasing pressure from the federal government, states, accrediting bodies and the public. Kelchen hopes to examine some of these issues in his upcoming book on accountability in higher education. "My goal is to highlight a set of policies that make sense," he says. ■

Cassandra Willyard is a freelance writer in Madison, Wisconsin.

Photo by Kristine Foley





The Joy of Cooking

SUCCESSFUL RESTAURATEUR AND TV HOST VIC RALLO, J.D. '89
JUST COULDN'T RESIST THE LURE OF THE FAMILY BUSINESS.

Photo by Paul GaNun

In many ways, Vic Rallo, J.D. '89 never really had a choice when it came to his livelihood. He was destined for the restaurant business, from a very early age. "Deep in my genetic profile," Rallo said, "was food and wine."

Rallo grew up in eateries. His dad — Big Vic — owned a Jersey pizzeria and other restaurants, and little Vic often wandered around covered in pizza flour. The business became a family affair, even if the parents didn't want it to become a way of life for Rallo and his brother, Robert.

"My mom and dad said, 'It's an awful business, you cannot be in this business,'" Rallo said. "They made my brother and I both go to law school. We both graduated law school, passed the bar, and we're both in the restaurant business. Their plan did not work."

Today Rallo owns a pair of award-winning Italian restaurants in New Jersey: Birravino in Red Bank and Undici Taverna Rustica in Rumson. His newest restaurant is Surf BBQ, also in Rumson. He's written books on wine and appeared on *The Rachael Ray Show*. Kitchens are his offices, and when he's not in a restaurant you might find him traveling throughout Italy, a country he visits six to eight times a year, adventures he often undertakes for his show *Eat! Drink! Italy! with Vic Rallo*, which runs on PBS stations and Create TV.

All this happened after Rallo left Seton Hall, although the lessons he learned on campus remain relevant. "I loved law school," Rallo said. "It's given me an edge in everything that I do. It's taught me that there's always a solution in the end. If you have a good argument and you do your research and you work hard, there's always a solution."

At Seton Hall, where he pulled napkins from his father's restaurant out of his pocket and took notes in classes, Rallo remembers going to the back "at the luncheonette in the old law school [building]." The man who ran it knew Rallo's dad, and Vic would "get there early, make my sandwich. I was at law school and I found myself cooking breakfast sandwiches and helping the guy in the back."

Rallo has never been afraid of taking charge. "Vic has a tremendous energy," said Anthony Verdoni, a renowned wine expert who is Rallo's friend and mentor as well as co-star

and travel partner on Rallo's television show. "He's a forceful individual. I'm an old guy and I'm along for the ride — I'm just in his hands as far as the TV show goes."

On *Eat! Drink! Italy!*, Rallo and Verdoni travel throughout Italy and spotlight the country's history and people, along with the food, wine and cooking techniques. Rallo discovers stories in any setting — one segment featured an expert who aged cheese in a bunker left over from Mussolini's days.

For one season, the crew stayed in Italy for 23 days, traveled 3,200 kilometers, visited eight regions and shot 48 pieces for television, a "crazy" schedule Rallo said, but one he thrives on. Verdoni tells the story of Rallo driving the crew in a rental van with an untrustworthy door that fell off along a country road in Tuscany. After a quick repair, the trip — and the show — continued.

Rallo's energy and distinct style — which includes his ever-present newsboy caps — are always on display, but when it comes to food Rallo focuses on substance. He talks often about *la material prima*, the prime ingredient. "People want to go to a restaurant where they can eat and trust, and a big part is trust that they're eating prime ingredients. I can go anywhere in the world and cook with simple ingredients and people are happy."

But in Vic Rallo's world, food and drink are about more than satisfying hunger and thirst. Food is life, physically and emotionally. He discovered that growing up and also in Italy, where the dinner table acts as a sacred altar. "Ultimately food is the most wonderful communicator in the world," Rallo said. "You put good food on the table, people want to stay around. People open up, everybody's talking. You learn a lot more about each other. The whole thing evolves, but it's all based around food on the table."

Rallo said he'd like to be remembered as someone who "invited you over to his home or restaurant and filled your stomach and your soul. That would be a wonderful and beautiful accomplishment."

That doesn't sound like a lawyer talking, but they are words Vic Rallo was destined to live by. ■

Shawn Fury is an author in New York City.



PAVING THE WAY to Seton Hall

A \$5 MILLION GIFT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS, PATRICK MURRAY, AND HIS WIFE, MARY ANN, WILL HELP BRING STUDENTS TO THE UNIVERSITY AND GIVE THEM WHAT THEY NEED TO STAY.

When Patrick Murray was a student at Seton Hall, there was only one car in his family and two drivers who needed it — him to get to campus from his home in Elizabeth; and his father to get to his job making valves at the Automatic Switch Co. in Florham Park. Murray took it the two days a week it was free, when his father car-pooled to work. The other days he found different ways to get to campus.



“There were a lot of guys who went to Seton Hall who lived in Elizabeth and around that area then, and we got rides with each other,” says Murray ’64/M.B.A. ’72, a member of the University’s Board of Trustees and chairman of the Board of Regents. “Worst case, and once in a while there were some worst cases, you had to take two buses to get there. You could go to Newark and then from Newark down to Seton Hall.”

Part of Murray’s recent \$5 million gift to the University will make it easier for students to get to Seton Hall, and also to stay there.

“That’s clearly a big motivation behind part of the gift,” says Murray, who worked at a grocery store after class and cleaned offices on Saturdays for his first two years of college, and then worked evenings for an accountant his second two years. In the summers, he worked as a playground director for the City of Elizabeth, where his parents, who were both born in Ireland, had immigrated to when he was six. He was the first in his family to attend college.

The way the gift is structured, it will provide scholarship money for academically exceptional students. And about half of the gift is for need-based scholarships, “where we could provide for some students who need

additional financing, or for students who get through freshman year and then run into difficulty, or for those who might need additional help in their sophomore, junior or senior years,” he says.

Murray retired in 2007 as chairman and CEO of Dresser Inc. in Dallas, which manufactures equipment for the drilling industry. “I went from the end to the beginning,” he says of his career in the energy business, which started in a refinery, where the oil the drillers find is processed into fuel. After graduating from Seton Hall, he served two years as a lieutenant in the Army, in Korea and California. It was in California he bought his first car — a red 1966 Mustang convertible — and drove it cross-country, back home to New Jersey. The University’s career services office helped him find a job as an accountant at the Exxon Bayway Refinery, where he met his wife, Mary Ann.

“I’ve been pretty lucky over the years, so we were able to do something significant,” he says of the gift, which, in addition to the scholarships, will also endow a professorship in the Stillman School of Business — its first endowed faculty chair. In addition, a portion of his gift will support the athletic department by funding the Leadership Forum for Student-Athletes and renovations in the Richie Regan Athletic Center, including a new lobby, administrative offices and a Hall of Fame.

“The three things work together,” he says. “The scholarships were very important to us because they allow some students to have an easier time financing their education. The endowed professorship is important because it gives a commitment to the business school, which did a lot of good for me. And I’m a huge supporter of the athletic program at Seton Hall. Then you wrap all that up together in the University’s strategic plan — which has, I would say, dramatically improved the status of the University. This gift is a way to recognize that, and hopefully continue it as we go forward.”

Murray, who has lived in Texas since 1980, plans to make a trip to campus in September, with a particular interest in meeting the first recipients of his scholarships. “I want to come and meet everybody who is helped by it,” he says. ■

Kevin Coyne is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.

Photo on facing page by Michael Paras; photo on this page by Milan Stanic '11

PAPAL VISIT

Pope Francis made his first visit to the United States from September 22 through September 27, 2015, stopping in Washington, D.C., New York City and Philadelphia. Seton Hall was present in the week's activities — both directly, in the ways our community members participated in the visit, and indirectly, through a symbolic gift the president shared with the pontiff upon his arrival at the White House. President Barack Obama gave the pope a 116-year-old key from the home of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, our University's namesake, to celebrate her — and the pope's — dedication to the sick and the poor. The story that follows details the experiences of just a few Seton Hall community members as they celebrated this historic occasion.

These are just a few of countless personal stories surrounding the pope's visit. Do you have an experience you'd like to share? Send us a note at shuwriter@shu.edu.



MAN OF THE PEOPLE: Pope Francis gazes out over crowds gathered on the National Mall to hear his speech from the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., Doug Mills, *The New York Times*.

Washington: Tuesday, September 22

The plane had just landed. Everybody was waiting for Pope Francis to emerge: President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, bishops and clergy, an honor guard and a delegation of Catholic schoolchildren, all on the tarmac at Joint Base Andrews outside Washington, D.C.

Andrea Bartoli, the dean of the School of Diplomacy and International Relations, was watching, too, on a monitor in a broadcast studio in New York. His job for the day was to help explain to his ABC News radio audience how Pope Francis differs from other popes, and how this visit would likely differ from previous papal visits.

"When you make the comparison of Pius XII, for example, and Francis, it's just extraordinary," Bartoli told listeners. "Pius XII, you could not see him walk. He was never walking in front of anybody. You were imagining the pope as if he was a demigod. He was on a different planet."

