Celebrating Our First-Generation Students

MEDICINE-FREE ADHD?

Inspiring a National Health Movement for African-American Women
features

18 Paving the Way for Gen 1 Students
A new program at Seton Hall provides critical resources — and support — to incoming freshmen who are the first in their families to attend college.

24 On the Syllabus: Sports as a Career
Seton Hall offers a wide variety of options for students looking for a career related to the big business of sports.

departments

2 From Presidents Hall

4 HALLmarks

10 Possibilities
Daniel Piatek ’17 received a NASA grant to explore how cold plasmas may help accelerate plant growth and ultimately improve food supply.

12 Roaming the Hall
Jeff La Marca’s research indicates that neurofeedback training may help students with ADHD.

14 Profile
T. Morgan Dixon, M.A. ’07 is on a quest to transform the health of African-American women — by inspiring them to walk together.

16 Profile
United Nations Association of the United States of America and the School of Diplomacy and International Relations teamed up to tell the fascinating history of the influential organization.

28 Sports at the Hall

32 Alumni News & Notes

44 Last Word
New Leadership Initiative
Last month, I had the pleasure of formally dedicating our new Interprofessional Health Sciences (IHS) campus in Nutley and Clifton, New Jersey. The ceremony was the culmination of a long effort to create a path-breaking medical school and provide an innovative, interdisciplinary home for our students in nursing and health and medical sciences. I consider us fortunate to have been blessed with strong partners at Hackensack Meridian Health.

Over the summer, the College of Nursing and School of Health and Medical Sciences moved to the new campus, where they joined the inaugural medical school class of 60 students selected from more than 2,100 applicants. Twenty percent of the class is drawn from communities that are underrepresented among the ranks of physicians. Overall, the future doctors speak 25 languages, including Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Hindi, Urdu and Korean, and include two practicing registered nurses, five students with master’s degrees in public health or science, and a graduate of an ROTC program in California. Half of the students come from New Jersey and nearly half are women. Five students in the inaugural class are Seton Hall alumni.

In addition to addressing the shortage of physicians in New Jersey and across the nation, the new campus was conceived to provide tangible benefits to the University. Those benefits include strengthening the quality of incoming undergraduate classes, enhancing our academic programs, and creating unique solutions to space constraints on the South Orange campus. I am pleased to tell you that the University has achieved all of those objectives.

By stipulating that a quarter of all medical school spaces will be reserved for Seton Hall graduates, we have laid the groundwork for stronger freshman classes on the South Orange campus. That includes this fall’s incoming class, which is not only our largest, at more than 1,500 students, but also boasts a 1230 SAT average — the highest in University history. Meanwhile, the College of Nursing and School of Health and Medical Sciences are guaranteed clinical placements at all of Hackensack Meridian’s medical facilities, including some of New Jersey’s top hospitals. This will substantially enhance the educational experience for our students.

With the College of Nursing and the School of Health and Medical Sciences now on the IHS campus, additional academic and administrative space was made available in South Orange.

Though these achievements are worthwhile and a cause for congratulations, even more important are the ways in which Seton Hall’s future doctors, nurses
and other health professionals will improve the world as servant healers. A wonderful example is medical student Christopher DaCosta, who is the third generation of his family to pursue a medical career at Seton Hall.

His grandfather, Dr. Theodore A. DaCosta Sr., was part of the Seton Hall College of Medicine and Dentistry’s inaugural class in 1956 and had the honor of “coating” Christopher at our new medical school’s white coat ceremony in July. Christopher’s father, Dr. Theodore A. DaCosta Jr., received an undergraduate degree in biology from Seton Hall. From 1996 to 2015, he served the University as an associate program director in the School of Health and Medical Sciences and received the University’s Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2013. Christopher’s mother, Judith E. DaCosta, Ph.D., received a graduate degree in biology from Seton Hall, and several other family members have earned degrees from the University.

I will close this message with a few words from Christopher about what it means to be a Seton Hall doctor (see gray box on the right). His testimony speaks volumes about the truly transformative impact our University has — and will continue to have — on people’s lives and the world at large. Go Pirates! ■

**Caring for the Underserved**

I was elated to be accepted into the inaugural class because I was truly amazed at everything this medical school has to offer. It has a state-of-the-art program with an incredible dean whose caring and compassionate spirit for the underserved mirrors that of my own family.

My grandfather was raised in Jamaica and had very little, yet he had the courage to come to America. Despite working full time, he managed to fulfill his dream by graduating from the Seton Hall College of Medicine and Dentistry with an M.D. in its charter class. My grandfather always talks about his amazing classmates and how tight-knit the class was; they keep in touch with each other even today.

He focused his career on caring for the underserved and instilled in me the importance of helping people who are in need. Following in my grandfather’s footsteps means the world to me. Having the beginning of my journey coincide with the end of his career is bittersweet, as he retired after he coated me. I hope to carry on my family’s legacy of caring for the underserved, as my grandfather and father have done.

— Christopher DaCosta
Ann Marie Murphy, associate professor in the School of Diplomacy and International Relations and a founding member of the New York Southeast Asia Network (NYSEAN), received a $475,000 grant from the Luce Foundation for an initiative to enhance knowledge and interest in Southeast Asia.

Katherine Hinic, assistant professor in the College of Nursing, conducted one of the first U.S. studies to focus on the importance of new mothers having a satisfying experience giving birth in a hospital when evaluating their emotional well-being and early parenting. The study was published in the American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing.

Edmund Adjapong, assistant professor of educational studies, was awarded the New Scholar Creativity and Pedagogy 2017 Award from the University of Calgary. He was also named a faculty fellow at the Institute of Urban and Minority Education at Columbia University’s Teachers College.

Phyllis Shanley Hansell, professor in the College of Nursing, was awarded the R. Louise McManus Medal from Columbia University’s Nursing Education Alumni Association for scholarly achievements and distinguished contributions that have advanced the nursing profession.

NJBIZ honored Catherine Kiernan, vice president and general counsel, with a Lifetime Achievement award as part of its 2018 General Counsel of the Year Awards. These awards honor prominent general counsel attorneys and chief legal officers in New Jersey for the critical role they play in making their organizations successful.

Larry McCarthy, associate professor of Management and Sport Management, was elected to the management committee of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA), Ireland’s largest sporting organization. McCarthy is the first representative on the GAA management committee from outside Ireland.
BY THE NUMBERS

Interprofessional Health Sciences (IHS) Campus
Opened Fall 2018

10
Miles from South Orange campus

16
Acres housing two state-of-the-art buildings

500,000
Total square footage

3
Schools*

1
Chaplain dedicated to the IHS campus

4
Health sciences librarians

1,177,633
Electronic books in the IHS library collection

*College of Nursing, School of Health and Medical Sciences, and Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine at Seton Hall University


Ruth Tsuria, assistant professor of communication, was named a 2018 Emerging Scholar by the Religion in Society Research Network for her paper, “Can Twitter Hashtags Move People into Action?”

Cara Blue Adams, assistant professor of English, was awarded a 2018 Center for Fiction Emerging Writers Fellowship. The center is the only nonprofit in the U.S. dedicated solely to fiction.

Joyce Strawser, dean of the Stillman School of Business, was selected to serve on the Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) Board of Governors. BGS is a business honor society associated with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.
“Mr. Tillerson was slow toward a career death that was self-inflicted. Like a smoker, he committed suicide on the installment plan.”
Hugh Dugan, School of Diplomacy and International Relations, International Policy Digest, on the downfall of former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

“The economic benefits of St. Patrick’s Day are huge. In fact, in some places, it would be more accurate to talk of ‘St. Patrick’s Month.’”
Dermot Quinn, College of Arts and Sciences, WalletHub, about the social and economic considerations for cities that host St. Patrick’s Day celebrations.

“If we adopt some of those familial practices within organizations, we’d have increased sensitivity to each other, we’d have increased knowledge and appreciation for each other and we’d begin to work together in ways that we perhaps haven’t been as successful with.”
Terrence Cahill, School of Health and Medical Sciences, U.S. News & World Report, on working well with colleagues of all ages.

“If Taiping Island is not deemed an island for the purposes of international law, then nothing down there is. It has the strongest claim...”
Margaret K. Lewis, School of Law, The New York Times, on Taiping. One of more than 100 land formations in the South China Sea, Taiping was recently designated as “a rock,” not an island, for purposes of international law.

“A lot of progress was made, many laws were passed, but what we have found, through the test of history, is that you can always pass laws, but that doesn’t change the hearts of people.”
Rev. Forrest Pritchett, College of Arts & Sciences, NJTV, reflecting on the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination. Pritchett was a student activist in Newark in the 1960s during the height of the civil rights movement.

“Not only did we get rid of the most egregious of the comics, we got rid of almost absolutely everything that had any kind of content that wasn’t absolutely G-rated, bland stuff.”
Amy Nyberg, College of Communication and the Arts, in CNBC’s story of how comic books became public enemy No. 1 in America’s war on juvenile delinquency.

“Freedom itself is hard to understand, and now you have four of them.”
James J. Kimble, College of Communication and the Arts, Smithsonian magazine, explaining that the “Four Freedoms” — freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from fear and freedom from want — hadn’t caught on with the American public before Norman Rockwell’s iconic paintings of each.

“His final instructions are very important, and one of the things that really jumps out from the Gospel is the repetition of the word love.”
Father Pablo Gadenz, Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, Relevant Radio, discussing the journey of faith and Jesus’ final instructions to the disciples in the Gospel of John.

Still Going Strong at Stillman

Once again, the Stillman School of Business has achieved one of the surest signs of success: Every student crossing the stage to graduate from its leadership honors program this spring already had a job or had been admitted to a post-graduate program.

This was the seventh year in a row that graduates of the Gerald P. Buccino ’63 Center for Leadership Development (now a center within the Buccino Leadership Institute) have achieved 100 percent placement.

The Buccino Center’s mission, through its four-year program, is to train students for success through leadership courses above and beyond their regular business course load and through multiple internships.

“The program’s greatest strength, and one that is foundational to its culture, is the union of our students, alumni and executive council members,” said director Michael Reuter, noting that the three complement one another.

The center was named for benefactor Gerald P. Buccino ’63, a Seton Hall regent emeritus and a nationally recognized pioneer of “turnaround management.” His $1 million commitment to the program provides one-on-one networking opportunities for students, as well as hands-on professional development and study abroad experiences.

The Buccino Center program has earned a No. 1 ranking in the LEAD Awards sponsored by HR.com four years in a row.
ADDITIONS TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Seton Hall has named two new members to its Board of Regents:

Karl P. Adler, ’62, M.D., served as president and chief executive officer of New York Medical College for 2007-11. He is a professor of medicine at the college, where he has been a member of the faculty since 1981. He served as chief of the Department of Medicine at Metropolitan Hospital Center in Manhattan, one of the college’s major clinical affiliates, until 1987, when he was named dean of the School of Medicine and vice president for medical affairs. In 1994 he became president and chief executive officer of St. Vincent’s Hospital and Medical Center in New York, another clinical affiliate.

