Give More Than You Take

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FAITH, SERVICE AND PERSISTENCE AT WORK IN THE MINISTRY OF DEACON PETER BARCELLONA



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Interim President Katia Passerini, Ph.D.

Vice President for University Relations Matthew Borowick '89/M.B.A. '94

Assistant Vice President, Strategic Communications and Brand Pegeen Hopkins, M.S.J.

Art Director Ann Antoshak

Copy Editors Kim de Bourbon Anthony D'Angelico '23

News & Notes Editors Stacy Albanese

Sophia Fredriksson Anthony D'Angelico '23

Send your comments and suggestions by mail to: Seton Hall magazine, Division of University Relations, 519 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079; by email to *shuwriter@shu. edu*; or by phone at 973-378-9834.

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FROM PRESIDENTS HALL | KATIA PASSERINI, Ph.D.

Stability Progress

t has been four months since I received the extraordinary opportunity to serve Seton Hall as interim president. I realize how fortunate I am to lead one of the most consequential higher education institutions in the nation.

Bishop Bayley had a vision when he established Seton Hall. Relying on faith, he built a great university. Most students during the early decades were immigrants and children of immigrants. And nearly all were firstgeneration students.

Seton Hall is still drawing people from all over the world. I grew up in Rome, the Eternal City. But even in Rome, America was always the dream. I came to this country to achieve my dream. That is why I feel at home at Seton Hall. That is why I came here in 2020 to serve as provost and executive vice president. That is why I am honored to lead the University today.

Seton Hall is a place where people come to achieve their dreams. When they leave, they make a better world for everyone. Our singularity stems from a dynamic set of characteristics that can only be found here.

Most importantly, we put students first. Our care and concern for students infuses our teaching, research and service. It stems from our identity as a Catholic university that is committed to intellectual, spiritual and moral growth.

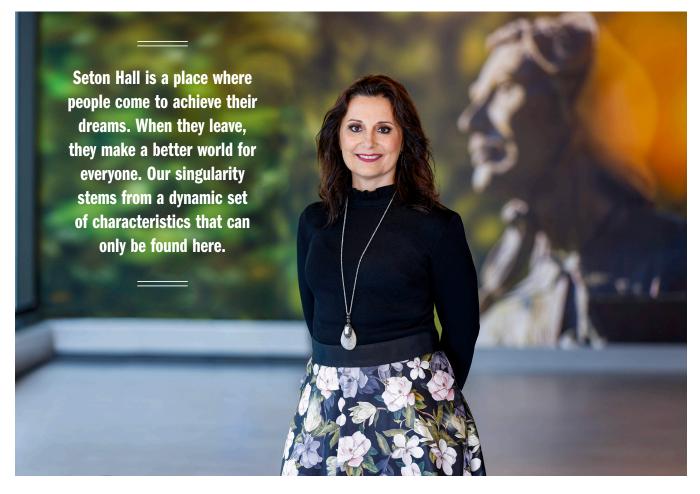
We emphasize social mobility. Seton Hall was founded to educate people who were not afforded full opportunities in society, and we have never strayed from that mission. We have increased awards to Pelleligible students by more than 25 percent in the last five years. And we are among the top performers for career outcomes.

We are devoted to teaching and learning. As provost, I witnessed an unparalleled commitment from the Seton Hall faculty to delivering instruction of the highest quality. Our professors are devoted to sharing knowledge with students and welcoming them into their labs and scholarly projects.

We are dedicated to increasing affordability. This year, we allocated more than \$170 million in Universityfunded scholarships. This anchors the total cost of attendance among the lowest in our peer group. And we will continue to analyze and optimize our pricing to increase access whenever and wherever possible.

We value living in a community where everyone is included and respected. We don't shirk from addressing difficult issues. We engage in a spirit of mutual understanding and respect, which provides a powerful opportunity to examine humanity from all sides. All of these qualities have enabled our success since the beginning and remain foundational to our success today. They are why I am committed to making us even more vital as one of the world's leading Catholic universities.

Our academics are vibrant and respected. The College of Human Development, Culture, and Media — which was inaugurated this fall — offers students learning



opportunities at the edges of new disciplines. The college's founding dean, Bryan Crable, Ph.D., is a leading communications scholar with an impressive reputation among students as a first-rate instructor and mentor.

Our faculty is robust and growing stronger. With over 60 new faculty members, more professors are arriving at Seton Hall than at any time in the last decade. And our campus vision continues to take shape. Our students are thriving, learning and socializing in state-of-theart, digitally rich facilities, with the University Center now fully in use and the new basketball practice facility moving ahead.