Back in Washington, the plane door opened and Pope Francis, his head bare, walked down the stairs — in front of everybody, and very much on this

planet — carrying his zucchetto in his hand to keep it from blowing away, taking his first steps onto American soil. After all the greetings, he got into a small black Fiat 500L hatchback that was dwarfed by the phalanx of SUVs escorting it.

"You can see that there is a joyfulness to the moment that is very, very important, and yet there is also a simplicity to the protocol," Bartoli told his audience. "It's a very good beginning."

It was the beginning of a busy six days, not just for the pope but for a number of members of the Seton Hall community who intersected with him along the way — offering news commentary; covering his trip on social media; attending his Masses in Washington, New York and Philadelphia; and even flying Shepherd One, the American Airlines 777 that ferried him around the United States and then back to Rome.

Washington: Wednesday, September 23

Two buses left the Seton Hall campus before dawn, bound for Washington with 80 seminarians and four priests from Immaculate Conception Seminary and the College Seminary at St. Andrew's Hall.

They joined a stream of hundreds of other seminarians converging on the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the canonization Mass of Father Junípero Serra, the Franciscan missionary and the patron of religious vocations.

"We were so many that I was not able to find a seat, so they put us outside the basilica," said Dailon Lisabet-Sanchez, 29, a first-year student at Immaculate Conception Seminary who stood with fellow classmates on the front steps, watching the Mass on the large video screens.

He saw Francis from a distance twice, as the "pope-mobile" arrived and left. His mother had gotten a better

view two days earlier in Cuba at the Mass the pope said in Holguín, the diocese where Lisabet-Sanchez lived until he left to join his father in Miami in 2006. “She was very happy to see him,” he said. “It was the first time she saw a pope.”

He had seen the pope once before, on a spring break trip to Rome with some St. Andrew’s classmates, but the canonization Mass of Junípero Serra touched a deeper spot in him. “To know that he was a man who was one of the first who came here to the United States and brought the faith, that’s something that’s special.” (The seminary has a gold silk chasuble from the Franciscan missionary seminary in Mexico that was home for 18 years to Serra, who is thought to have worn it.)

While Lisabet-Sanchez and his fellow seminarians watched the Mass from the basilica steps, Father Michael Russo ’67/M.Div. ’75 watched from a place familiar to him from all the other papal visits he has covered since 1978: a television control-room truck parked outside. “I always tell people, ‘You probably see more of the papal trip than I do,’ in the sense that I’m not following every moment of the pope’s day,” said Father Russo, a professor of communication studies at St. Mary’s College of California.

Father Russo’s pope-watching career started in 1965, when Pope Paul VI became the first pope to visit the United States. He and his father saw the pope bless St. Patrick’s Cathedral and bless the crowd. “I’m a real groupie when it comes to that kind of thing.”

Father Russo’s journalism career started when he was in the seminary and was hired by a fellow alumnus to work as Walter Cronkite’s desk assistant at CBS News. He continued working in the special events unit at CBS — “elections, conventions and moonshots,” as he describes it, and eventually papal deaths, elections and visits. For this visit, he was working as a media expert for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, consulted and interviewed by reporters and producers following the pope. He also wrote for the ABC News political blog, *The Note*, and for his own blog, *The Francis Factor*.

None of this got him any closer to a photo-op with the pope than a life-size cutout at one of the media centers where he spent the week.

“People have this funny notion that somehow if you’re a priest you’re just going to be escorted into a room with the pope,” he said. “There are many more bodies ahead of me.”

Washington: Thursday, September 24

Father Russo watched the pope’s speech to Congress from the press room “several stories into the belly of the Washington Convention Center,” as he wrote in his blog. He was moved when Pope Francis cited two prominent American Catholics in the speech — Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton — but he highlighted another, perhaps more telling, moment in his ABC News blog.



SIGN OF PEACE: The faithful sign a portrait of Pope Francis after his visit to Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Richard Perry, *The New York Times*.

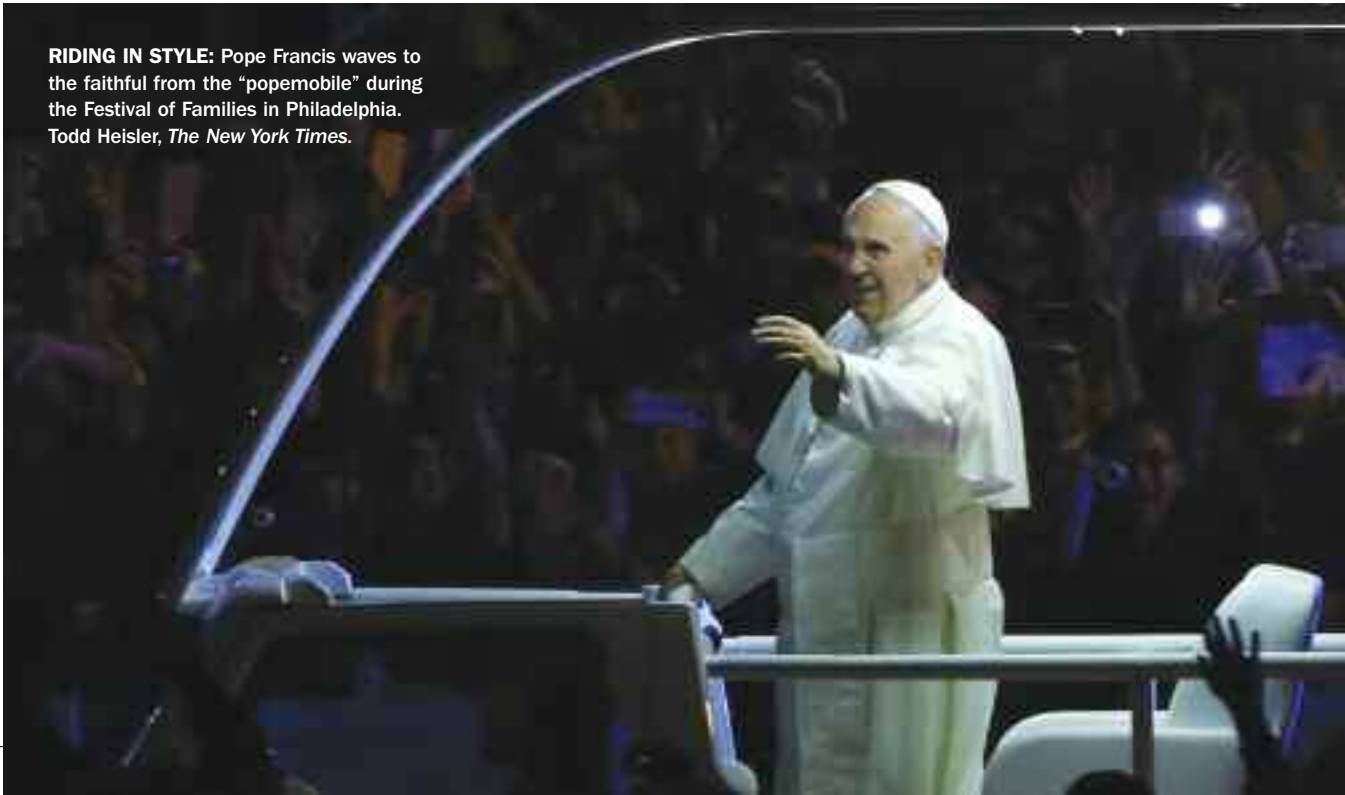
“For me, one amazing image of Pope Francis stands out, that of him riding in the ‘popemobile’ as his motorcade moved down Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House to St. Matthew’s Cathedral,” he wrote. “The cheering crowds on the sidewalk, the fast pace of the Secret Service beside the vehicle, and the pope’s loving and smiling embrace of the few children allowed to come to him caught my attention. We have parades like this for presidential inaugurations, but this was one huge victory lap, and reminiscent in size to that of General Douglas MacArthur’s return from the Pacific after World War II.”

Late that afternoon, Father Russo took the train to New York, and Pope Francis took his Fiat back to Joint Base Andrews. An American Airlines 777 — with a papal insignia decal outside and a microphone system inside so he could talk to the traveling press — was designated as Shepherd One and assigned to carry him to New York

and Philadelphia and then back to Rome. “It wasn’t really until we were at Andrews and the motorcade circled and he was on his way up the jet bridge that I was like, ‘Holy moly, I’m flying the pope,” said Thomas Murray, whose daughter Laurel is a junior communication major at Seton Hall.

Murray, a pilot with American for more than 30 years, had gotten the call two months earlier asking him to serve as first officer on the four-person flight crew. He and his wife, Donna, are devout Catholics, active both in their parish (St. Paul’s in Princeton, N.J.) and in the schools their three children attended. “I thought of nothing else every waking moment for two months,” he said. “If I had a free second, I was thinking about it.”

He prepared by compiling a 140-page guide for his iPad. He flew C-141 transport planes in the Air Force Reserve for 10 years, is a decorated veteran of the first Gulf War, has hauled the limousine on presidential trips and has twice carried secretaries-general of the United Nations. “But they’re not in the same category as His Holiness.”



RIDING IN STYLE: Pope Francis waves to the faithful from the “popemobile” during the Festival of Families in Philadelphia. Todd Heisler, *The New York Times*.