Adler also serves as the archbishop’s delegate for health care in the Archdiocese of New York and as chairman of the board of the Catholic Health Care System.

After graduating from Seton Hall, he received his medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. He completed residency training at Bellevue Hospital, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and New York Hospital in Manhattan.

Robert C. Garrett is the co-CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health Network, a comprehensive New Jersey health network.

He began his time with Hackensack University Medical Center in 1981 as a resident, and served as president and CEO of the Hackensack University Health Network from 2009 through 2016, when he assumed his current position.

Garrett was ranked second on the NJBIZ 2016 “Power 50 Health Care” list. He was also ranked on the “NJ Biz Power 100: The most powerful people in New Jersey business” list for five consecutive years. He was selected as a member of The Wall Street Journal CEO Council.

Garrett received his Master of Health Administration from Washington University in St. Louis, and his bachelor’s degree from Binghamton University in New York.

Cause for Celebration

Seton Hall “Got to 10” and then some this summer when the year-long effort to reach an alumni donor rate of 10 percent exceeded its goal.

More than 5,200 donations of all sizes were received from undergraduate degree holders over the course of the “Get to 10” campaign, increasing the participation rate from 8.3 percent to 10.3 percent.

Interim President Mary J. Meehan, ’72/M.A. ’74/Ph.D. ’01, challenged alumni to help meet the goal by June 30, the end of the fiscal year. Not only was the goal reached, but the total number of their donations represented a 27 percent increase over the previous year.

More money coming in to fund scholarships, campus improvements and programs was a fundamental goal, but the percentage of alumni who donate is also key to college rankings, including those in U.S. News & World Report.

Fundraising and alumni support are also important factors used by Moody’s, S&P and other bond rating agencies to determine the University’s fiscal health, and a good rating provides significant financial advantages.

“We called upon our alumni everywhere, and they heeded the call with Pirate Pride,” said Matthew Borowick ’89/M.B.A. ’94, interim vice president for University Advancement. “With this level of sustained support, Seton Hall will continue to rise and be recognized as one of the top Catholic universities in America.”

“The outpouring of support was tremendous,” said Anthony Bellucci, director of Annual Giving, who spearheaded the “Get to 10” campaign. “We came together as a University to reach this important milestone in the history of Seton Hall. We got to 10. Now Hazard Zet Forward.”
WHAT A TREASURE

New business owners often save the first dollar they ever made. Seton Hall’s Class of 2018 got a head start at spring commencement when each received a $1 bill signed by keynote speaker Jovita Carranza, treasurer of the United States.

“Never miss an opportunity to make a difference,” she told the graduates.

Carranza, who received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from the University, reminded the graduates that sacrifices were made for their education, and that “To whom much is given, much is required.”

“In all you think and all you do, you must now be a leader. Your goal, I will suggest, is not to create lots of followers. Your goal, obtained by inspiring others, is to create more leaders.”

The daughter of Mexican immigrants, Carranza started her career at United Parcel Service as a part-time box handler. More than 20 years later, she became president of Latin American and Caribbean operations for UPS, and then went on to start a supply-chain management company.

Before being appointed U.S. treasurer, she served as deputy administrator for the Small Business Administration under President George W. Bush.

“I progressed from an extremely deep blue-collar family income to achieving the American Dream of white-collar corporate leadership by leveraging my hard-earned education,” Carranza told her audience.

Inaugural Campus Ministry Retreat for Freshmen

Campus Ministry offered its first Genesis Freshman Retreat on September 8, open to transfer and incoming first-year students. The daylong event, which included lunch and dinner, was held in Bethany Hall.

More than 40 students attended the inaugural retreat, designed to prompt a deeper understanding of participants’ own identity and enhance their idea of who God is. Father Gino de la Rama, director of the Office of Priestly Vocations in the Archdiocese of Newark, led a series of talks that addressed essential questions: “Who Am I?” (focusing on our identity as children of God), “Who is God?” (viewing God as a loving Father), and “Who Are We, Together?” (approaching God as a community of faith).

Activities included icebreaker exercises and small faith-sharing groups. Students even got to explore campus through a treasure hunt that brought them to a selection of campus statues, where a volunteer was posted to explain its meaning.

Based on initial feedback, the retreat was considered a success. “Already some beautiful friendships have been formed,” said Father Brian X. Needles, director of Campus Ministry, who plans to hold a similar retreat next fall.

Each semester, Campus Ministry offers a variety of activities and opportunities that allow students to further enrich their faith. Students can sign up to serve as greeters, lectors, eucharistic ministers, or altar servers. They can also visit the Campus Ministry Lounge on the lower level of Boland Hall; the lounge provides students with a welcoming space to watch television, play ping pong, study or hang out with friends.

At weekly Bible Study meetings, open to students of all faiths, participants examine the Old and New Testament while discussing their relevance to current events and personal faith. Campus Ministry Night, held each Thursday, offers service projects, lectures, movies and game nights, in order to provide fellowship and fun.
The Value of the Written Word

The U.S. Department of Education has recognized Seton Hall’s efforts to improve the writing skills of school-age children with learning disabilities by awarding a five-year, $1.2 million grant for the University’s “Project Write to Learn.”

The project is designed to teach occupational therapy and speech-language pathology graduate students how to help children with language disorders improve the way they express themselves through writing.

“Project Write to Learn” looks to reach children in kindergarten through grade 8, focusing on those with dyslexia, dysgraphia, general language impairments, or a visual or motor impairment.

“Studies show that, from a learning perspective, there are better outcomes and better integration when children are taught to write by hand instead of through technology and keyboards,” said Ruth Segal, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, who is co-directing the project with Vikram N. Dayalu, chair of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology.

“You are not just transcribing something,” Segal said. “There is expression in the children’s handwriting. There are more complex sentences. There is a difference.”

“What makes this relevant is the push for interprofessional education throughout the national healthcare and educational landscape,” said Dayalu. “We are collaborating with other professionals across the board in a meaningful way, putting protocols in place and engaging our students to work collaboratively in a variety of domains.”

“The fact that this collaboration is being funded at the federal level underscores the real impact that we see when professionals come together for a common purpose,” said Brian B. Shulman, dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences.

Fighting Stereotypes, Promoting Mental Health

Seton Hall declared itself “Stigma Free” this spring, officially joining an initiative to promote public awareness of mental-health issues and to fight stereotyping and discrimination.

New Jersey state Sen. Richard J. Codey marked the occasion with the unveiling of a “Stigma Free Campus” sign in University Center, along with interim President Mary J. Meehan ’72/M.A. ’74/Ph.D. ’01. The program is part of the Codey Fund for Mental Health, a nonprofit organization founded by the former governor and his wife in 2012.

“This is a critical moment in our nation’s development,” Codey said. “Teenage suicide is up 70 percent in the last 10 years, and that doesn’t have to be. More Americans suffer from depression than coronary heart disease or cancer, but you can get help. You can get better — and we’re here today to say that we are here with you, and here for you.”

The University’s Counseling and Psychological Services, located in Mooney Hall, provides free counseling, crisis intervention and referral services.

“We have a number of different resources available to our students, including group and individual therapy,” said Meehan. “But we’re also available to just talk. Sometimes it helps to just have an ear to listen or even a shoulder to cry on. College can be difficult, we’ve all been through it — and we’re here to help.”
Daniel Piatek ’17 received a NASA grant to explore how cold plasmas may help accelerate plant growth and ultimately improve food supply.
Daniel Piatek ’17 enrolled at Seton Hall thinking he might want to become a doctor. But that career path took a turn when Piatek began working in the Laboratory of Electrophysics & Atmospheric Plasmas, led by physics professor Jose Lopez, who has conducted extensive research in plasma physics.

Lopez and other Seton Hall professors had begun a seminal experiment designed to gauge whether cold plasmas — the fourth state of matter — could stimulate the growth of plants. Piatek was hooked. When the team got results, he says of that initial research, “I was all on board.”

Piatek envisioned a similar research project of his own, so in 2017 he applied for and received a summer undergraduate fellowship provided by NASA. This type of work could have global implications. The potential for cold plasmas to accelerate plant growth could mean more-productive harvests around the world, providing food for the planet’s ever-expanding population.

Piatek focused his experiment on kidney beans. “They’re very nutritious,” he says. “Since plants are all kind of different in their own way, I wanted to start off with something useful in the world.”

Piatek came to Seton Hall under a dual-degree program in which students spend three years at Seton Hall and two years at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Upon completion, they earn two bachelor’s degrees — one in physics from Seton Hall and one in biomedical engineering from NJIT.

But after spending one year at NJIT, Piatek knew he wanted to pursue a career in physics. When Seton Hall announced it was creating a two-year master’s program in physics, starting this fall, Piatek applied, and in May he became the program’s first official enrollee.

Piatek had begun his interdisciplinary kidney bean research project by coordinating the construction of an elaborate scaffolding system inside a greenhouse on the roof of McNulty Hall. The scaffolding held the hydroponically grown plants and was encased in thick plastic blackout curtains, because Piatek wanted to control the amount of light the plants received and restrict them to eight hours of artificial light each day.

Three hydroponic systems were created. One was not treated by the cold plasmas, another applied cold plasmas only to the leaves of each plant, and the third applied the cold plasmas to the roots. The study measured the effects of atmospheric pressure cold plasma jets over different treatment durations and different frequencies of application. The cold plasmas, which behave like a gas but conduct electricity like a wire, were applied with the use of a hand-held device that looks something like a can of spray paint and emits a small flame.

“You want to make sure the plants get the same light, water and nutrients,” Piatek says. “You want to have as many constants as possible, just so you can focus on one variable at a time.”

In addition to Lopez, one of the world’s leading experts in the subfield of microplasmas, Piatek was assisted in his research by chemistry doctoral candidate Daniel Guerrero. Complementary work on basil plants was conducted by chemistry master’s degree student Sauvelson Auguste, along with chemistry professors Cosimo Antonacci and Father Gerald Buonopane.

Lopez credits Piatek with spearheading the kidney bean project. “He built the hydroponic system that was going to grow the kidney plants. He did a lot of the preliminary research before he graduated.”

This summer, as Piatek prepared to enter the master’s program in physics, he had the singular experience of working in the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. The Department of Energy national lab is one of the world’s foremost plasma research institutes, and Piatek worked on plasma propulsion technology known as a Hall Thruster, which could be used for maneuvering satellites or propulsion systems for future spacecraft.

Meanwhile, Piatek’s kidney bean research continues under the supervision of biology professor Mary Berger and Isaac Guevara, a physics undergraduate researcher. The preliminary results look promising, with the treated plants showing more robust stems, for example.