The global Setonian community has endorsed our progress by helping achieve another outstanding fundraising year, with over 8,500 donors giving more than \$28.4 million. Naturally, the rest of the year will include a search for Seton Hall's 22nd president. Also, we look forward to implementing the final aspects of our strategic plan, *Harvest Our Treasures*, advancing a successful Middle States reaccreditation and moving forward with additional campus improvements.

For these and many more reasons, there is a palpable sense of excitement that pervades our campuses and community. Because here, we never rest on our accomplishments. We know today's achievements are the foundation for building an even brighter future.

I have seen firsthand the many ways your engagement has elevated the University across all three campuses. Because you advance Seton Hall's flourishing, our students take advantage of every opportunity to create successful, fulfilling lives.

You are the shoulders on which we stand — together — as one united community moving on an upward trajectory. It is my privilege to be with you on this exhilarating journey. ■



- The College of Nursing and the School of Health and Medical Sciences received \$1.14 million to improve simulation lab and health training through federal funding secured by U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell and New Jersey's U.S. senators. The project will provide new equipment and upgrades to the simulation center on the Interprofessional Health Sciences campus.
- Caryn Grabowski, chair and program director of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology, was appointed to the board of directors at the Alder Aphasia Center.
- David Opderbeck, professor of law, Seton Hall Law, was awarded a Fulbright for his project, "Artificial Intelligence, Privacy and Security."
- The Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners honored Mary Ellen Roberts, associate professor in the College of Nursing, with a 2023 Legacy Award for her contributions to health care.
- Mehmet Alper Sahiner, professor and chair of the Department of Physics, a Fulbright Turkey Distinguished Scholar, was awarded for his research, "Next Generation Thin Film Solar Cells: Improving Photovoltaic Conversion Efficiency by Nanoparticles."
- Phyllis Hansell, professor in the College of Nursing, was recently elected vice chair of New Jersey's Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund Commission.
- Jeff Christakos, professor in the Stillman School of Business, was named to the 2023 NJBIZ Accounting Power 50 in June.

- Catherine Tinker, distinguished fellow at the School of Diplomacy and International Relations, will be teaching international law at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul Law School in Porto Alegre, Brazil, after being named a Fulbright Scholar.
- History professor William Connell, the La Motta Endowed Chair in Italian Studies, College of Arts and Sciences, was honored by the U.S.-Italian Fulbright Commission in celebration of its 75th anniversary year.
- Sona Patel, interim assistant provost of academic excellence and assessment, was invited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association to serve on the Research and Scientific Affairs Committee.
- Seton Hall University recently launched STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs for graduate students interested in the growing fields of financial technology, digital media or applied physics and engineering.
- The School of Diplomacy and International Relations was granted consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, allowing Seton Hall students and faculty to participate in and contribute to U.N. meetings and conferences.
- STEM Workforce Diversity, an Equal Opportunity Publications magazine, has named Seton Hall to its list of **Top 10 Graduate** Schools for 2023, after asking readers to name schools that offer a diversified curriculum, student base and faculty and provide an inclusive learning environment.

Provost Passerini Serves as Interim President

Atia Passerini, Ph.D., who came to Seton Hall in 2020 as provost and executive vice president, is now serving as interim president of the University. Hank D'Alessandro '85, chair of the Board of Regents, noted that Passerini arrived on campus during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and played a key role in instituting the flexible online and in-person teaching option that enabled the University to achieve a safe academic year in 2020-21.

He also noted that she was actively involved in the development of the "Harvest Our Treasures" strategic plan, and as interim president will oversee its final year. Passerini was elected to the administrative board for the International Federation of Catholic Universities last year, representing all North American institutions.

A national search for a new president is underway.



New Rector and Dean for Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology

Reverend Monsignor Gerard Hargrove McCarren, S.T.D., was installed this fall as the 23rd rector of Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall.

His appointment as rector and dean of the seminary's School of Theology had been announced in March, following a national search, and he had been serving in the posts on an interim basis since July 2022.



The appointment was formalized on September 10 in a Mass of Installation led by Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, Archbishop of Newark, who noted that the ceremony marked Monsignor McCarren's official start as "father of the seminary community."

In his homily, Monsignor McCarren noted that in the priestly vocation, "We are enjoined to be ministers of reconciliation, and this can take place only in love, and it leads to deeper love. ... We are strengthened for the task before us because we do this in prayer, and we do this together."