New York: Friday, September 25

While Pope Francis was addressing the United Nations General Assembly on Friday, Dean Bartoli was at the National September 11 Memorial and Museum in New York, waiting to see him at the interfaith prayer service; Father Russo was sitting with a TV anchor from the local CBS affiliate in a makeshift studio atop an adjacent hotel, offering more commentary; and Marianna Eboli, a junior diplomacy major, was shuffling slowly in the daylong line to enter Central Park for the papal motorcade late that afternoon, posting all the while on Twitter, Snapchat and Instagram for a social-media campaign called Pope Is Hope.

As Bartoli waited for the Ground Zero service to begin, he spoke live on *The Brian Lehrer Show* on public radio station WNYC. “The scene is incredible, and we are actually in the cavernous area of the memorial where you are really deep into the earth, and everybody’s here, all religions, all people of the earth,” he told the listeners. “And with this pope that is many ways not just somebody to talk but somebody that really would like to listen, somebody that would like to welcome the sorrow of humanity, somebody that would like to connect with the pain of humanity, I think that this is a perfect place and a perfect moment.”

As the pope left to visit a school in East Harlem, Mari Eboli was still trudging along in the Central Park line, wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with the pope emoji that the Pope Is Hope campaign was spreading.

Eboli had been chosen as one of the volunteers for the “digital street team” sponsored by Aleteia USA, a

A MESSAGE OF HOPE: Pope Francis speaks to inmates at Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility in Philadelphia. Todd Heisler, *The New York Times*.



Catholic global media company, and a CBS camera crew was following her for a story. “The whole point was to show the pope’s visit through the millennials’ eyes in social media,” she said. “We wanted to show that, in the moment of need that the world is at, we’re all still together, we’re all still doing acts of kindness; that no matter how hard things get, good is winning and good will win.”

After almost eight hours in line, Eboli finally reached a spot atop a small rise near the end of the pope’s motorcade route through the park. “You could hear this wave of screams and cheering coming,” she said.

She tweeted a message and a photo of him waving: “And just like that he stole my heart, the cutest little thing I’ve ever seen! Feeling so blessed,” she wrote.

Then she watched him get into the Fiat for the trip to his next stop, Madison Square Garden. “When I saw him I had tears in my eyes. I called my grandma in Brazil so she could feel the emotion that everyone was feeling.”

The Mass at the Garden was the pope’s last New York event, and in the crowd were 16 seminarians from the Diocese of Camden who are studying at Immaculate Conception Seminary. “What struck me was the effort he was making,” said John March, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy who served as a Marine officer in Iraq and is now a first-year seminary student. “I was struck by his work ethic, that at his age he’d be willing to take on a schedule like he did.”

March kept a particularly close eye on Pope Francis after Communion. “You could just tell he’s a very prayerful man,” he said. “He seems to really focus on the condition of our hearts, and that we do have numbness in our hearts. He’s encouraging us to let God soften those numb parts of our hearts, and that’s a message I need to hear.”



PREACHING TO THE WORLD: The pontiff prepares to address the U.N. General Assembly in New York. Todd Heisler, *The New York Times*.

Philadelphia: Saturday, September 26

On Shepherd One’s flight from New York to Philadelphia on Saturday morning, Thomas Murray’s passenger had a surprise request. “He asked to sit in the cockpit with us,” he said. So the pope sat in a jump seat behind the pilots, right next to the laptop sleeve in which Murray was carrying flags from his children’s schools, including Seton Hall. “It was just so amazing to be sitting in my workplace with His Holiness sitting right behind me.”

That night, when Pope Francis presided over the Festival of Families, Andrea Bartoli was among the guests seated onstage with him. “He spoke off the cuff, and he was clearly at home, and clearly very happy with people,” Bartoli said. “He has this wonderful warmth that is so inviting, and America responded to that very beautifully — the idea that we could be better, that we can take care of one another.”

And at the end of the evening — after Andrea Bocelli had sung the Lord’s Prayer, and Pope Francis had led the massive crowd in a Hail Mary and offered a final blessing — Andrea Bartoli shook the pope’s hand.

Philadelphia to Rome: Sunday, September 27

The flight home on Sunday night was the leg of the trip that concerned Thomas Murray the most. They were headed not to the main airport in Rome, but to a smaller, secondary one with a shorter runway.

The pope offered personal audiences to each of the crew members on the flight, and it was somewhere over the Atlantic that Murray had his. “You sit down and try not to cry right off the bat,” he said. “The Vatican took photos and in the first one it looks like I’m about ready to break down. He’s got a big smile on his face and all he’s looking at is me.”

Murray then gave the pope a patch he had designed as a memento of the trip: the pilots’ names around the Vatican logo for the U.S. visit, with the pope’s own motto at the bottom: *Miserando atque eligendo*, humble and chosen. “I explained to him that we were very humbly chosen as pilots,” he said.

The landing was smooth and uneventful. “When we got to the parking spot and I shut down the engines, the whole trip washed over me. We’d been up most of the night so it was mixture of relief and exhaustion,” he said. “And then I turned around and His Holiness is standing there. He had come to the door to say thanks.” ■

Kevin Coyne is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.

The Fight Against Alzheimer's

A neurologist by training,

Dr. Vincent Fortanasce's life's work became intensely personal when his father developed Alzheimer's disease in the early 1980s.

"I watched for nine years how he deteriorated and there was nothing I could do," he recalls. "Here I am, a neurologist, and I can't treat my own dad. The medications that we had were completely useless, and I knew it from my experience."

"It was one of the most painful things you can possibly imagine, being completely helpless as a physician and seeing my mom try to deal with it. She'd be dancing with him later on in life, but he didn't know where he was."

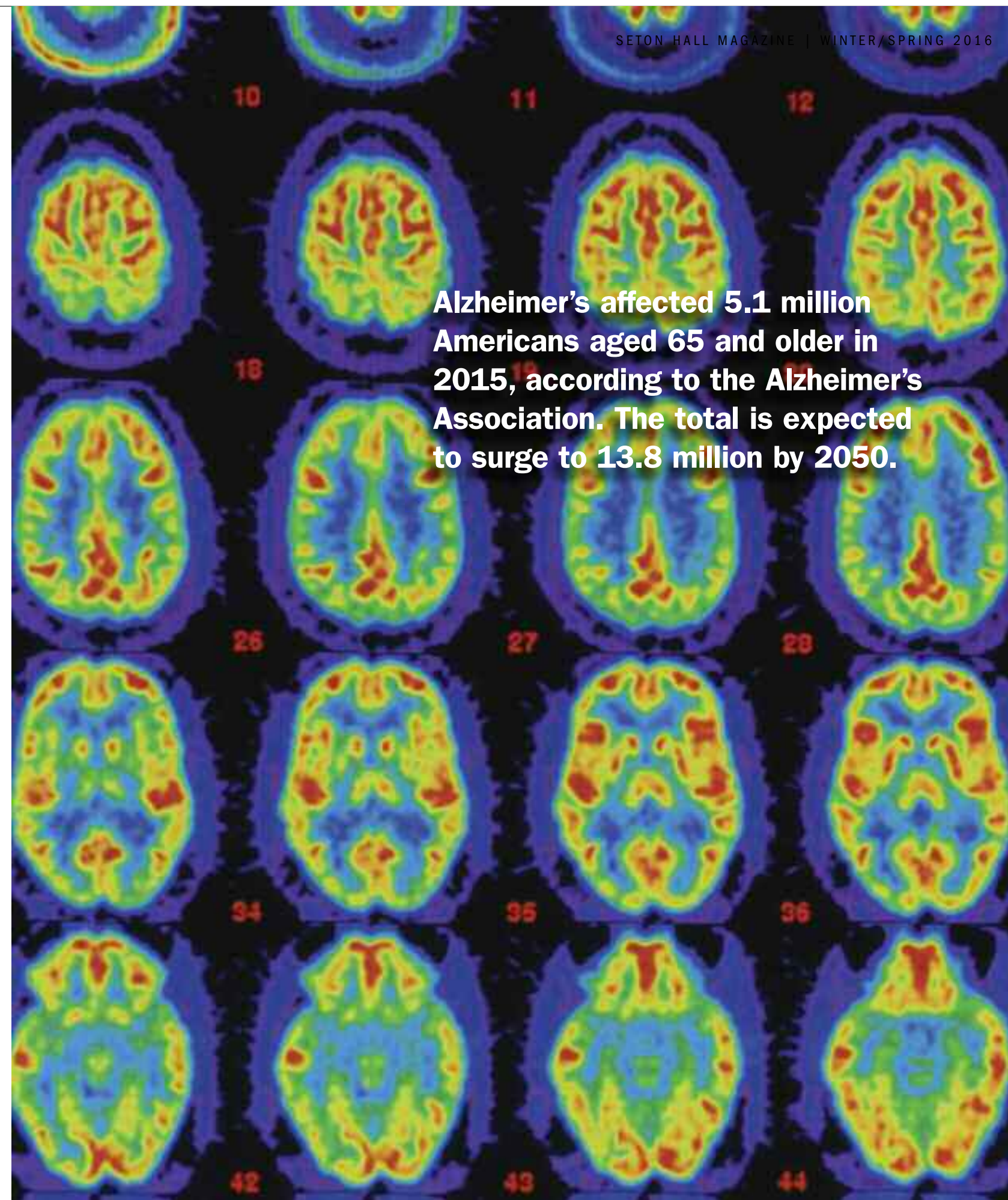
Fortanasce's father died in 1991, at the age of 80. Since then, the disease's toll has become only more pronounced. The condition affected 5.1 million Americans aged 65 and older in 2015, according to the Alzheimer's Association. The total is expected to surge to 13.8 million by 2050.