“I would say we’re making good progress,” Piatek says, “but I’d also say we’re not done yet.”
Jeff La Marca knows what it’s like to feel distracted. After struggling with focus and concentration issues for much of his life, when he was 40 he was diagnosed with ADHD: attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. At 50, he started a doctoral program at the University of California, Riverside.

Now an assistant professor of special education at Seton Hall University, La Marca wants to help others with ADHD find their focus — and he says neurofeedback may be the answer.

It’s a treatment many people haven’t heard of before, or have trouble envisioning even if they have. In fact, as far as La Marca knows, he’s one of very few educators whose research centers on neurofeedback. (Most people testing it are clinical psychologists, sleep doctors or other medical professionals, he says.)

Also known as electroencephalogram (EEG) biofeedback, neurofeedback aims to change behavior by changing brain activity. As La Marca has used it in his studies, sensors attached to the head monitor brain waves while the person plays a computer game. When the brain focuses in the right way, the game responds with rewards.

La Marca believes that this training may be able to help kids with the inattentive type of ADHD — and to a lesser extent, those with hyperactivity — by teaching their brains how to focus. He recently completed a study at Seton Hall that appears to support this theory, and soon hopes to repeat it with a larger sample.

If it continues to prove out, the neurofeedback approach could help millions of kids. In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported, 6.1 million children in the U.S. from ages 2 through 17 had been diagnosed with ADHD. That’s about 9 percent of all kids in that age range.

Of those with an ADHD diagnosis, six out of 10 were taking medication. But often those drugs can cause headaches and sleep issues, suppress appetite, induce physical tics and even stunt growth. And for children with the inattentive type of ADHD, medication may not work at all, La Marca says.

That’s where his work with neurofeedback comes in. After spending many years teaching in public schools, La Marca slowly found himself drawn to neurofeedback, research and academia. He jokes that the same year he received an AARP card as a gift from his mother, he started his Ph.D. program. But it’s true.

“I thought it would be a wonderful thing to go back and do research,” he says. “It’s kind of a creative thing, it makes a really big difference, and it’s through research that we can confirm efficacious practices in the classroom — things to actually help students learn.”

For his dissertation, La Marca gave a group of fourth-grade students 40 half-hour sessions of neurofeedback and continually tested their reading proficiency. He says reading comprehension and accuracy both improved “to an extent much greater than we’d expect through either classroom instruction or maturation.”

When he tested the students again five and a half months later, La Marca found that they continued to show improvement over their pre-test scores. “What that suggests, and what other studies suggest, is that these effects are long term,” he says. “Once you learn how to [focus your attention], you always know how to do it.”

The problem, he says, is that his sample was only five kids. “It isn’t large enough to generalize, but it was just
large enough to say I observed an effect,” he says.

After arriving at Seton Hall in 2015, La Marca continued his research with a 2016 Seton Hall University Research Council Grant. In that study, he brought in 14 Seton Hall students with ADHD and evaluated how controlling the “artifacts” that intrude on brainwave signals — eye blinks, eye wobbling, facial movements — might affect neurofeedback training. He found that the group that had their artifacts removed showed significant improvements in attention and were more successful in controlling their brainwaves.

“I think once other researchers and academics really grasp what Dr. La Marca did, this is going to pave the way for a whole new area of research,” says Joseph Fresco ’14/M.A.’16, one of four Seton Hall graduate students who assisted La Marca in the study. “There’s this whole other type of treatment that could help those who have ADHD. You could literally go to the gym for your brain by playing these games and help your symptoms of ADHD.”

Connie McReynolds, who directs the Neurofeedback Center at California State University, San Bernardino, is well aware of La Marca’s studies and says his work will “probably turn out to be rather groundbreaking.”

“What he’s looking at — which type of intervention is needed, what type of neurofeedback works well, how much neurofeedback is needed until success is achieved — is really the next level of where the field is going,” McReynolds adds. “We know [neurofeedback] works. Now we need to figure out the fine-tuning.”

Soon La Marca hopes to replicate his original study with a much larger group — a hundred kids, ideally — and he’s looking for large grants to make that happen.

“If this pans out — it has the potential to greatly assist students with attention deficits and inadequate achievement,” he says. “And it’s not a pharmaceutical approach, therefore we don’t need doctors’ approval to do this. That’s pretty profound for kids with attention deficit.”

Molly Petrilla is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.
When T. Morgan Dixon, M.A. ’07 gave a talk on her organization, GirlTrek, at the TED Conference in Vancouver B.C., last year, she shocked her audience with a number: Every day in America, 137 black women die from a heart disease — roughly the amount of people that were on Dixon’s plane from New Jersey.

“A plane filled with African-American women is crashing to the ground every day, and no one is talking about it,” she told the audience. But GirlTrek is trying to change that.

The organization began in Newark, in Seton Hall’s backyard. After graduating from the University of Southern California, Dixon came east for a master’s program at New York University. But finding the curriculum too

T. Morgan Dixon, M.A. ’07 is on a quest to transform the health of African-American women — by inspiring them to walk together.
broad for her work in education, she found Seton Hall’s Education Leadership, Management and Policy program, which prepares students for principal certification, was the perfect fit, while still providing access to an urban community to teach in as she completed her degree.

When Dixon’s career brought her back to Newark a few years after graduating from Seton Hall, she was startled by a statistic: Half of black girls born in 2000 would eventually be diagnosed with diabetes unless their diet and levels of activity changed.

“That to me felt like a call to action,” Dixon says. At first, she didn’t know what to do. She brought granola and fruit to school, hoping to set an example of healthy eating. She began leading Saturday hikes, but realized the girls needed to exercise every day. So Dixon and her students began walking the neighborhood at lunch.

While it was a good start, Dixon and GirlTrek cofounder Vanessa Garrison realized getting a classroom of girls to exercise wasn’t going to change the health crisis most African-American women were facing. They needed to think bigger. What if they could get a million of these girls’ mothers to walk with them?

GirlTrek is now a national health movement that encourages women to use walking as a first step to healthy living. Participants organize walking teams in their neighborhoods, and while the program is open to everyone, it targets African-American women, who are least likely to spend time on physical activity.

“It’s because we don’t have that leisure time,” says Dixon. “We have been the working class for so many years. Now we’re upwardly mobile — but that culture of working hard, of serving others before you serve yourself, is so embedded in our value system.”

GirlTrek is on a mission to help African-American women learn to take care of themselves. By walking just 30 minutes a day, participants can help prevent stroke, diabetes and heart disease.

But improved health isn’t the only benefit. As women walk together, they discover the needs of their community. Thanks to GirlTrekers, a community garden was built in a Houston neighborhood, more walking trails were created in St. Louis, and traffic signals were put up on a busy street in Denver.

“There are the things that happen when you’re an active citizen, and when women are gathered with a common interest and a common ambition,” says Dixon.

What began as a small group of students walking in a neighborhood down the road from Seton Hall is now an established public health nonprofit for African-American women and girls with a national reach. More than 150,000 people walk every day because of GirlTrek, and Dixon and her team hope to get to one million by 2020.

Dixon credits Seton Hall for giving her the tools to lead.

“There was something incredibly entrepreneurial about the school’s Education Leadership, Management and Policy program,” says Dixon. “The program just assumed that we would go on to run our own organizations. I was trained to be a leader at Seton Hall.”

Dixon is spreading the word about GirlTrek with a year-long national tour, which aims to train 10,000 women to be the organization’s public health activists in the country’s 50 highest-need communities. The tour will culminate in Selma, Alabama, on Memorial Day weekend in 2019, where participants will retrace the steps of the 1964 civil-rights protest marches, a 54-mile walk to Montgomery.

“We know that walking is the single most powerful thing a woman can do for her health,” Dixon says.

Kelley Freund is a freelance writer in Newport News, Virginia.
UNA-USA and the School of Diplomacy and International Relations teamed up to tell the fascinating history of the influential organization — thanks to a dedicated group of donors.

Seton Hall’s School of Diplomacy and International Relations — with its unique focus among U.S. universities on U.N.-based multilateral diplomacy — wouldn’t exist today without the assistance in 1997 of the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA). Nor, for that matter, would the United Nations as we know it.

Yet, the UNA-USA is little known outside diplomatic circles, despite having been, under various names, a highly influential advocate for world peace for over seven decades. To remedy this lack of recognition, Seton Hall collaborated with the UNA-USA and U.N. correspondent James Wurst to write The UN Association-USA: A Little Known History of Advocacy and Action.

The result shines light on this international diplomatic force and its fascinating history. UNA-USA policy papers helped the former Soviet Union adopt glasnost and perestroika changes that ended the Cold War. Past members represent a “Who’s Who” of American internationalists, including former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, who led the advocacy of U.S. diplomatic positions at the U.N. for years. And just before his death in April 1945, Franklin Roosevelt was considering resigning the presidency to become the U.N.’s first secretary-general.

Wurst drew on papers, photos, reminicences and other archival material now hosted at Seton Hall, along with personal interviews, to tell the story of the UNA-USA’s persistence, challenges and achievements. Diplomacy student interns helped complete research for the book, wrote up background material, and assisted with editing and documenting interviews.

The account covers the group’s efforts to support the creation of the United Nations in 1945, its campaign to promote the U.N. to the American public, and its parallel foreign-policy studies with Russian counterparts to help ease Cold War tensions.

The idea for the book project came from A. Edward Elmendorf, who served as president and chief executive of UNA-USA until February 2011, when the group allied

---

**List of Contributors to the Project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donald T. Bliss</th>
<th>Jonathan Roberts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Brody</td>
<td>Janet Ross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Cottle</td>
<td>Gillian Martin Sorensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edison Dick</td>
<td>David Squire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Draper</td>
<td>Judith Thoyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Leonard</td>
<td>Katrina vanden Heuvel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William McDonough</td>
<td>William vanden Heuvel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Pickering</td>
<td>Josh Weston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
with the private United Nations Foundation. “I saw the value of what was there, undocumented and inchoate in the files,” Elmendorf recalls. He began working with a publisher, seeking an author, and launching a fundraising drive to preserve the organization’s institutional memory.

In a joint funding appeal with former U.N. Ambassador Thomas Pickering (1989-92), the pair raised more than $200,000 needed to cover the book’s cost from a group of funders who include many with renowned careers in diplomacy, among them several former U.S. ambassadors to the U.N. and a former assistant secretary-general for external relations. (See list at left.)

Pickering — who was on the advisory committee that negotiated the combination of UNA-USA and the UN Foundation — notes that the pairing brought together the foundation’s focus on human and women’s rights with UNA-USA’s community-based branches.