Katia Passerini, Ph.D., interim president of Seton Hall, noted that "His tenure as interim rector and dean brought a renewed sense of vitality and even greater enthusiasm to the seminary. I welcome his full-time appointment with confidence that his great faith, administrative expertise and outstanding scholarship will continue to enrich the seminary and its students."

FRESHMAN STAYING POWER

n overwhelming majority of Seton Hall freshmen complete their first year and come back to become sophomores, giving the University a retention rate that far exceeds the national average.

This fall's enrollment showed Seton Hall hitting a six-year high retention rate of 85.2 percent, exceeding the national average by almost 12 percentage points and the state average by even more.

"This is a remarkable achievement," said Monica Burnette, Ph.D., vice president of student services. "This is a testament to our world-class faculty, our studentfocused curriculum and the individual care we provide to each and every student who calls Seton Hall home."

According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, which calculates retention rates for colleges and universities, the national average retention rate for full-time college students last year was 73.4 percent; in New Jersey, that number was 73.1 percent.

The achievement is particularly impressive in light of enrollment trends. In the last 10 years, enrollment at Seton Hall rose 19 percent while enrollment nationally declined by more than 15 percent.

Federal Grant Funds \$1.18M in Graduate Scholarships for SHMS

orty graduate students will each receive \$20,500 tuition scholarships as part of a five-year \$1.18 million federal training grant awarded to the School of Health and Medical Sciences.

The 20 Occupational Therapy students and 20 Speech-Language Pathology students will be part of "Project Transitions," a collaborative interdisciplinary program they will undertake as they work with local educators and autistic school-age children during their clinical education experience.

After graduating, the scholarship recipients will be required to complete two years working with special needs children in a school or hospital setting.

"This component of the grant ensures that our students will share their newly acquired skills and resources, giving back to the communities in which they work in the years to come," said Ruth Segal, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy and codirector of the program with Vikram Dayalu, Ph.D., interim dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences. "It complements Seton Hall's commitment to servant leadership."

The remainder of the funding from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education will be used for curriculum development and training during the five-year program as the students work with local school districts to observe, assess and plan interventions to help children with autistic spectrum disorder.



New Board Members

eton Hall University has appointed four new members to its Board of Regents and elected a new board chair.

Henry (Hank) F. D'Alessandro '85 began his term as chair at the start of the new fiscal year, having served as vice chair since 2020. He is managing director of Morgan Stanley and is vice chairman of the firm's North America Private Credit business and has more than 31 years of private credit investing and leveraged finance experience.

He earned a B.S. in accounting from Seton Hall and an M.B.A. from Cornell University's S.C. Johnson School of Graduate Management and has served on the Board of Regents since 2008. He also is a member of the Board of Trustees.

THE NEW REGENTS:

Joseph J. Hughes '71 is president and founder of Country Club Services, a parking and transportation company that provides valet parking services and supports major events. Hughes founded the company while an undergraduate. A longtime supporter of the Seton Hall Fund and the Pirate Blue Athletic Fund, he has served as chair of the Many Are One Alumni Awards Gala Committee, coordinator of the Seton Hall Alumni Recruitment Program, president of the Alumni Association and on the Alumni Board of Directors. Hughes was inducted in the University's Entrepreneur Hall of Fame and received the Alumni Association Service Award.

Alisa Coren Norris is corporate director at CP Direct, a private equity-backed direct marketing company. She also serves as lead independent director at Vitamix and is an independent director at Standard Motor Products. She brings experience in marketing, communications, digital fundraising and operations gained from her roles as chief marketing and communications officer at JDRF International and chief people officer at Opera Solutions, among others.

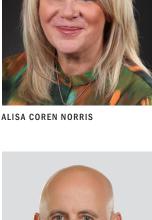
Thomas L. Tran '78 is chief financial officer of UpStream Healthcare, a North Carolina-based firm that supports physicians working with seniors. He has more than 35 years of experience in the healthcare industry, previously



JOSEPH J. HUGHES '71



THOMAS L. TRAN '78





PATRICK WALSH '90

serving as CFO of Molina Healthcare and CFO of WellCare Health Plans as well as holding senior roles at UnitedHealth Group, ConnectiCare, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and Cigna. He served on Seton Hall's President's Advisory Council between 2011 and 2013.