With no cure in sight, Fortanasce, who runs a suburban Los Angeles medical practice and for 30 years has been a clinical professor of neurology at the University of Southern California, has doubled down his efforts to further understand and slow the unremitting devastation of the disease. In 2010, he published *The Anti-Alzheimer's Prescription*, which provides dietary, exercise and lifestyle recommendations that Fortanasce believes will help cut a person's chance of acquiring the disease.

While science hasn't discovered a way to unravel the mystery, Fortanasce says he's found success with a pair of programs that he designed to improve cognitive performance. The first is called DEAR – for Diet, Exercise, Accentuating the brain's reserve (or "neurobics," activities such as brain teasers and puzzles), and Rest and Recovery.

Like never before, diets rich in high-fructose corn syrup are influencing brain chemistry and making it difficult for the body to expunge toxic substances, he says. In 1965, the United States produced 6,000 tons of high-fructose corn syrup; by 2010, the total had skyrocketed to more than 6 million tons, Fortanasce says. "Every time

Alzheimer's affected 5.1 million Americans aged 65 and older in 2015, according to the Alzheimer's Association. The total is expected to surge to 13.8 million by 2050.



you take a piece of chocolate, every time you take a doughnut, they’re all infused with high-fructose corn syrup. It’s one of the major causes of Alzheimer’s,” he adds.

A second Fortanasce-created program is called TEAM, (Treat Early Alzheimer’s and Mild Cognitive Impairment), which emphasizes physical exercise or, specifically, isometric work-outs in which muscles tense without moving. Physical activity stimulates insulin-like growth factor, which is secreted by the liver and helps create new cells and connections in the brain.

For years, researchers have been working to develop a vaccine to stop Alzheimer’s, but to no avail. And until a cure is found, Fortanasce is pushing the limits of treatment.

“He has kept hope alive for a lot of patients, that’s the most important thing,” says Dr. William Preston, a Laguna Hills, Calif., neurologist and former president of the California Neurology Society. “He draws from personal experience. It’s really caused him to have an understanding and empathy beyond most individuals.”

Dr. Stan Alexander, an Arcadia, Calif., rheumatologist who has known Fortanasce since the pair were on the medical staff at Methodist Hospital of Southern California, calls his friend and colleague his “first and foremost” reference for neurologic disorders.

“Dr. Fortanasce not only clarifies Alzheimer’s disease, he clarifies how to separate it from other forms of dementia in order to focus therapy or prevention,” Alexander says.

At 72, Fortanasce is a year younger than the age at which his father was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s. His own prevention efforts start at breakfast, when he eats a bowl of oatmeal with blueberries and turmeric, an Indian herb thought to decrease Beta-amyloid plaques, clumps of protein that block brain cell functioning. He also adds a dash of pepper, which can increase absorbability of the turmeric.

Fortanasce also lifts weights and performs the isometric exercises he preaches (“It’s very easy to do at a table. You can almost say your prayers while you’re doing it.”) Exercise always has been part of his life’s routine. He wrestled and played third base for the Seton Hall baseball team, and would have competed in weightlifting in the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympics had he not been sidelined by an injury.

(For the record, his personal-best bench press is 510 pounds. And while he’s no longer approaching such lofty marks, “I still

lift a lot more than any of my medical students,” Fortanasce says with a laugh. “I always tell them that when they get as old as me, then they’ll be as strong.”)

Medicine wasn’t his first career choice. At 6, Fortanasce wanted to become a priest. He attended Cathedral Preparatory School and Seminary in Brooklyn, but later became interested in studying psychological disorders.

On the advice of a friend, Fortanasce, after completing his pre-med education at Seton Hall (majoring in biology and minoring in languages and philosophy), went to medical school at the University of Padua in Italy, where he studied psychiatry. He then completed a residency in psychiatry at The Institute of Living in Connecticut, and later in neurology at USC.

“At the end of the residency, it became very apparent to me that Freud didn’t have the answers, so I said, ‘You know, science has the answers,’ so I went into neurology. In the end, I realized that it really is God who has the answers.”

Seton Hall played no small part in Fortanasce’s personal development.

“There was an expectation of excellence,” he says, adding that he appreciated the “camaraderie” on campus. “If you could succeed there, you could succeed anywhere.”

In the battle against Alzheimer’s, Fortanasce remains a high-profile presence. He’s been featured on *60 Minutes*, *Dateline* and *The Today Show*, in addition to being quoted in numerous newspapers. His practice also treats spinal pain, and patients include recently retired quarterback Peyton Manning, former baseball manager Tommy Lasorda and actor Sylvester Stallone.

But there’s one patient who stands above the rest: Pope John Paul II.

Fortanasce was attending a papal Mass in Rome in 2000, when he was surprised to see the pontiff walking with a cane. He turned to the pope’s secretary, who was sitting next to Fortanasce. “I asked, ‘What’s he doing with a cane? He’s going to trip over it,’” Fortanasce recalls. “I said, ‘Does anybody know he has Parkinson’s?’”

Fortanasce, who was in Rome volunteering his medical expertise through the Order of Malta, an organization that offers emergency medical care around the globe, was summoned the next day — and escorted by eight Swiss Guards — to meet the Holy Father.



Fortanasce examined the pope for 30 minutes, learning that he was taking L-dopa, a chemical used to shore up the brain’s dwindling supply of dopamine, a neurotransmitter essential for movement and memory. Fortanasce prescribed an additional drug to aid absorption of the L-dopa. He also recommended an exercise regimen.

The two parted after the pontiff blessed a bottle of water Fortanasce brought with him from Lourdes, France, where the Virgin Mary is reported to have appeared 18 times. The town is hailed for its visions and miracles. Fortanasce still keeps the bottle in his refrigerator, and he occasionally gives vials of the water to his sickest patients.

Fortanasce lives out a deep faith. This year he will host a weekly talk show on the EWTN Global Catholic Television

Network, in which he will discuss medicine and ethics and touch on issues that include eugenics, euthanasia and, of course, the spiritual implications of Alzheimer’s.

Brain science, for its part, remains a riddle wrapped in a mystery, something for which Fortanasce is well suited.

“Being a neurologist means you’re the Sherlock Holmes of medicine,” he says.

Fortanasce hopes to crack the case. ■

Andrew Faught is a freelance writer in Fresno, Calif. He has written widely on issues and ideas of higher education.

What Makes Ryan Run?

Cross-country running is a far more mentally challenging sport than a physically grueling one, says senior Ryan Flannery, three-time captain of Seton Hall's cross-country team and a top-five finisher in a raft of races he ran during his sophomore and junior seasons. He sees it as a test of character:

"You think your body can't do it, but it can. You have to keep telling yourself, 'keep going' as your body is breaking down. 'Keep going, keep going.' It's like life."

Running through every kind of challenge might be a metaphor for Flannery's life so far. The son of a widowed mother, Michele, who works long hours at Wal-Mart, and brother to Sean, a cheerful young man with autism, Flannery understands the payoff of persistence. Indeed, he flirted with the idea of quitting the team from exhaustion his freshman year before going on to multiple triumphs.

The story is that Ryan arrived for training the August before his freshman year, out of shape by university-level competitive standards and not too sure of his talents. He considered himself a competent runner at Lacey Township High School in southern New Jersey, "but I wasn't like No. 1 in the state; I was not even No. 1 on my team."

But he'd been recruited by Seton Hall's renowned track and cross-country coach John Moon, who saw something in him. "I remember him being very adamant about believing in me," Flannery recalls of his first conversation with Coach Moon, a former Olympian and one the fastest humans on earth in the early 1960s.

From 43 years of coaching experience, Moon says, "You can't tell from stats, you can't just look at a film and tell if a boy's dedicated." That takes a face-to-face conversation. And from the chat they had, Moon knew that the record of "a just-average runner" did "not reflect what he would become." He explains: "This guy, I mean, he was just motivated to excel."

Moon pushed, encouraged, trained and inspired Flannery, who hardened through a punishing 70- and 80-mile-a-week training regimen to finish his freshman year as a top competitor, not a dropout. Along the way, Moon became a mentor and father-figure for Flannery, whose own father had died of complications from alcoholism. "We developed a real bond," Moon relates, "through talking over difficulties and personal issues... Once he graduates, I feel like I'm going to be losing a son."

RUNNER'S MUSE: Flannery credits his mom as a major source of inspiration. "I owe a lot to her," he says.

The process also created an instinct for leadership, Flannery says, adding that he leads his teammates "through example" — on the track "by screaming encouraging words" and off the track in excellence in classroom work and personal standards.