They really found the right formula, he says, to reach an active new generation, and in its current form, the organization has more than 20,000 members in over 100 chapters across the United States. (Seton Hall has had an award-winning chapter since 2014.) These young constituents today rigorously call on their congressional leaders with specific proposals to promote world peace.

After the book’s publication, Elmendorf donated leftover funds to create the Seton Hall website that now serves as an online archive for much of the material. He sees the continuing connection with the University as “invaluable” to the school’s diplomatic focus, and considers the legacy of the UNA-USA to be “a living history, one that is also looking forward,” thanks to the growing system of university branches.

Courtney Smith, senior associate dean of the School of Diplomacy, would agree. Smith says that with “the U.S. policy discourse turning inward,” the core mission of both UNA-USA and the school — to “support an active U.S. role in foreign policy” — is perhaps even more important than ever.

Bob Gilbert is a freelance writer based in Connecticut.
Leidy Nizama
SOPHOMORE
STILLMAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
BORN IN LIMA, PERU;
MOVED TO DOVER, NEW JERSEY

“My parents moved here so we’d have a chance to get a higher education and do better — the American dream.” Nizama says the biggest lesson the Gen 1 program has taught her is how to ask for help. As first-generation students, “we’ve been alone and doing everything ourselves, so sometimes we forget there are other people we can reach out to. They make sure to mention that [in the Gen 1 program] all the time.”

Jonathan Barcelos
JUNIOR
STILLMAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
UNION, NEW JERSEY

“I’m going into my third year now as a peer adviser. When I heard that the department was going to start working with first-generation students in particular, I thought that was a good opportunity for me to help those students as well, since I’m a first-generation student myself. I’m excited to help answer all the questions they have, take them to dinner and study halls — to make everyone feel welcome and included.”
A new program at Seton Hall provides critical resources — and support — to incoming freshmen who are the first in their families to attend college.

By Molly Petrilla

At Seton Hall, one in every four freshmen is a first-generation college student — meaning neither parent has a college degree.

Navigating the first year of college is tough for anyone, but “first-gen” students often face different challenges. Most juggle outside jobs and family responsibilities with schoolwork. Though eager to offer support, their parents can’t share firsthand experience with writing a college essay or navigating dorm-room etiquette. And there’s an intense pressure to make everyone proud and pull off a family first by earning a college degree.

As a result of the difficulties they bump into as freshmen, first-generation students in general are less likely than their peers to finish college in four years — or to graduate at all. Among Seton Hall freshmen, there’s a seven point retention difference between first-gen freshmen and their classmates.

That’s why the University unveiled a new program for its first-generation freshmen in summer 2017. It starts with a weeklong “bridge” in August, but continues throughout the year with academic coaching, scholarship opportunities and pizza-fueled gatherings.

Here’s a look at what exactly the Gen 1 program entails, the students it’s helping, and the faculty and staff who are powering it.
“The primary goal of the Gen 1 program is to ensure that our first-generation students have a clear sense of belonging and an understanding of the skills they need to perform college-level work,” says Nicole Battaglia ’11, director of first-year initiatives.

For its debut in 2017, the program invited all first-gen freshmen to join a 10-day summer “bridge” program in late August. Twenty-four students signed up.

Each day included guest speakers who shared their expertise on everything from managing stress to using the career center to landing outside scholarships. Mornings incorporated a workshop on college-level math courses, and in the afternoons, students had a grammar and writing workshop to prepare them for college papers. The program also supplied students with a “Seton Hall Dictionary,” so they’d know what people meant by things like “the bursar” or “the Green.”

On Saturday, the group headed into Manhattan and saw School of Rock on Broadway. They walked down South Orange Avenue together, found the train station, and made their way into the city. Battaglia says it helped the students get used to navigating NYC — and for some, it was also their first time seeing a Broadway show.

On Sunday, they painted positive messages on stones as part of the Kindness Rocks project. Those painted rocks popped up all around campus throughout the fall semester, hidden in bushes or under benches, but no one else knew the story behind them or who to thank.

MEETING VIPS

The program kicked off with a barbecue for all the Gen 1 students and their families. Also on the guest list: Interim President Mary Meehan ’72/M.A. ’74/Ph.D. ’01,
who was a first-generation Seton Hall student herself. That night, each student got a photo standing beside Meehan. They met deans and vice presidents and other high-level administrators. “Right off the bat, they’re making connections to make them feel that they belong,” says Robin Cunningham ’78/M.A. ’84/Ed.S. ’96, associate vice president and dean of freshman studies. “That’s our most important objective: that these students feel comfortable here and know that they could walk into the vice president’s office as easily as anyone’s.”

ALL OVER CAMPUS

“We really tried to throw a net over the whole University community to celebrate first-generation status,” Cunningham says. The program identified about 80 first-gen faculty and administrators and put their names, photos and titles onto posters, then hung those posters all over campus. They also distributed blue stickers with “Gen 1” splashed across them and encouraged faculty and staff to post them in their offices. Students have stuck them up in their dorm rooms, too, and Cunningham reports spotting one on the back of a car recently.

MENTORS WHO UNDERSTAND

The Gen 1 students received academic coaches and peer advisers, just as other Seton Hall freshmen do. But their mentors had extra insight, since they also had been the first in their families to attend college — or had a special interest in helping those who are.

NO CHARGE

The Gen 1 program, including the summer bridge, was offered free to students. Participants also received a $500 textbook voucher after completing the program.

Maggie Hernandez, M.A. ’12

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
FRESHMAN STUDIES

“I think at the beginning of the fall semester she was a little nervous. Watching her grow over the year was really special to me. The highlight is that we’re going to continue our relationship. We’ve already emailed a few times over the summer and I can’t wait to see her in the fall. She’s such a special young woman.”

Cheyanne Ganpat

SOPHOMORE
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

“Besides being a best friend — we know each other so well and joke around and I can talk to her about anything — Maggie also motivates me and is really encouraging. I know it’s weird to say, but she’s also kind of like my therapist. If I’m having trouble in a class or I’m unsure about something, she listens to my problems, advises me on what she knows, and if she doesn’t have the answers, she’ll help me find someone who does.”
WHAT SOPHOMORES SAY, AFTER YEAR ONE

Hannah Curran (at right)
“Once the summer program was over, we stayed in touch. We still have a group chat. We try to get dinner or breakfast here and there. We spend a lot of time together. It’s almost like a family.”

Leidy Nizama (on page 18)
“I’ll be hanging out on the Green and I’ll see Dean Gottlieb or Dean Cunningham and wave at them or say hi and talk to them. It’s like a big community. I’ve met some professors who I notice have a Gen 1 sticker on their door. It’s something that connects us. If I go in to talk to them, it’s like, Hey, I noticed you’re Gen 1, too. It opens a new door.”

Elizabeth Rodriguez (at far right)
“I’m still very involved [with the Gen 1 program]. Our cohort created a first-generation student club on campus, and I’m the president. We have a lot of events planned for this coming semester: stress relief days where we’re going to help people cope with finals and midterms; speakers coming in to talk about scholarship opportunities; people who were first-gen students coming in to discuss their experiences; movie nights and game nights. My goal is to really create a community for first-gen students on campus, even those who weren’t in the summer program.”

Molly Petrilla is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.

GEN 1 TIMELINE

- **August 13-22**
  Summer Bridge Program on campus, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., including guest lecturers, math and English workshops, and a variety of college-readiness activities

- **August 24**
  Freshman Move-In Day

- **August 28**
  First day of classes

- **September 26**
  Pizza party social

- **October 3 and 31**
  “Lunch and Learn” sessions to discuss time management and other challenges

- **October 18**
  Meet-and-greet to connect with other freshman (318 of them) and sophomore (380) first-gen students who weren’t in the summer program

- **October**
  Gen 1 parents receive a letter with pictures from the summer program and information about scholarships and fellowships

- **November 7**
  External scholarships meeting for all first-gen freshman students

- **November 16**
  Meet-and-greet for all first-gen Seton Hall students, faculty and administrators

- **December 12**
  End-of-the-semester celebration for Gen 1 students that included food and a photo booth

- **Summer 2018**
  Forty-eight students were set to attend the Gen 1 summer bridge this year — exactly double the first year’s number

Two students from the Gen 1 program (Elizabeth Rodriguez and Karmen Yap) were highlighted as part of a Good Morning America story on first-generation students published on GMA’s digital network: goodmorningamerica.com/news/story/surprised-1st-generation-college-students-touching-letters-parents-57456806
Hannah Curran
SOPHOMORE
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
POMPON LAKES, NEW JERSEY

“My mom wants to help me, she wants to see me succeed, but she doesn’t always know what advice to give. She watches YouTube videos about college just so she can try to relate more. When it was time to register for classes, I didn’t know what to do. I went to Dunkin’ Donuts with my peer adviser, who’s also a first-gen college student, and he showed me exactly how to do everything.”

Elizabeth Rodriguez
SOPHOMORE
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND THE ARTS
BRONX, NEW YORK

“My favorite part was definitely the group of friends that I made. As soon as my parents left on Move-In Day, I felt so lonely. But then I was able to contact some of my friends from [the Gen 1 program] and they came to hang out with me. It was great to already have a group of friends there and not feel totally lost.”

Brandon M. Larmore ’08
DIRECTOR OF THE ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

“I was a mess,” Brandon Larmore remembers of his own early days as a Seton Hall student. “I was confused about what I should be doing and what I needed to know before coming into college. There were certain majors I didn’t even know existed until I got to college. [The Gen 1] students entered with a lot more calm then I was able to. To me, that was one of [the program’s] greatest successes.”

Nicole Battaglia ’11
DIRECTOR OF FIRST-YEAR INITIATIVES FRESHMAN STUDIES

On her first day of classes at Seton Hall, Nicole Battaglia sat in the wrong classroom for an agonizing 35 minutes. It was a small mistake — one that many can relate to — but as a first-generation student, Battaglia worried that she was missing crucial information about how to navigate college.

When she became a peer adviser, she learned about campus resources and began to take advantage of them. Now as an architect of the Gen 1 program, Battaglia is on a mission to ensure students at Seton Hall feel more confident and better prepared than she did.
ON THE SYLLABUS: SPORTS AS A CAREER

Seton Hall offers a wide variety of options for students looking for a career related to the big business of sports. By Shawn Fury
Peyton Adams grew up a passionate fan of the Philadelphia Eagles. By her sophomore year at Seton Hall, the Medford, New Jersey, native had chosen sport management as one of her majors.

But perhaps Adams was always destined for a career in sports. “Fun fact about me, my parents named me after Peyton Manning,” she says of the legendary NFL quarterback whose distinctive name caught the attention of her mom.

Years after her name linked her to football royalty, Adams says she talked sports with a neighbor who said, “Wow, you should go into sports; you really know your stuff.” And I was like, ‘Oh, I’ve never really considered it.’ I’ve grown up with it, I know a lot about it, but that never struck me, just because I had never thought about the opportunity, and it’s not a huge female industry. So it wasn’t really anything on my radar.”

That changed. And fortunately for Adams, she attends an ideal school for students pursuing a life in sports. Led by Charles Grantham, former executive director of the National Basketball Players Association, the Center for Sport Management at the Stillman School of Business offers students opportunities in everything from NBA marketing to finance work for the NCAA. Guided by longtime Sports Illustrated editor and Professional-in-Residence B.J. Schecter, the College of Communication and the Arts is launching a specialization in sports media. And Seton Hall Law provides guidance for future attorneys who want to work as NFL agents or NHL lawyers.

Sports have never been bigger, so opportunities abound in these disciplines. One Forbes article revealed the sports business could be worth more than $73 billion by 2019 — and that’s just in North America. Tough competition exists for the jobs, but that’s where strong college programs like those at Seton Hall play a role, producing professionals who can excel.

Of course, challenges persist. Print and digital media have undergone dramatic shifts, and thousands of jobs have disappeared. Yet the desire for sports news only grows, creating fresh chances for those who can stand out with their skills or innovations.

Schecter says, “I make no bones about it that it’s going to be difficult, and I tell that to parents at open houses when they ask me, ‘Why should my son or daughter go into journalism or media? Isn’t it dying?’ And I say it’s not. It’s just taking on a different form. We’ve just got to figure out what those opportunities are. And I’ve always believed if you’re the best at what you do and you can stand out from the crowd, you’re going to be really successful.”

The Business of Sports

Interested in sport management? You better be more than a fan. “This is why we push students to pursue a double major,” Grantham says. “Yes, you have the passion for sports, which is important. Because often, you’re going to start at the low end of the employment pyramid, and you are going to have to work up. But the point is, being a fan is not enough. It’s our objective to prepare students in the functional areas of business.”

When Grantham talks to high school students, he discusses the past, when sports franchises measured their worth in millions of dollars and owners hired a buddy to handle marketing or finances. Today, as contracts and salaries explode upward, franchises and leagues count their money in the billions.

“You have to have lawyers, you have to have business people, you have to have finance majors,” Grantham says. “You’ve got MBAs. In order to run an efficient, effective business in these sports, I want people who will be specialized in their knowledge. That’s why, when I talk to young people, I talk about finding a university where the business school houses the sports management. Today this is not recreation; this is not phys ed; it’s business.”

Throughout his career, Grantham negotiated with powerful figures, including former NBA Commissioner David Stern. Now he brings Stern and others in for talks or symposiums. In the classroom, Grantham confronts issues such as NFL player protests and payment for college athletes.
Grantham also teaches the art of negotiation and dealmaking. “Negotiations are about discussion,” he says. “It’s about face-to-face, it’s about resolving issues, it’s about compromising, it’s about understanding how to collaborate.” He notes that these lessons might not sink in during his students’ junior or senior year, “but it may happen after they get into the workplace.”

Peyton Adams got a taste of the workplace with internships, including one in group sales with the New York Mets, where she learned about ticketing systems and working with honorary first-pitch events. Proving Grantham’s mantra about needing to be more than a fan, Adams — who also majors in economics and marketing — thinks about working on the non-game-day side, where she’d be involved off the actual field of play.

Still, fandom plays a role. During a sports franchise class she took, students followed one team. Adams chose the Philadelphia Eagles, researching how they made money through tickets or TV revenue, analyzing the salary cap, organizational structure and expanding the fan base. Early in class, the students wrote papers that “didn’t quite go in-depth,” Adams says, and Grantham asked for rewrites. “He’s like, ‘I want you guys to really understand the business side of the industry. … Big money will be so essential in your guys’ life, especially if that’s what you decide to go into.’”

A Broad View of Sports Media

Discussing Seton Hall’s nascent sports media program, Schecter says, “Nobody else right now is positioned to build a program like this.”

As the editor and publisher of *Baseball America* who spent 20 years at *Sports Illustrated*, Schecter anticipates Seton Hall’s program will help figure out what the next iteration of media will be and how the industry can innovate, including how it can tackle the challenge of prompting people to pay for online content.

“It’s not just writing or broadcasting or podcasting or editing,” Schecter says. “It’s business. … Everything that goes on in college sports — Title IX and pay-for-play, all of that.” The new program will also have crossover with offerings in the School of Diplomacy and International Relations, which is connected to the United Nations. “So it’s interacting with the U.N. and [viewing] sports as a catalyst for peace and prosperity, as the Olympics represents,” he says. “It’s much deeper than traditional sports media.”

During the 2018 spring semester, approval for a sports media minor passed through the University’s academic committees. This media offering would attract students like Elizabeth Swinton ’18. A TV broadcast major who served as sports editor for *The Setonian*, Swinton’s writing earned awards from organizations like the New Jersey Press Foundation. But her high school stressed math, science and engineering. So at Seton Hall, “I didn’t really know I could write until I joined a newspaper.”

Swinton took an Introduction to Sports Media class and a Sports Reporting class, the latter being “an in-depth dive into sports journalism,” she says. At Seton Hall, Swinton learned “by being immersed in the atmosphere of where I want to end up,” including covering Pirates games where “you’re surrounded by media members of all the different outlets, and you’re in the same environment. You’re walking the same path as them, the same for the NBA Draft or the BIG EAST Tournament. I learned to understand what it takes to navigate a game or media event. And I backed that up in class with what Professor Schecter would tell us about how to go about interviews, or how to navigate a locker room.”

Even before Seton Hall began programs in sports media for the next generation, the school produced dozens of writers, broadcasters, editors and announcers, some of them joining the biggest names in the business. ESPN broadcaster Bob Ley ’76 is one of the most respected journalists in sports who is also the network’s longest-serving broadcaster. Jim Hunter ’82 has been the Baltimore Orioles’ play-by-play man for radio and TV for two decades. Longtime baseball writer Ed Lucas ’62 was struck by a baseball as a child and went blind, but went on to a remarkable career as a sportswriter and gained fame covering the Yankees.
And then there are recent grads like John Fanta ’17, the do-everything broadcaster during his days at Seton Hall who became host of BIG EAST Shootaround, a weekly online basketball show featured on Fox Sports GO and the conference’s Facebook and Twitter accounts.

People marvel at the athleticism in sports, celebrate the victories and agonize over the defeats. And, if you’re a lawyer, you savor … contracts? That’s the case with Andrew Richman, J.D. ’16, an attorney with the influential Endeavor agency, where part of his work involves sports-related marketing for several Fortune 500 companies.

“A lot of people want to say that lawyers aren’t creative,” says Richman, who graduated from Central Florida before arriving at Seton Hall Law. “But coming up with solutions to some of these problems is creative, and we’ve got to come up with something that makes both sides work. … I love the business aspect of it also and the negotiation that goes into it. No two deals are the same and everyone has their position. I try to understand the other side, where they’re coming from.”

People who go into sports law are certainly fans, but, as law professor Brian Sheppard explains, “I think most students are savvy enough to know that if you’re really a sports nut, law school is rigorous enough that you probably should have at least a pretty healthy interest in the law, too.”

After all, the law is connected to everything surrounding the games people love. Agents don’t have to have a law degree, but “I think a lot of athletes draw comfort” from having an agent who went to law school, Sheppard says. “It can really make you more marketable.”

To help with the marketing of its own students, Seton Hall takes advantage of nearby New York City in a way few schools can. The law program allows qualified students to work for companies for credit “so long as we get both written assurance and a cooperation agreement with them so that we can be sure the students are getting real legal work and a real learning experience,” Sheppard says. “We want to make sure it’s a true, educational, mentor-mentee type situation.”

Richman experienced that during his two-semester “externship” with Excel Sports Management, where he worked on endorsement deals for athletes such as NBA stars Kemba Walker, Kevin Love and Blake Griffin.

“Law school is good for learning how to think like a lawyer,” Richman says, “but the actual experience and being in the situation is how you become a lawyer. … Learning the experience firsthand and then being able to see the deals and see how they’re put together, see how they’re negotiated and the complexities and the payment structures and the bonus package. There’s no substitute really for the skills that I learned on the job.”

And for students eyeing a sports career, there’s no substitute for a Seton Hall education.

Shawn Fury is an author in New York City.

Even before Seton Hall began programs in sports media for the next generation, the school produced dozens of writers, broadcasters, editors and announcers, some of them joining the biggest names in the business.
The sport Patrick Burd ’18 loved as a kid and played for four years at Seton Hall is taking him to England and a professional career overseas. But his work in the world of soccer won’t happen on the field. Instead he will use his extensive knowledge of soccer cleats as he continues to make a name for himself in the sports business world.

As a high school student in Hillsborough, New Jersey, Burd started buying and selling vintage soccer shoes. That hobby turned into an online company called Classic Soccer Cleats, which Burd operated while at Seton Hall, managing everything about the business while juggling schoolwork and his time as a four-year starter on the Seton Hall soccer team.

With about half of his business being done internationally, Burd might find himself on the phone at 3 a.m., perhaps to China, conducting sales. “I don’t consider it work,” he says. “I love doing it. It’s not really a job to me.”

Now it is his career. Classic Football Shirts, a company in Manchester, England, hired Burd to manage its soccer cleat department. “I’ll be improving it, trying to develop pricing, finding new inventory, training people with my expertise,” he says. Burd had previous interactions with the company and over spring break in 2018 he went to London, messaged one of the owners and asked about plans for the soccer cleat department. On a subsequent trip to Manchester, the company offered Burd a job on the spot, which he later accepted after some negotiations.

This success doesn’t surprise Associate Professor of Management Pamela Adams, who taught Burd in her entrepreneurial classes and co-authored a case study with him about the history of Classic Soccer Cleats. “He’s very modest. He’s very organized with his time and very disciplined,” Adams says. “He downplays what he’s done, but he has really built up a reputation for himself and his expertise.”

That expertise emerged from his love of his product. Collectors and fans flock to vintage soccer cleats, and Burd was no different from his customers. “The nostalgic value is a big driver for a lot of people,” he says. “For example, cleats that are associated with the World Cup,” like the ones David Beckham sported when he scored in the 2002 event. Or customers are looking for the type of cleats they wore when they ran up and down the field as a kid.

Classic Soccer Cleats became something of a family business. Burd paid his younger brother to package the shoes back home, and his mom dropped them off at the post office. Back on campus, Adams helped Burd develop a business plan and “she did teach me a lot about how to organize it, how to break it down, what I want for my future,” Burd says.

Burd displayed a deft entrepreneurial touch at Seton Hall, winning third place and $3,000 at Pirates Pitch, an event where students present their businesses to a panel of judges that includes entrepreneurs and venture capitalists.
But as Burd — a double major in marketing and management — begins his new job in England, his days leading his own company will end to avoid conflicting with his employer. The Classic Soccer Cleats website will get redirected to the Classic Football Shirts site, and his Instagram account will also merge. Burd can sell his remaining inventory through the company’s website for a commission, and Classic Football Shirts will also ship it overseas. He’ll also earn commission on any sales from previous clients, the people who have been with him for years.