Flannery calls his motivational method "working through that mental bridge, knowing that you can do it," and applies it to his budding career as a radio deejay and sports announcer. At the College of Communication and the Arts, his concentration is in radio — an interest he brought from high school, where he called football and basketball games.

Today, his on-air credits include being commentator for

Seton Hall women's basketball and host of the *Whatchu Been Missin'* hip-hop show on WSOU. Working into the wee hours and training in the early morning, Flannery also found time to win a third-place prize (for a radio spot he created) in a nationwide contest organized by NextRadio and College Broadcasters Inc., as well as first-place honors for Best Sports Audio Play-by-Play at College Broadcasters' national convention in October.

For the time being, though, the "pinnacle" of his college career was being named captain of the 15-man cross-country team, he says. Coach Moon (who tutored 19 Olympic athletes so far during his career) would agree: "I just wish I could clone him and have him as team captain here for the next 40 years." ■



Seton Hall: A Powerhouse of Liberos

Those who aren't avid volleyball fans may not know what a libero is, or its vital importance to a team's success. But at Seton Hall, the unique defensive position has been given its due, and the Pirates have nearly perfected it.

"We have made it our goal to excel on defense and produce strong liberos," said head coach Allison Yaeger. "There are tons of libero and defensive specialist recruits, but being former liberos ourselves, we've done a good job of being able to spot the rare standouts."

A libero is a defensive specialist who is not limited to volleyball's usual rules of rotation or substitution. She is on the court more than most players, manning the team's back row, and often replaces the middle blocker or weaker defensive players when that position rotates to the back. Because of her extended court time, she is often the team captain and vocal leader on the floor. A libero wears a different-colored uniform so she stands out from her teammates.

In each of the last four seasons, a member of the Seton Hall women's volleyball team has won BIG EAST Libero of the Year. In 2012 and 2013, the honor went to Alyssa Warren '14. Since then, current junior Tessa Fournier has won the prestigious title in back-to-back years.

So how does a school become so impressive at one position? It helps when its head coach, Allison Yaeger, was an All-American libero while at Wright State. Assistant coach Allie Matters '10 was a libero at Seton Hall and graduated as the Pirates' all-time digs leader. The current career digs leader? Alyssa Warren. Fournier ranks third, right behind Matters.



STALWART DEFENDERS: (Facing page) Junior Tessa Fournier demonstrates the prowess that earned her back-to-back BIG EAST Libero of the Year honors. (Above) Alyssa Warren '14, Seton Hall's career digs leader, was also twice selected BIG EAST Libero of the Year.

Clearly, in a relatively short period of time, the program has built not only a reputation, but a tradition of excellence at the position.

"We try to find players that were similar to ourselves, in mannerisms, skill and leadership," Matters said. "I remember when I was recruiting current sophomore Sarah Kenneweg. I was walking out of the gym and I saw her fly across the floor ... really sacrificing herself, and I was like, 'I want that kid.' Recruiting that position comes easy to us, and fortunately it has paid off."

Warren, now a volunteer assistant coach with the Florida Atlantic University beach volleyball team, also credits keen recruiting as Seton Hall's primary reason for becoming a breeding ground for standout liberos.

"The coaches know how to find players who have a very hungry attitude, can compete at a high level, and are willing to grow and be coachable," Warren said. "Liberos must have a winning attitude and the coaches know how to find it."

Clarification: The Fall 2015 article about Craig Biggio's induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame referred to the "the Seton Hall baseball team that went 45-10 and won the school's first BIG EAST championship in 1987." Seton Hall won its first BIG EAST championship in baseball in 1987. The first BIG EAST title for any sport at Seton Hall was men's indoor track in 1981.

The libero is often the unsung hero for a successful team. Offensive players, responsible for scoring points with a timely block or a thunderous spike, typically garner the majority of praise for a team's success. The Pirates, however, understand that without a reliable defensive back row, offense would be impossible.

"We understand that the libero and defensive players are the underdogs," Yaeger said. They're not in the spotlight; they rarely get the credit for a big point. That's why we go out of our way to celebrate the big dig or the perfect pass, just as much as we do the kill."

"That grit and all-out defense has really been something that's defined us," Matters added. "We're perfectly fine with defense being our identifier."

Next season, Fournier has an opportunity to achieve an honor that so far has been accomplished by only one player in BIG EAST history: to win Libero of the Year honors three times.

"The coaches have taught me how to be a leader on and off the court," Fournier said. "They have given me so much advice on how to become a better player and improve my volleyball skills. I would not be where I am without them."

Just as in basketball, where Seton Hall's outstanding string of premier point guards led to the moniker "Point Guard University," perhaps now a new nickname is appropriate in volleyball: "Libero University." ■

50s

Walter Alina '56 was among a group of scientists who received a 2015 Inventor of the Year Award from the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame.

60s

Richard “Dick” Vitale '62 and his wife, Lorraine, donated \$1 million to Notre Dame to fund the creation of the Dick Vitale Family Spirit Scholarship. ... **Diane Sawyer, M.S. '65** is the author of five mystery novels: *The Montauk Mystery*, *The Montauk Steps*, *The Tomoka Mystery*, *The Cinderella Murders*, and *The Treasures of Montauk Cove*. ... **Robert Tarte '65/J.D. '69** was elected the Eastern Regional District Governor Chair for UNICO National. ... **Andrew Paszkowski '68**, retiring after 44 years of community planning and 22 years of pastoral ministry, now serves as president of the Falling Spring (Pa.) AARP. ... **Vincent Tavormina '69** was elected as state treasurer for the New Jersey Knights of Columbus. ... **Michael Thornton '69** retired after 45 years with Verizon, where he held executive management positions in IT and e-commerce.

70s

Anthony Vignuolo, J.D. '70 became a member of the Brunswick Bank and Trust's board of trustees. ... **Tova Navarra '74** wrote *New Jersey Artists through Time*, the most recent addition to her repertoire, which includes authorship of more than 30 books. ... **Jean D’Meza Leuner '75** was named dean of the newly formed College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Auburn University Montgomery in Montgomery, Ala. ... **Anthony Principi, J.D. '75**, former secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, was appointed to Imprimis Pharmaceuticals' board of directors. ... **Robert Starosciak '75/M.A. '78** is the author of a new novel, *The Bobby Fulton Story*. ... **Paulette Brown, J.D. '76** was elected president of the American Bar Association, the first African-American woman to hold that position. ... **Lorraine Sulick-Morecraft '78** published *Stories from My Galley: A Sailor's Memoir, Recipes Included*. ... **Robert Tomlinson Jr. '78** was hired by Bergio International as senior vice president of business development. ... **Jeffrey Buchalter '79** was appointed as a non-executive director and chairman of the board for Inivata Ltd., a clinical cancer genomics company.

80s

Dianne De Marco-Ochse '80/M.S.N. '07 was selected as Educator of the Year at Middle Road Elementary School in Hazlet by the New Jersey Department of Education and Monmouth County Superintendent's Roundtable Teacher/Educational Services Professional Recognition Program. ... **Peter Episcopo '81** received the 2015 Pilot Award for the development of the Adobe Certification Training and Testing Program at Full Sail University, Winter Park, Fla. ... **Robert Leszczak '81** recently published three books — *Encyclopedia of Pop Music Aliases*, *From Small Screen to Vinyl*, and *Single Season Sitcoms of the 1980s*. He is beginning work on his ninth book, *Dynamic Duos on Disc: 1955–1990*, and is the afternoon drive host at WJRZ-FM in Monmouth and Ocean counties, N.J. ... **Patrick Hobbs '82** was named the athletic director at Rutgers University. ... **William McCarthy Jr. '83** received the 2015 Man of All Seasons Award from the St. Thomas More Society of Maryland. ... **Robert Femia, M.S. '84/Ph.D. '85** was named senior vice president of chemical medicines and general chapters for the United States Pharmacopeial Convention. ... **Denis Stypulkoski '84** was appointed to the

Continued



The Voice

When the last falsetto note faded away and the house lights came up, Manny Cabo '94 looked down from the stage to see four music superstars giving him a standing ovation.

So began Cabo's experience on NBC's *The Voice*. In blind auditions held in early summer 2015, the Elizabeth, N.J., native earned a coveted four-chair turn — each of the show's judges wanted him on their team.

Cabo, at 45, was one of the older contestants last season. His experience and passion led many contestants to see him as a mentor. They joined him in his daily meditation sessions and came to him with their anxieties.

His advice to them? “Leave it all on the stage. It doesn't matter if you're performing for the bartender or a crowd of 50,000” — or a TV audience of 14 million — “you don't do it for the ratings. You do it because you love it.”

That love shines through in his successful fashion photography business, acting and performances as front man of his self-titled Quintet Manny Cabo. He directed his first theater performance in the fifth grade, and has recently begun pursuing an interest in painting. But Cabo credits Seton Hall with paving the way for him to pursue his artistic passions professionally.

Entering college, Cabo planned to go to law school. But he found his academic performance was suffering because he spent all of his time photographing scenes of Seton Hall student life. So Cabo became photo editor of *The Setonian* and changed his major to communication. The University gave him his own darkroom to hone his skills, and his photos were displayed in the University Center and published in *Seton Hall* magazine.