Still, Burd realizes what he’s giving up. “It kind of hit me when I agreed on a deal and I had to sign a contract,” he says, “that this has been my life’s work essentially for about five years. What I poured my heart and soul into and what I’m most proud of in my life, to be honest.”

So Classic Soccer Cleats will be no more. But fortunately for his new employers, they now have the drive and expertise of the man who started it — and turned a hobby into a career.

Shawn Fury is an author in New York City.
The Walk-On

Back in the summer of 2014, Matt Leon ’18 was finishing up his senior year at Liberty High School in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, with his baseball future very much in doubt. A skinny right-hander, Leon had his share of success at the high school level: first-team all-conference and all-area selections, two career no-hitters, and a 1.55 ERA with 85 strikeouts in 54 innings as a senior. But Leon’s accomplishments had not translated into any offers from a Division I school.

He sent in a deposit to attend the University of Pittsburgh, facing a future that did not involve collegiate baseball. Then, in a last-ditch effort to avoid hanging up his cleats, he emailed Seton Hall’s head baseball coach, Rob Sheppard, asking for a chance to try out for the team.
“We met with Matt in the summer and told him in not-so-specific words that it would be a really hard team to make,” Sheppard said. “Even knowing that, Matt decided to come to Seton Hall.”

Leon at last had the opportunity he craved, but he acknowledged that the process of making the team was one of the most difficult years of his life.

“I was so miserable. I was sick every week because I was so stressed out,” said Leon. “You’re in the dark the whole time. It was tough; it was probably one of the toughest years I’ve ever had.”

For Sheppard, Leon’s drive to keep showing up day in and day out set him apart from other players trying to make the team.

“He is very persistent in what he wants, and if he has his mind on something, he’s going to work really hard to achieve it,” Sheppard said. “He’s the kind of guy that you can’t say no to because he’s going to try to prove you wrong.”

After months of arduous training and uncertainty, Leon was finally assured a spot on the roster for the 2015 season.

“It was awesome; it was the best moment I’ve had in recent memory,” said Leon. “I was able to give my dad a call on the way to class, and I remember I started tearing up a little because I was so relieved to be out of the dark and make the team.”

A four-year starting pitcher in high school, Leon quickly made the adjustment to the bullpen. The results were strong — opponents hit only .244 against him as a freshman, .212 as a sophomore and a minuscule .171 as a junior. His work ethic and persistence to achieve made it easy for Sheppard to make Leon the closer his senior season.

“To be in the position where your team trusts you in a tie game or with a one-run lead, that’s the role you dream of as a reliever,” Leon said. “All the pressure is on you, and the way I look at it, it’s the ultimate compliment; they’re saying ‘We trust him to get the job done.’”

Leon more than just got the job done last season — he posted one of the best relief seasons in Seton Hall history. With a 1.17 ERA, .205 opponent batting average, and a Seton Hall single-season record 12 saves, Leon was named a unanimous first-team All-BIG EAST selection and earned his very own social media hashtag: #LockdownLeon.

Leon, who graduated from the Stillman School of Business and earned Seton Hall’s Academic Merit Award for finishing school with a cumulative GPA above 3.2, ended his playing career having pitched 88 times for the Pirates, the second-most in school history, which is something he could have never imagined just four years ago.

“There was a time when I didn’t even really think I could play here,” Leon reflected. “But I used fear as a motivator. I didn’t want to sit on the bench or lose my roster spot. To see that I’ve contributed this whole time is nice to look back on.”

Leon’s persistence first landed him a spot at Seton Hall. Now it has landed him an opportunity to pitch professionally. In June, he signed a free-agent contract with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, the latest in a long line of Pirates to turn their collegiate career into a chance at the big leagues. ■

Nick Santoriello ’20 is a writer for the Pirate Sports Network.
50s
Julian J. Ciotta ’54 published the book The Art of Majoring in Minor Things. … Frank J. Korn ’58 released his ninth book, Below Rome... The Story of the Catacombs, which was co-authored with his wife, Camille Korn.

60s
William J. Kane ’62/J.D. ’69 received the 2017-18 Employee Assistance Professional of the Year Award by The New Jersey Employee Assistance Professional Association. … John Niccollai, J.D. ’65 was honored by Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., archbishop of Newark, for helping serve youth and youth programs in the archdiocese. … Joseph P. Delaney ’67 received the 2018 Community Mitzvah Spirit of Change Award by the Wagner College Chai Society of Staten Island. … Richard Liebler ’67, a member of the Seton Hall University Board of Regents (1998-2018), received the American Legion Superior Lifetime Achievement Award for his work with at-risk veterans. … Andrew Paszkowski ’68 retired after 45 years of community planning and 25 years of pastoral ministry. He continues to volunteer as chaplain with Chambersburg (Pa.) Hospital and SpinTrust Lutheran Homecare and Hospice. … John J. Graeber ’69 received the Leon Goldman Award for Clinical Excellence from the Academy of Laser Dentistry in Orlando, Fla.

70s
Kenneth F. Faisti ’71, M.D. opened a new family medicine office in Manalapan that is affiliated with the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine at Seton Hall. … Joseph F. Duffy ’72/M.A. ’77 authored Being a Supervisor 1.0: A Handbook for the New, Aspiring, and Experienced Supervisor. … Roger Kindel ’72/M.S. ’76 retired from Fairleigh Dickinson University after 41 years as athletic director, basketball, and golf coach. … Bettye R. King, M.A.E. ’73 was honored for 41 years as a distinguished member of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education. … Bruce Schonbraun ’73 was recognized as a distinguished trustee at the United Hospital Fund’s 2018 Tribute to Hospital and Health Care Trustees. … Timothy R. Curtin, J.D. ’76 was named third corporation officer for Mayor Lovely Warren’s cabinet in Rochester, N.Y. … Salvatore LaRusso ’76 was re-elected president of National Board of Chiropractic Examiners. … Brian K. Ferraioli ’77 was appointed to the board of directors of Team, Inc., a provider of specialty industrial services. … Louise A. Kelleher ’78 was appointed to the board of the Atlanta International Arbitration Society, a nonprofit organization that promotes Atlanta as a venue for international arbitration. … Thomas J. Mastrangelo ’78/J.D. ’94 joined Burton Trent Public Affairs LLC, a Trenton firm focused on public affairs, business development, government relations and communications. … Malcolm J. McPherson ’78/J.D. ’81 was installed as national president (grand exalted ruler) of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Lyndhurst, N.J. … John J. Bruno, J.D. ’79 was invited to join Noticed, a service for distinguished professionals, and recognized as a Distinguished Lawyer. … Thomas F. Gioconda, M.A.E. ’79 was named deputy director of Lawrence Livermore National Lab in Livermore, Calif., under the Department of Energy. … Andrew L. Pecora ’79 received the 2018 Dr. Sol J. Barer Award for Vision, Innovation and Leadership at BioNJ’s 25th Anniversary Gala in February.

80s
Rhonda Cardone ’81 was promoted to associate at Dewberry’s New York City office. … John M. Loalbo ’81 joined Manhattan-based law firm Windels Marx as partner in their Madison, N.J., office. … Corinne Costa Davis ’82/M.B.A. ’88 was named interim chief executive officer of The COPD Foundation in Washington, D.C. … Jeffrey E. Finegan ’82 gave a lecture to the Madison, N.J., Rotary Club on his book trilogy, I Knew George Washington. … Frank Garrity ’82 was inducted into the WSOU Hall of Fame. … Víctor A. Rotolo, J.D. ’82 was selected to the 2018 New Jersey Rising Stars list. … Richard Durante ’83 was named chief merchandising officer of The Fresh Market, a chain of gourmet supermarkets. … Janet Lucas, J.D. ’83 joined the Laddey, Clark & Ryan, LLP law firm as of counsel in January. … Jack M. Ciattarelli ’84/M.B.A. ’86 ended his six years of public service representing the 16th Assembly District in New Jersey in December. … Michael A. Monahan ’84/J.D. ’88 was named acting Union County, N.J., prosecutor in January. … Charles J. Vincincombe ’84 joined Cozen O’Connor’s new life insurance and annuities practice as of counsel. … Kenneth Nysten, M.B.A. ’85 was appointed senior vice president of sales and marketing at Igesund Paperboard, a Holmen Group company, in Sweden. … Jean M. Stoloff ’85 was promoted to senior vice president in client engagement of The Federal Reserve Bank of New York. … Bernadette Pinamont ’86/J.D. ’90 was appointed vice president of tax research at Vertex Inc., a tax technology and service provider. … Steven McGill ’87 was named fire chief of Jersey City, N.J. … John S. Wisniewski, J.D. ’87 was recognized by Sayreville, N.J., for his service as a state legislator. … Linda J. Epps, M.A. ’88 celebrated Women’s History Month at the Housing Authority of the City of Orange, N.J., with a presentation, “Open the Door – I’ll Get It Myself: Migration Stories of New Jersey’s African American Women.” … Susan R. Fox, J.D. ’88 joined NAI James E. Hanson, a New Jersey–based commercial real-estate firm, as a sales associate working on development projects throughout the United States. … Reed Gusciora, J.D. ’88 is running for mayor of Trenton, N.J. … Father James A. Hamei ’88/M.D.M. ’92/M.A.T. ’99 was promoted to colonel and is now the senior chaplain at 25th Air Force, headquartered in San Antonio, Texas. … Andrea Martinez-Mejia, M.A. ’88/M.P.A. ’08 was named chief of staff for the New Jersey Department of Health. … Peter F. Goggi, M.B.A. ’89 presented a talk on the history of tea and tea tasting at the Westfield (N.J.) Historical Society’s First Wednesday Luncheon series. … Kevin Maroney ’89 was named managing director of Bristol Riverside Theatre in Philadelphia. … Geoffrey Soriano, J.D. ’89 was appointed interim director of the Somerset County (N.J.) Park System.
While some opportunities come around only once in a lifetime, Katia Diaz ’13 has had many, including her latest — the opportunity to teach English in the Dominican Republic this year as a Fulbright Scholar.

Notable other achievements have led to this most recent honor. Since earning her Seton Hall degree in journalism and public relations, she has continued her education with an impressive variety of opportunities, including a four-month speechwriting internship at the White House in 2013.

At the time of her White House interview, she was attending an intensive Japanese language program that required her to not speak English for eight weeks. But she was granted an exception, and when she got the internship, she was assigned to help draft materials for Vice President Joe Biden. While in the Washington, D.C., area, she co-founded Read Between the Minds Inc., a nonprofit online mentoring program that helps high school students get ready for college.