“Seton Hall was a launching pad for me to make me realize that I'm an artist, and I would be miserable for the rest of my life if I didn't entertain that passion.”

Even now, months after *The Voice* has ended, Cabo receives messages from fans worldwide that his appearance on the show inspired them to pursue their own passions, no matter what others might think. He has taken this message to local schools, and also has utilized his newfound influence to champion a wide variety of charitable causes, such as anti-bullying, rheumatoid arthritis and kids with cancer, to name just a few.

“It's crazy! I'm just a normal guy who had this thrown into his lap. But if I can use this fame to help and inspire people, I'm going to do that for as long as I'm alive, because you don't have to be perfect — just passionate — and you can manifest whatever you want. I'm living proof.” □

| WILLIAM F. GOLBA



Our Newest Pirate Alumni

December 2015 graduates were welcomed into the Seton Hall alumni family at the Champagne Toast with the President on Dec. 15. More than 100 graduating seniors and their families attended to hear remarks from President Esteban and celebrate the momentous occasion. Congratulations on a job well done, graduates.



Photos by Kristine Foley



ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS

In October, Seton Hall’s alumni Day of Service took place with more than 50 alumni participating across the country, giving back to their surrounding communities by serving at food banks and shelters, as well as cleaning up their local shoreline.

More than 300 alumni have volunteered at one or more of the more than 30 opportunities offered since July. Alumni have volunteered as guest lecturers, cleaned up the shores of New Jersey, participated in recruitment efforts, and continue to serve on boards and committees.

Thank you to the proud alumni, family and friends who help Seton Hall continue its tradition of service. Learn about the various ways you can give back to your alma mater at www.shu.edu/volunteer.

Above: Erwin Ganz '56 speaks to a diplomacy class about his life as a child living in Nazi Germany. Alumni volunteers prepare food for women at Calvary Women’s Services in Washington, D.C.

New Jersey Institute of Technology, College of Computing Sciences Advisory Board. ... **Pamela Miller, J.D. '85**, president and CEO of Summit Global Strategies Ltd., delivered the keynote address at the 2015 Saint Peter’s University Michaelmas Convocation. ... **Elizabeth Ryan, J.D. '85**, president and CEO of the New Jersey Hospital Association, received the Burlington County Light of Hope Award at Catholic Charities’ 26th Annual Guardian Angel Dinner Dance. ... **Michael Egenton '86** was promoted to executive vice president of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce. ... **Michael Giresi '86** was named senior vice president and chief information officer for Royal Caribbean Cruises. ... **Lisa Adubato, J.D. '87** was appointed a superior court judge, serving Essex County, N.J. ... **Anthony Bucco, J.D. '87** and his father were the recipients of the Columbian Foundation Humanitarian, Achievement and President’s Award, the first father and son honorees in the foundation’s 74-year history. The foundation’s philanthropic efforts include the establishment of the Italian Institute at Seton Hall. ... **Rosalyn Charles, J.D. '87** was appointed the new municipal prosecutor for Bloomfield, N.J. ... **Daniel McCarthy, J.D. '87** became a member of the Brunswick Bank and Trust’s board of trustees. ... **Raymond Potter '89** joined Stifel Financial Corp. in the institutional group’s Fixed Income Capital Markets in the Emerging Markets Group.

90s

Rocco Iossa, J.D. '90 joined the law firm Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi PC. ... **Father Robert Simon, M.Div. '90** built a 14-by-6-foot Lego rendition of St. Peter’s Basilica, which is featured at the Franklin Institute of Science Museum in Philadelphia as part of its “Vatican Splendors” exhibit. ... **Dr. James Wittig '90** co-authored the book, *Operative Techniques in Orthopaedic Surgical Oncology, Second Edition*. ... **Martin McParland Jr., M.A.E. '91** was appointed chief of police in Rockaway Township, N.J. ... **Enrique Washington '91/M.A. '93** co-authored *Competencies at Work: Providing a Common Language for Talent Management*. ... **Edward Sperling, M.B.A. '92** was appointed executive vice president, corporate controller for CIT Group Inc. and CIT Bank NA. ... **Judith Schmidt, M.S.N. '93** was named chief executive officer of the New Jersey State Nurses Association. ... **Michellene Davis '94/J.D. '97**, executive vice president of corporate affairs for Barnabas Health, was selected to receive the 2015 Newark Community Health Centers Distinguished Service Award. ... **Abraham Kasbo '94/M.P.A. '99** collaborated with Seton Hall Professor Emeritus Philip Kayal to direct and produce the documentary *A Thousand and One Journeys: The Arab Americans*. ... **Stephen Brilliant, M.S.T. '95** was named as the “Best of the Best” accountant by the *Courier News’* Best of Somerset County Readers’ Choice Awards. ... **Philip Borker, M.P.A. '96** was named vice president of ambulatory services and network development at Jersey City Medical Center-Barnabas Health. ... **Ana Mauriello '98** was promoted to first vice president, Manhattan district operations manager at Valley National Bank in Wayne, N.J. ... **Beatriz “Betty” Manetta, M.S. '99** received the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s 2015 Businesswoman of the Year Award.

00s

Iskender “Alex” Catto, J.D. '00 joined global law firm Greenberg Traurig as chair of the firm’s power industry projects and restructuring group. ... **Zorali De Feria Alvarez, M.A. '00** became director of the Museo de Arte at the University of Puerto Rico’s Mayaguez Campus. ... **Dominick Gratale, J.D. '00** joined Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Coccia Realty’s Secaucus office as a sales agent, after practicing law for more than a decade. ... **Richard Kielbania, J.D. '00** returned to Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti LLP as counsel in the firm’s products liability group. ... **Jhanice Domingo, J.D. '02** was elected president-elect of the National Filipino American Lawyers Association and was appointed partner of the Denville, N.J., law firm Einhorn Harris. ... **Sue Kida, M.H.A. '02** was appointed president of Select Medical’s Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in West Orange, N.J. ... **Paul LaGreca, M.A.T. '02** co-starred in the independent feature film, *A Journey to a Journey*. ... **David Petriello '02** wrote his third book, *Bacteria and Bayonets: The Impact of Disease in American Military History*. ... **James Conroy, M.A. '03** was appointed chief of police for the East Brunswick Police Department in New Jersey. ... **Dawn Brevard-Waters, J.D. '04** was appointed trial court administrator for the Middlesex County Courthouse in New Jersey. ... **Heather Reinhardt '04/M.S. '12** was named Outstanding Clinical Physician Assistant by the New Jersey State Society of Physician Assistants. ... **Dr. Roland Hamilton '05** joined WellStar Medical Group-Neuroscience. ... **Kari Mastro, M.S.N. '05** was named a 2015 Jonas Policy Scholar by the American Academy of Nursing and the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare. ... **Vincenzo Mogavero '05/J.D. '08** was selected to Super Lawyers’ “2015 New York Rising Stars” list. ... **Dr. Aaron Ilano '06** completed his general surgery residency and began a vascular surgery fellowship at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pa. ... **Kelly Kaysonepheth '06** was named to the 2015 “40 Under 40” list of the *Phoenix Business Journal*. ... **Christopher Colbert '07** became the director of urban talk and comedy for SiriusXM Radio. ... **David Gourley, M.H.A. '07** became the director of clinical operations and risk management for Millennium Respiratory Services in Whippany, N.J. ... **JoAnn Cardillo, Ed.D. '08** is the new superintendent of Passaic Valley High School in New Jersey. ... **Alexander Anemone, Ed.D. '09** was named superintendent of the Butler Public School District in Morris County, N.J. ... **Linda Manus '09** was among Huffington Post’s “40 Under 40 Latinos in American Politics.” ... **Elen Woods, M.A. '09** accepted a position as associate registrar at the Aspen Art Museum in Aspen, Colo.

10s

Meghan St. John '10 was hired as manager of partnership innovation and strategy at Save the Children in Fairfield, Conn. ... **Vianca Vélez '10** joined the Seton Hall Alumni Relations Office as associate director of alumni engagement. ... **Samuel Gardner III, M.A. '11** was honored by Able Body Christian Men in Philadelphia at their Fourth Annual “Race to Save Our Youth” Benefit Dinner. ... **Michelle Jamer '11** earned a Ph.D. in physics from

Continued

PROFILE



A Holistic Approach to Health Care

What does it take to give up your dream job? For Sharon Seitzman '80, the answer was a powerful sense of curiosity and a drive to serve others, developed during her time as a nursing student at Seton Hall.

Seitzman knew she wanted to be a nurse since she was a young girl. She loved the idea of helping others in a time of need. Seton Hall gave her the clinical skills to be successful in her dream occupation. But it also taught her lessons outside the classroom that would expand that dream to helping patients afford the health care they receive.

As a commuter student, Seitzman was able to find community at Seton Hall through leadership in extracurricular activities. “It planted the seeds that there is a need for someone to take the lead in everything that happens, whether in campus life or professional life,” she says.

The critical thinking at the core of the clinical training at Seton Hall’s nursing program also instilled in her a sense of curiosity and taught her to “find the ‘why’ behind the ‘what.’”

After working for several years as a hospital nurse, Seitzman was given the opportunity to apply her critical thinking and leadership skills when a local health

maintenance organization (HMO), a concept that was still developing at the time, was looking for clinical nurses to conduct performance evaluation reviews. Though it meant a pay cut, she jumped at the chance.

“I didn’t know what an HMO was, but I knew it would give me the opportunity to learn the financial side of health care so I could help patients get the services they need,” she recalls.

Seitzman learned quickly, the curiosity honed at Seton Hall driving her to discover what health care means to the patient, the employer, the HMO and the insurance company.

Today, she is president of QualCare Inc., using that knowledge to manage the operations of a group health product line that services 900,000 members. While her title may have changed, what has never wavered is her drive to care for others.

“As a nurse in the hospital setting, I took care of patients until they were discharged from the hospital,” she says. “In my position, my job is to ensure our nurses coordinate care for our members across the entire continuum of care, from wellness coaching and health risk management to episodic and chronic condition management across all settings. It’s health care in its totality.” n

| WILLIAM F. GOLBA

Photo by Joy Yagid

Northeastern University in Boston. ... **Maria Keen '11/M.P.A. '13** was certified as a lactation counselor and became business manager for Bessie's Best Lactation Cookies. ... **Alyana Alfaro '12** was promoted to senior staff writer at PolitickerNJ. ... **Lance Alijo '12** joined Kreinces Rollins & Shanker LLC in Paramus, N.J., as a senior accountant. ... **Nicole Bitette '12** was promoted to digital content producer at New York Daily News. ... **Alvaro Hasani, J.D. '12** joined Fisher & Phillips LLP as an associate in the Murray Hill office. ... **Ashley Manz '12** was awarded the PRSA Foundation's first Chester Burger Scholarship for Excellence in Public Relations. ... **John "Jack" Wilson, M.A. '12** was named by the American Red Cross as director of services to the armed forces and international services for the Arizona, New Mexico and El Paso region. ... **Maria Perez '13's** film *The Definition of Autism* was selected to screen at the 2015 Golden Door International Film Festival in Jersey City and The Awareness Film Festival in Los Angeles. ... **Jacquelyn Bowen, M.A. '14** accepted a position as collections technician at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Philadelphia. ... **Zachary Blackwood '15** and **Ashley Jefferson '15** were selected by *Shark Tank's* Kevin O'Leary to participate in ABC's 20/20 "Secrets of the Sell" on-air sales challenge. ... **Kristina Bottone '15** became the manager of public relations and events for the Cancer Support Community of Central New Jersey.



Pumpkin-Picking Pirates

The North Jersey Alumni Regional Chapter's Fall Festival in October at Tranquillity Farms was a great success! More than 120 alumni, parents, friends and family of Seton Hall enjoyed a day of pumpkin picking, hay rides, corn mazes and other fun family activities.

Marriages

- Kristyn Karas, M.H.A. '03** to James Rolfe Jr. on April 25, 2015
- Brooke Marshall '03** to Michael Moran on September 19, 2015
- Diana Delgado '06/M.A.'11** to Christopher Kollar on October 17, 2015
- Rachel Sanford '07** to Joe Nemeth on October 10, 2015
- Mary Gazzale '08** to **Daniel Eversmeyer '08** on September 18, 2015
- Christine Vieira, M.A. '08** to Scott Pollack on April 18, 2015
- Nicole Del Vecchio '09** to Kevin DelMonte on October 10, 2015
- Kerri Hagen '09** to **Stephen Kelleher '09** on July 18, 2015
- Gabrielle Kiger '11** to **John Wallace '11** on October 10, 2015
- Lauren Cerra '11** to **Michael Fallon '11** on October 17, 2015
- McKenna Ronquillo '13/M.A. '14** to **Francis Schray Jr. '13** on October 17, 2015
- Amy Gromek, J.D. '14** to **Erik Schwind, M.B.A. '15** on May 23, 2015

Young Alumni Summer Reunion

Join graduates of the last 10 years at the 33rd annual young alumni summer reunion on June 25th at Bar A in Lake Como, N.J.

For more information, contact Daniela Gloor at daniela.gloor@shu.edu.



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, email Alumni Relations at alumni@shu.edu.

alumni benefits

Are you taking advantage of all the benefits available to you as a Seton Hall graduate? Don't miss out on car rental and insurance discounts, library and career center services, discounts for the Seton Hall University bookstore — and much more! To learn about all of the benefits offered, visit www.shu.edu/alumni.



Tying the knot



1. McKenna Ronquillo '13/M.A. '14 and Francis Schray Jr. '13 married October 17, 2015.
2. Mary Gazzale '08 and Daniel Eversmeyer '08 married September 18, 2015.
3. Diana Delgado '06/M.A. '11 and Christopher Kollar married October 17, 2015.
4. Nicole Del Vecchio '09 and Kevin DelMonte married October 10, 2015.
5. Brooke Marshall '03 and Michael Moran married September 19, 2015.
6. Gabrielle Kiger '11 and John Wallace '11 married October 10, 2015.





Baby Pirates

Joseph Sutton, J.D. '98 and Elana, a girl, Valerie Rachel, on July 19, 2013

Scottie Washington '00 and Kellen, a girl, Peyton S., on August 20, 2015

Melissa (Fernandez) Cullen '04 and TJ, a girl, Jada Maria, on June 17, 2015

Tara (McDermott) McGraw '04 and **Craig '05**, a girl, Ava Nancy, on November 18, 2015

Michael Gordon '06/J.D. '09 and Carolina, a boy, Jeremy Michael, on August 20, 2015

Tara (DeBerto) Robinson '07/M.S. '09 and Chris, a boy, Kyle Jordan, on October 19, 2015

Courtney Burns '14 and **Robert '14**, a girl, Clara Sophia, on April 27, 2015



Pirate Babies

- 1. Kyle Jordan, son of Tara (DeBerto) Robinson '07/M.S. '09 and Chris.
- 2. Ava Nancy, daughter of Tara (McDermott) McGraw '04 and Craig '05.
- 3. Jada Maria, daughter of Melissa (Fernandez) Cullen '04 and TJ.
- 4. Jeremy Michael, son of Michael Gordon '06/J.D. '09 and Carolina.
- 5. Clara Sophia, daughter of Courtney Burns '14 and Robert '14.
- 6. Peyton S., daughter of Scottie Washington '00 and Kellen.



GOLDEN PIRATES
Class of 1965

The Class of 1965 held a 50th reunion ceremony in October at Jubilee Hall. The event was the largest-attended Golden Pirates event ever, with more than 100 alumni returning to campus. We extend our best wishes to the 1965 Pirates.



Christmas
with The Hall 2015

This Christmas season, Seton Hall gathered with alumni near and far. While some alumni and their families were able to come “Home to The Hall” for events such as the Tree Lighting and the Pancake Breakfast with Santa and the Pirate, others were able to gather with fellow Pirates at the Christmas socials organized in various states across the country. Thanks to all those who gathered with us during the most wonderful time of the year!

- 1. Fifth Annual Alumni Pancake Breakfast with Santa and the Pirate.
- 2. San Francisco Regional Chapter alumni gather together for a Christmas social.
- 3. Tree Lighting Ceremony at Seton Hall on Dec. 1.

In Memoriam

- Edward McKeon '33
Joseph Egan '42
Florence Infante '44
Loyola Smith '47
Edward Byrne '49
Frank Campagna '49
William Mohr '49
Thomas Schear '49
Paul DeBacco '50
Thomas Jackson '50
Stuart Easter Jr. '51
Anthony Integlia '51
Father Peter Lennon '51/M.A. '59
Richard Regan '51
Monsignor Charles Stengel '51/M.Div. '56
Melvin Willett '51
William Butler '52
James Garrigan '52
Jane Haveron, M.A.E. '52
Stephen Scala '52
Alan Hirsch '53
James Shutt '53
Robert Turpak '53
Viola Crummy '54
H. Joseph North '54
- Thomas Richetti Sr., M.S. '54
Michael Calandra '56
Calvin Grupe '56
Edward Petrie '56
Sister Marie Rink '56
John Cronin '57
John Hoagland, J.D. '57/M.A.E. '65
Monsignor William Koplik '58
Carl Krah '58
Vincent Mulligan '58/M.A. '69
Robert Guglielmi '59
Sister Concetta Latina '59
Karl Lustig '59
Maria (DeSabato) McNamara '59
Benjamin DeCastro '60
Catherine DiCiancia '60
Edward G. Landry '60
Donald Tosh, M.A.E. '60
Doris Greer '61
Jerome Gregory '61
Ronald Rooney '61
Robert Shine '62
Michael Acocella '63
Anthony D'Agostino, M.A.E. '63
Sister Marie Millacci '63/M.A.E. '66
Anthony Scarpa '63
Mary Cheeks '64
- Nancy Fischer '64
Judith Flynn '64
Betty Forgeron, M.A.E. '64
Lynn Getchell, M.A. '64
Isabell (LaManna) Mendrick, M.A.E. '64
Francis Burns Jr. '65
John Fitzpatrick '65
Linda Diehl '66
Robert Yadlon, J.D. '66
Joseph Blake '67
Anne Stonaker, M.A.E. '67
Gerald O'Connor, J.D. '68
John Brinkman, M.B.A. '69
Martin Foy, M.B.A. '69
John Grillos '69/J.D. '73
John Henderson '69
Ronald Piatkowski '69
Sister Mary Riccardelli '69
Jane Bardes, M.A.E. '70
John Benedetto '70
John Pyatak '70
Sister Ann Rutan '70
Robert Rainone, M.B.A. '71
Pamela Gray Goodman, M.A.E. '72/Ed.S. '81/Ed.D. '86
Lawrence Kubilus '72
Raymond Reddick, M.B.A. '73
- Mary Grace Petteruti-Rudolph, M.A.E. '75
Edward Adams, J.D. '77
Margaret Kaveny '78
Joan Craper, M.A.E. '79
Patricia Gaines, M.A.E. '79/Ph.D. '92
Daniel Bandura, M.B.A. '80
Donald R. Marangi, M.S. '80
Kenneth Lemanski '81
John Ruggieri, J.D. '86
Barbara Squire, M.S.N. '86
Marguerite "Peggy" Leary Selton, J.D. '90
Anthony Servis, J.D. '91
Theodore Haussner '93
Rebecca (Scarpellino) Arp, Ph.D. '98
Lawrence Jefferson '08
Jean Scheriff, Ed.D. '08
John Grant, M.A.T. '10

Friends of the University

Marc Poirier
Richard Smith
Father Walter Lucey

Seton Hall wants to hear from you!