“It was a really good feeling to know we had helped someone in need,” Diaz says. “It’s one of those moments where we’re making a difference.”

After returning to the New York metro area, she worked in marketing for an architectural firm, then became a communication specialist for the New Jersey Senate Majority Office, where she wrote speeches and statements for state senators.

And just this summer she finished a one-year fellowship as a social-media liaison at the New York City Department of Health, where she worked on a number of public awareness campaigns.

When she travels to the Dominican Republic this fall as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, she will be returning to her native land, which puts her in a unique position to help college-level students improve their English and communication skills.

She also plans to do some studying. “When you see my track with public affairs, there has always been an underlying theme in what I’ve been interested in, and it’s been education policy,” she says. “I’m hoping to look at how the education system works there, and take it apart.”

Yet another opportunity awaits when she returns home: She has been accepted into a graduate program in international and global studies at Columbia University.

“My end goal is to become a professor at a university,” she says. “I hope to gain enough experience not only teaching but in public affairs and international relations.”

And it all began with the opportunities she received as an undergraduate.

“I wouldn’t be here, where I am right now, without Seton Hall’s full-frontal support in the career decisions I’ve made,” she says. “I’m pretty grateful that I was given these opportunities because of the connections and relationships I’ve had with my professors at Seton Hall.”

| ASHLEY WILSON ’17
1. Chintan Shah ’05 and Yaniris, a boy, Kylo, on April 24, 2018.
3. Lisa A. Cullen ’02 and Patrick, a girl, Emma Bobbi, on February 16, 2017.
4. Thomas J. Lardner ’93 and Sarah, a girl, Maura Margaret, on September 2, 2017.
5. Danielle ’10 and Brad Ciolek ’08, a boy, James Tanios, on November 15, 2017.

(See page 38 for full listing.)
Tying the knot

2. Timothy Crandall ’07 to Christina Woloshyn on May 6, 2017.
3. Ryan La Valle ’13 to Tara Vogel ’13 on September 16, 2017.
4. Ryan Harvey ’15 to Erin Egan ’13 on October 14, 2017.
5. Brian Poll ’05/M.A. ’07 to Sara Bennett ’05 on August 5, 2017.
(See page 38 for full listing.)
90s

Bart Oates, J.D. ‘90, a three-time Super Bowl champion, was named president of the NFL Alumni Association, a Mount Laurel, N.J.-based organization. … Stephen A. Santola, J.D. ‘90 was named to New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy’s transition team. … Maria Sceppaguerci, M.B.A. ‘90 joined Keurig Green Mountain, Inc. as senior vice president of investor relations. … James C. Wittig ‘90 was appointed chairman of the Department of Orthopedics at Morristown Medical Center, and medical director of Orthopedic & Oncology at Atlantic Health System in New Jersey. … Thomas W. Halm, ‘91/J.D. ‘94 was selected to the 2018 Super Lawyers List and opened a new law office in Hamilton, N.J. … Armando Bonilla, J.D. ‘92 was recommended as a candidate for the District of Columbia Superior Court vacancy. … Joseph Laganza ‘92/M.B.A. ‘94 joined Carter Multifamily Fund Management Company as senior vice president of national accounts. … Dawn M. Spring ‘92/M.B.A. ‘98 was appointed executive director of customer experience at Oticon, a hearing aid manufacturer. … Michael Doherty, J.D. ‘93 was grand marshal for the 2018 Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Hunterdon County (N.J.) St. Patrick’s Day Parade. … Kevin P. Harrigan, M.B.A. ‘93 was named president at New Penn Financial. … Michelle L. Miller, J.D. ‘94 was selected by New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal to lead the Division of Law within the Department of Law and Public Safety. … Carolyn Welsh ‘94 was promoted to vice president and chief clinical officer of NJ Sharing Network, a nonprofit organization promoting organ and tissue donations. … Christopher C. Masullo ‘95 published the book, Are You My Motherboard? … Patrick J. Galligan, J.D. ‘96 was named to the 2018 New Jersey Super Lawyers list. … Brendan W. Gill ‘96 was elected board president of Essex County (N.J.) Freeholders. … Susan Kowel Mishler, J.D. ‘97 joined Dawda Mann, Mulcahy, and Sadler PLC as a senior attorney specializing in commercial real estate, business transactions, and corporate and banking law. … Andre Sayegh ‘97 was elected mayor of Paterson, N.J. … Bette M. Simmons, Ed.D. ‘97 was selected as 2018 Woman of the Year at County College of Morris, N.J. … Paul G. Tiranno, J.D. ‘97 was named Merrill Lynch Wealth Management’s market development manager for the Northwest community market. … Troy Oswald, M.A.E. ‘98 was sworn in as police chief of Paterson (N.J.). … Nicole Pride, M.A. ‘98 was named one of Triad Business Journal’s Outstanding Women in Business. … John Town, J.D. ‘98 was named U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Alabama. … Stephen Ward ‘98 joined Mikecast’s board of directors, an email and data security company. … Robert P. McKeon, J.D. ‘99 joined Wilmington Trust as head of fiduciary risk management. … Ryan Sakacs ‘99 was appointed as general counsel in the firm’s Commercial Litigation group in New York. … James H. Whitaker, M.A.E. ‘99 was promoted to lieutenant at the Bayonne (N.J.) Police Department.

00s

Craig Carpenito, J.D. ‘00 was appointed as U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey. … Bryan Couch, J.D. ‘00 joined Connell Foley LLP as a partner. … Michael D. Shimsky, M.A.E. ‘00 was named acting police chief of Bernards Township, N.J. … Matthew A. Van Patton, M.A. ‘00 was named director of Nebraska’s Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care by Gov. Pete Ricketts. … Kenneth Ehrenberg, J.D. ‘01 serves as the Paramus, N.J., chief of police as well as the chief of the Paramus Fire Department. … Robert J. Girard, J.D. ‘01 was named to the 2018 list of Super Lawyers in Florida. … Paul B. Matey, J.D. ‘01 was nominated to the Third Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals by President Donald J. Trump. … John J. Milligan, M.A.E. ‘01 joined Penn State Brandywine’s Office of Police and Public Safety as a campus police officer. … Christopher Nangano ‘01 was promoted to vice president of Clune Construction. … Keith J. Richardson, M.B.A. ‘01 joined the Foundation for Morristown (N.J.) Medical Center’s board of trustees. … Jennifer H. Ruhl, J.D. ‘01 joined the Grossman Law Firm, LLC. … Ross Aboff, J.D. ‘02 joined SBG Technology Solutions, an Alexandria, Va., government contractor, as vice president of healthcare solutions. … Kevin Fellin, M.S. ‘02 was named to Hugs for Brady Foundation’s board of trustees. … Linden, N.J., honored school principal Atiya Perkins ‘02/M.A.E. ‘04 during 2018 Black History Month. … Matthew Schultz, J.D. ‘02 joined Connell Foley LLP as a partner. … Jennifer Davenport, J.D. ‘03 was named first assistant attorney general by New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal. … Sister Grace Marie (Carla) Del Priore ‘03/M.A.E. ‘05 made her perpetual vows with the Felician Sisters community. … Marcus O. Hicks, J.D. ‘03 was named acting commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Correction. … Jodi L. McCaffrey (Kastel), M.A. ‘05 became a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. … Noah B. Pollak, J.D. ‘05 was promoted to partner at Norton Rose Fulbright. … Andrew S. Bae, M.S. ‘06 was appointed director of ExWorks Capital. … Erik M. Corlett, J.D. ‘06 was promoted to partner at Pashman Stein Walder Hayden. … Michael G. Gordon ‘06/J.D. ‘09 left private practice to join ADP, LLC as counsel to the Retirement Services Division and became an adjunct professor at Seton Hall’s Stillman School of Business teaching Legal Foundations of Business. … Nicole K. Linardos ‘06 was honored with the 2017 New Leaders in Banking Award. … Anne Bramnick, J.D. ‘07 was nominated to be a New Jersey Superior Court judge. … Xin He, M.S. ‘07 was appointed to the board of directors of Professional Diversity Network, Inc. … Stephen C. Pepper ‘07 was awarded the Gates Cambridge Scholarship. … Sonia Alves-Viveiros ‘08/M.P.A. ‘10 was named Maplewood Township (N.J.) business administrator. … Gregory Michaels, M.S. ‘08 was named managing director for Kroll Associates in Secaucus, N.J. … Triantafillos Parlapanides, Ed.D. ‘08 received an honorary doctorate from Georgian Court University for his work in education. … Christopher M. Fulco,
Many Are One

On June 8, the 32nd annual Many Are One alumni awards gala, sponsored by Mercer, was held in the new Bethany Hall, a welcome center dedicated to Monsignor Robert Sheeran ’67, president emeritus of Seton Hall. The sold-out event raised funds for the Many Are One Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund and recognized the following alumni for the many ways they have influenced our world and exemplify Seton Hall’s mission of servant leadership.

Most Distinguished Alumnus
Anthony Slimowicz ’87 was awarded for his leadership in business and law, as well as his unwavering dedication to help others through his support of philanthropic organizations.

Humanitarians of the Year
Nicole Battaglia ’12 was awarded for selfless service to society through her career in law enforcement, being one of the first officers on the scene at the June 2017 shooting at a congressional baseball practice in Alexandria, Virginia, which left five people injured, including U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise.

Dr. Christopher Fisher ’93 was awarded for life-saving actions leading his hospital’s trauma department following the mass shooting at a Las Vegas concert in October 2017.

Service Award Recipients
The following alumni were recognized for demonstrating tremendous servant leadership in their professions and communities, and through their involvement with Seton Hall.

College of Arts and Sciences
Lisa Donoghue ’95/M.B.A. ’96

College of Communication and the Arts
Rosemary Mercedes ’99/M.A. ’02

College of Education and Human Services
Thomas Lloyd Smith ’96

College of Nursing
Barbara Kieman ’65

Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology
Monsignor William J. Linder ’59/M.Div. ’63

School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Colin Hart ’10

School of Health and Medical Science
Kenyani Henderson ’10/M.S. ’13

School of Law
John Shahdanian, J.D. ’97

Stillman School of Business
Steven Karl ’83

To support the scholarship, or view videos about the honorees and photos of the evening, visit www.shu.edu/ManyAreOne
Ed.D. ’09 was appointed president of St. Joseph’s College, Amityville. ... Shannon P. Hennessy Pulaski, J.D. ’09 was named to the list of 2018 New Jersey Rising Stars.