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.

#HallAlumni



Pirate Pride

- 1. Gary De Boer '05 and Tanya (Paitakes) De Boer '05 in Key West, Fla.
- 2-3. Jack Martin '69/M.A.E. '73, Michael Barrett '67/M.A.E. '73 and George Germann '65 in Ålesund, Norway, (left) and Martin, Germann and Barrett at the Seljalandsfoss waterfall in Iceland.
- 4. Greg Porpora '77, Rosemary (Barbieri) Porpora '78, Mary Ellen (McGowan) Urbanowicz '77 and Don Urbanowicz '77 in Rome.

Many Are One

Alumni Awards Gala

celebrating 30 years of servant leadership

Friday, June 10, 2016 | 6 p.m. | Hanover Marriott | Whippany, New Jersey

www.shu.edu/manyareone

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!



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Ashley N. Manz
Public Relations Professional


What advice do you have for incoming freshman?
Classes begin in a few short weeks! What is the best piece of advice you would give to a freshman at your alma mater?

Unlike | Comment | You | 17




Natasha Triplett Chose your roommate carefully!

Unlike | You | 3mo




Juliana Farrell, PMP Get involved, both inside and outside the classroom. Make sure your professors know who you are. Take advantage of everything Seton Hall has to offer!

Unlike | You + 1 | 3mo



Jim Ward Keep a healthy study and student life balance. Get involved in organizations but realize this is not High School Pt.2. Much is expected, and it can be the best years of your life.

Unlike | You | 3mo



Doreen Longo Arrive early if you are commuting to school. Learn to love the library time to know your fellow students.

Unlike | You + 1 | 3mo



Victoria Mound

@SetonHallAlumni My family and I had a blast at the Santa breakfast today!!!
@MatthewMound



1 | 2 | 5:45 PM - 6 Dec 2015

are you
social?

Seton Hall regularly monitors social media for alumni who show off their love for the University — and randomly rewards them with shares, shout-outs and prizes.



Ryan D. Comer

When you spot another #Pirate at your new job. @SetonHallAlumni @SetonHall #Setonians



1 | 10 | 2:00 PM - 2 Nov 2015



Samuel Gardner III

Enjoyed a great night at @BruPhilly with my fellow @SetonHallAlumni for our Christmas social. #ProudSHUalum #GoPirates



1 | 1 | 8:00 PM - 14 Dec 2015



Kaitlyn Reper

@SetonHallAlumni Great day at the Food Bank with fellow Young Alum



2 | 1 | 12:34 PM - 14 Nov 2015

WEBINARS

Seton Hall's free webinar series offers alumni, parents and friends the opportunity to continue learning.

Work-Life Balance | April 21

Building Character to Gain Success | May 19

Networking 101: Build Relationships and Advance in Your Career | June 16

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PRESENTS

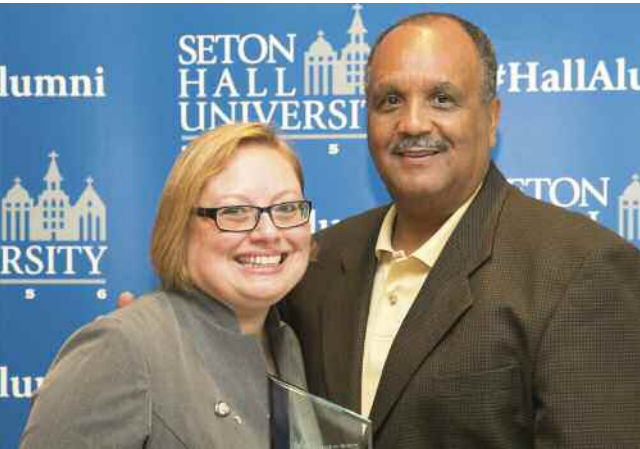


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The Executive Suite Series connects senior business leaders and rising executives (both alumni and non-alumni) while providing timely strategies to address key organizational issues. In this way, Seton Hall helps leaders advance their careers and organizations while strengthening the University's impact on the business community.

The first two installments attracted more than 80 alumni. The increased relationship building has opened up potential partnerships between alumni, their organizations and other businesses with many of the schools and colleges at Seton Hall.



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:

Elizabeth Ann Seton Young Alumni Award honoree Alana Cueto, M.S.N. '13 with her husband, Andres, at the College of Nursing's Margaret C. Haley Awards Ceremony.

The Day the Earth Shook

Memory of the devastation wrought by the earthquake and tsunami that pummeled Japan in March 2011 remains fresh: more than 15,000 people killed, hundreds of thousands of people displaced and the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear-power plant disastrously compromised. In his recent book, This Gulf of Fire, associate professor of history Mark Molesky details a powerful earthquake that decimated Lisbon, Portugal, in the mid-18th century. The book was just named a finalist for the L.A. Times Book Prize, and Seton Hall magazine editor Pegeen Hopkins spoke with Molesky to learn more.

Describe what happened in Lisbon on Nov. 1, 1775.

At around 9:30 a.m., a large fault line off the coast of Iberia exploded from the seafloor, releasing an enormous amount of energy — the equivalent of 32,000 Hiroshima bombs. It was one of the largest earthquakes in history, and perhaps the largest to affect Europe in the last 10,000 years. The tremors almost completely destroyed Lisbon, the capital of the Portuguese Empire.

About a half hour later, a tsunami — which is very rare in the Atlantic — smashed into the Iberian and African coasts, charged up the Tagus River and smashed into Lisbon. The tsunami was so large it crossed the Atlantic, hitting Newfoundland, the Caribbean and the northeastern coast of Brazil.

Because this was All Saint’s Day, churches and homes were filled with candles, and housewives, slaves and servants were busy cooking the feast-day meal. When the churches and houses collapsed, fires began under the rubble. Within a few hours, these fires coalesced into a powerful firestorm that crisscrossed the city for over a week. A firestorm is a fire so hot it creates its own wind system. It actually sucks oxygen into its center, keeping itself ablaze. The fire ended up doing more material damage than the earthquake itself.

What did people believe caused the earthquake?

No one knew at the time what caused earthquakes. There were all kinds of brilliant theories, most involving exploding gases in underground caverns, but they were all wrong. Many believed that the true cause had been God sending a message to mankind. This was a very common theme, although some today might



be surprised at this because the earthquake occurred in a century defined by rising secularism and the European Enlightenment.

In Great Britain — which was arguably the most advanced country in Europe — King George II called for a national fast day so that his subjects could collectively pray that a similar earthquake would not devastate his kingdom.

Beyond the massive destruction and loss of life, what were some of the broader implications of the event?

In Portugal, the disaster led to the rise of a tyrant and reformer named Pombal, who was secretary of state at the time. In the hours after the disaster, Pombal rushed to the king’s side and began issuing orders. Within months, he had become a de facto dictator, though with the king’s blessing. Pombal ruled Portugal for more than two decades, transforming the country. He got rid of the Jesuits and led the push to extinguish them as an order in Europe. He went after the high aristocracy, which stood in his way, and imprisoned large numbers of noblemen, noblewomen and priests. On the plus side, he reformed education and rebuilt the center of Lisbon.

The Lisbon earthquake is probably most famous for the debate it prompted in European intellectual circles. At a time when many believed that nature was intrinsically good, you had this horrendous natural event that had caused the deaths of tens of thousands of innocent people. It was an inconvenient truth that was discussed and debated across the Western World. Priests and preachers in both Protestant and Catholic countries sermonized from the pulpits. Philosophers talked about it. Voltaire wrote a famous poem on the subject and was eventually influenced to write his great masterpiece, *Candide*, which features the Lisbon earthquake in one of its chapters. Indeed, the three most celebrated minds of the 18th century — Voltaire, Rousseau and Immanuel Kant — all weighed in on the disaster. ■

Photo of Rua Augusta Arch, Lisbon, Portugal UrbanTexture/Alamy

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