10s

Vance Crowe, M.A. ’10 spoke at The Pennsylvania State University on the topic “Science and Technology: Combating Fear and Misinformation with Discovery and Wonder.” ... Thomas H. McKinney, M.H.A. ’10 was named president of CHRISTUS Spohn Health System’s Alice and Kleberg hospitals in southern Texas. ... Stephanie Oguchi, M.S ’10 received a doctoral degree in occupational therapy. ... Marc L. Reda ’10 took over his family’s business, Lou Reda Furniture, Inc. in Easton, Pa. ... Jeremy Ryan Slate ’09/M.A. ’11’s Create Your Own Life podcast was named the No. 2 show to follow by CIO magazine. ... Joseph Signorello ’10 is running for mayor of Roselle Park, N.J. ... Charles J. Wilkes, J.D. ’10 was promoted to partner at Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP ... Erika Lopes-McLeman, J.D. ’11 was named to New Jersey Law Journal’s New Leaders of the Bar list. ... Kevin Stevens ’11 earned his Ph.D. in English literature at Fordham University. ... Joseph Persico, D.P.T. ’12 joined JAG Physical Therapy as a partner. ... Luciana Contuzzi ’13 expanded Zest, a healthy food business, to Bloomfield, N.J. ... Steven Llanes, J.D. ’13 was selected to the Presidential Leadership Scholars program, a collaboration among the presidential centers of George W. Bush, William J. Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B. Johnson. ... Matthew Marinelli ’13 was ordained a deacon in the Diocese of Metuchen, N.J. ... Ryan A. Maddox ’14 is the co-host of International Republican Institute’s podcast “Global.” ... Maria D. Del Cid-Kosso ’15 joined the New Jersey Department of Health as legislative service director. ... Michael Tabenero ’15 was ordained a deacon in the Diocese of Metuchen, N.J. ... Nicole Archibald ’16 was awarded the Princeton in Africa 2018-2019 fellowship with CHAI Swaziland in Mbabane, Swaziland. ... Aline de Oliveira, Ph.D. ’16 is lead associate and regulatory scientist of Global Regulatory Affairs – Oncology at Janssen, a Johnson & Johnson company. ... Danielle G. Pickett ’16 joined Starz Entertainment in New York City as coordinator of insights and analytics. ... Konstantine Zoganas, M.A. ’16 was promoted to senior vice president and director of information technology at Lakeland Bancorp, Inc. ... Jason Hagestad, M.A. ’17 was named commanding officer of the 78th Precinct, Brooklyn, N.Y. ... Christopher C. Irving, Ed.D. ’17 was named superintendent of Teaneck, N.J., schools.

Baby Pirates


Weddings

Two alumni of the Seton Hall University School of Law have joined the ranks of 93 U.S. attorneys appointed to serve as the highest-ranking federal law enforcement officers in their districts.

Craig Carpenito, J.D. ’00 was formally appointed U.S. attorney for New Jersey on April 27 after serving on an interim basis since January. Before he took the post, Carpenito was a partner at Alston & Bird LLP for almost 10 years. He previously had worked for former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie for four years in the state’s U.S. Attorney’s Office, when Christie held the post of U.S. attorney there.

“It is a great privilege for me to return to my roots as a federal prosecutor in New Jersey,” Carpenito said after his appointment was formalized.

He started his legal career policing Wall Street during five years at the Securities and Exchange Commission’s enforcement division in New York.

“My legal education at Seton Hall Law provided me with a strong foundation to serve as United States attorney for the District of New Jersey,” he said.

Jay E. Town, J.D. ’98 was sworn in as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Alabama on August 11, 2017, after being nominated by President Donald Trump and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. His district encompasses 31 counties, including the cities of Birmingham and Huntsville.

He chairs Attorney General Jeff Sessions’ Service Members and Veterans Rights Subcommittee and serves on the Law Enforcement Relations and Coordination and Management, Performance and Personnel subcommittees. He is the only U.S. attorney on Sessions’ Violent Crime Reduction Coordinating Committee.

Town served in the Marine Corps for 12 years, attaining the rank of major and serving as a judge advocate. He was a senior prosecutor in the Madison County district attorney’s office in Huntsville for about 12 years before his appointment.

He previously worked as an outside counsel for McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter LLP in New Jersey, focused on defending companies involved in litigation with federal agencies.

“Any successes I have had the good fortune to achieve in my legal career are due in large part to the positive influences that the faculty, the deans, the student body, and the alumni had on me during my time at Seton Hall Law and thereafter,” said Town.

“I am most proud of the relationships that I maintain, to this day, and which remind me of the wise choice I made in attending Seton Hall Law.”
Seton Hall Weekend

Seton Hall Weekend is a celebration of our community spirit and of the close ties enjoyed by alumni, students, faculty, staff and the surrounding community.

Join us on October 19-21 for three days of fun. From outdoor performances, arts and crafts, rides and carnival games to campus tours, a beer garden and an alumni paint and sip event, there is something for everyone to enjoy. The weekend’s main events will take place on Saturday, October 20. This year’s Alumni Headquarters will be at Jubilee Hall.

SAVE THE DATE

Hall Alumni National Day of Service

On December 15, 2018, Seton Hall’s regional alumni chapters will join forces with the national Wreaths Across America program by laying wreaths on veterans’ graves in cemeteries across the United States. To join alumni in your area in this special volunteer opportunity, contact Brian O’Malley, director of alumni clubs, at brian.omalley@shu.edu.
Pirate Connect – An Exclusive Digital Professional Development and Networking Platform

Alumni now have the ability to take their mentoring talents, job and networking opportunities to Seton Hall’s exclusive professional development platform, Pirate Connect. The platform allows alumni around the world to:

**Expand** – By leveraging their own network of Pirates to get introduced to people they should know.

**Get Ahead** – By advancing their careers through connections with Pirates working in top companies and gaining access to exclusive opportunities.

**Give Back** – By introducing, employing and mentoring graduating students or fellow alumni.

**Reconnect** – By finding and reminiscing with fellow classmates.

With more than 100,000 alumni and more than 10,000 students, Seton Hall boasts a vast network of Pirates near and far who represent all industries. The creation of Pirate Connect is another added benefit offered by Seton Hall to continue the University’s investment in its lifelong relationship with the alumni community.

To join visit, www.shu.edu/PirateConnect
Pirate Pride

Tag us in your Pirate Pride photos @setonhallalumni or email us alumni@shu.edu

Don’t have a Pirate bandana yet? Visit www.shu.edu/alumni to request yours.

PRIDE IN ACTION
2) Marlene Harris (Acrum) ’85, Matthew LaBombard ’17 and Barbara (Crocker) Falkowski ’85 at Hartford Hospital, Connecticut.
3) Maribel Roman ’03/M.A. ’07/Ph.D. ’18 (left) showing her Pirate Pride in Mukono, Uganda, during her annual mission trip.
4) Stephanie Vargas ’14 and Barbara L. McCarthy, M.A.E. ’11 in Guatemala during their trip with Habitat for Humanity’s Global Village Program.
5) Charles V. O’Connell ’63 at Israel’s Golan Heights.
Volunteer with Seton Hall and help make the University and our communities stronger and brighter — together.

The Office of Alumni Relations, in partnership with campus organizations and local communities, provides graduates with University-driven, certified volunteer opportunities.

A few ways you could give back while reconnecting with Seton Hall:

- Recruit prospective students at local college fairs or on-campus recruitment events
- Mentor students
- Lead a regional alumni chapter or alumni club
- Perform community service
- Attend events on campus
- Serve on our boards and committees
- Volunteer virtually

Fill out our survey and start volunteering with Seton Hall today!
www.shu.edu/volunteer

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 www.shu.edu/alumni and share your success. Your news may be published in an upcoming issue of Seton Hall magazine.

If you can’t log on, 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:

J. Glenn Costa ’07 and Janelle M. LoBello, M.P.A. ’13 were married in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception on September 17, 2017.
Leaders in Training

Are great leaders made or born? Seton Hall has proven just how well leadership can be cultivated through its award-winning program in the Stillman School of Business. Launched in 1995 as the Leadership Development Honors Program and supported by an investment from Gerald P. Buccino ’63, it has been ranked the top leadership development certificate program in the country for four consecutive years. Now, through the support of Interim Provost Karen Boroff, the newly launched Buccino Leadership Institute will be expanded across the University to include distinct leadership centers housed in six of the schools and colleges. Retired Lt. Col. Bryan Price, Ph.D., the institute’s founding executive director, launched the expanded program in September. Seton Hall editor Pegeen Hopkins spoke with Price recently to learn more.

What makes the new Seton Hall leadership program special?
Given the success of its existing program, Seton Hall is uniquely positioned as a thought leader in leadership education. Beyond that, the program’s selectivity makes it notable. The 83 freshmen in the initial class have been chosen for their aptitude and interest in leadership during high school. Additionally, the program’s comprehensive nature is important. This isn’t just one course taken during freshman year. It’s a four-year program that will provide students with a deep understanding of leadership they will learn in a multidisciplinary setting. When all the schools’ leadership students come together, nurses will be sitting next to business students, poets, engineers and scientists. There’s a lot our students can learn from each other. But in years past, these leadership conversations primarily took place only in Stillman.

Also, the institute’s associate directors are experts in their fields. So our students will learn about leadership generally, and they will also learn about what it takes to be a leader in their specific discipline from an industry expert.

What specialized techniques will the program use?
In addition to classroom and experiential experiences, students will also learn the same mental skills training and peak performance psychology that are taught to elite students and athletes at West Point. These mental skills include goal setting, visualization, imagery, resiliency and energy management, among other competencies. And every student will receive professional coaching from an accredited coach. All these concepts come together to give our students something unique.

What kind of students are you looking for?
We want people who have a demonstrated aptitude or interest in leadership. That can take a variety of forms. Students may have excelled in academics, on a sports field or in student government. But we’re also looking for leaders in their churches or clubs or in nonprofit organizations. In some cases, they may be leaders in their families — students who may have had a sick parent or who have had to accept more of a leadership role inside of the nuclear family than is traditional. We want to bring in people with this potential and help them become the best versions of themselves in the hope that they will do the same for others.

How will success be measured for graduates of the program?
Through a variety of metrics. The University has selected seven pillars that our leadership students will develop competencies in: character, change management, courageous communication, collaboration, ceaselessness, conflict management and civic engagement. Each of the participating schools owns a competency and will measure students’ growth in its particular pillar. And because of the professional coaching, we will have data on students’ growth in specific leadership capabilities, culled from surveys and other methods including 360-degree feedback.
Last year, increases in alumni giving allowed our students to reach further, climb higher and achieve more than they ever dreamed.

Help our students take the next step by supporting Seton Hall today.

www.shu.edu/giving
Own the Road with Custom Pirate Plates

Each set displays the official Seton Hall University Pirate logo and can be used as your set of permanently registered New Jersey license plates.

Each purchase of a New Jersey Pirate license plate will help provide scholarship support; a portion of the fee is considered a gift to the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Visit www.shu.edu/pirateplates