Patrick Walsh '90 serves as managing partner and CEO at Withum, a U.S. advisory, accounting and tax firm. He has more than 30 years of public accounting experience and specializes in corporate taxation advice. Walsh works with at-risk communities and underserved youth, serving as a trustee of the Newark Boys and Girls Club, and is also a member of the Leadership Council for Habitat for Humanity of Morris, Greater Plainfield and Middlesex Counties. He was recognized as a Most Distinguished Alumnus at this year's Many Are One Alumni Award Gala.

New College Prepares Students to Address Pressing Issues of Our Day

eton Hall has a new college, developed in accordance with the University's "Harvest Our Treasures" strategic initiative that calls for an interdisciplinary approach to learning.

The new College of Human Development, Culture, and Media seeks to use education and communication to improve the human condition by collaborating across complementary fields.

An announcement for the new college cited examples of the kind of graduates the program could produce: a teacher who can enhance classroom experiences by being grounded in interactive media; a school counselor trained in performing arts who can better connect with students; a journalist trained in sound

Mediner Mediner Mediner Disay Chertistry Chertistry Chertistry Mathematics production and engineering to become a multimedia storyteller.

Bryan Crable, Ph.D., who comes to Seton Hall from the Department of Communications at Villanova University, was named founding dean of the new college.

"This new college represents an unparalleled opportunity, first because it will give Seton Hall students a truly unique education, combining mastery in their fields of study with the added power of interdisciplinary tools and perspectives," Crable said.

"I believe CHDCM can and will become an intellectual and pedagogical leader in the region and nation — known as the place for cutting-edge, transdisciplinary engagement with the most pressing problems of our time."

THE TOP 2%

wo Seton Hall professors have been identified as being in the very top of their fields, based on a Stanford University analysis of citations and abstracts in peer-reviewed journals.

Nicholas Snow, founding endowed professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Robert Mayhew, professor in the Department of Philosophy, each were recognized as scholars who are in the top 2 percent of their areas of expertise.

The ranking by the Meta-Research Innovation Center at Stanford takes a comprehensive view of scholarship and its impact, using a composite scoring system that includes publications, citations and authored works.

Snow, founding endowed professor in his department, is director of the University's Center for Academic Industry Partnership, and has been at Seton Hall for nearly 30 years. He teaches advanced courses in analytical chemistry and is known for his work in gas chromatography.

Mayhew, a leading scholar in Aristotle and other ancient philosophers, is a prolific writer and editor of scholarly works, such as *Aristotle's Lost Homeric Problems*. He also has an interest in the 20th century novelist-philosopher Ayn Rand.

SHU IN THE NEWS

"We're at a place now culturally where we're re-evaluating how much we value women's sports. Seeing things like this, it's 'if you build it, they will come.'"

Jane McManus, executive director of the Center for Sports Media, NPR's "All Things Considered," on the importance of women's sports in reference to more than 92,000 fans packing the University of Nebraska's Memorial Stadium for a women's volleyball game.

"It's a new, exciting journey, and for the parents, they should be there every step of the way. ... But realizing their role is going to change just a little bit, going from actually running the plays to maybe being more of the coach on the side."

Vaughn Calhoun, assistant vice president and dean of the Center of Academic Success, *U.S. News & World Report*, on how parents can support their child's transition from high school "There's a distancing, a sense of alienation, of wondering where your future is going to be, that comes from leaving the homeland, from leaving Italy."

William Connell, La Motta Chair of Italian Studies, PBS *Think Tank with Steve Adubato*, discusses the history and impact of Italian-American migration.

"After you treat them for just a few seconds, that plant grows faster than untreated seeds. ... The results are remarkable."

Jose Lopez, College of Arts and Sciences, *BBC Future*, discusses plasma physics and using electrical horticulture to increase agricultural yields.

"What we must fear is not the suffering migrants coming to our cities, but the lack of compassion that is dangerously being cultivated on a daily basis even in the hearts of those who claim to know Christ."

Nancy Enright, director of the University Core, Today's American Catholic, discussing the biblical imperative to have compassion

Poet Performance

arlos Andrés Gómez brought his unique verbal talents to the University Center on October 3, presenting a program of spoken word and poetry that explored issues of diversity, equity and inclusion relevant to the Seton Hall campus.

The interactive session, hosted by the Pre-Professional Advising Center, invited those attending to identify ways to make the University more culturally responsive, affirming and accessible, especially for historically marginalized people. Gómez, a former social worker and publicschool teacher from New York City, is a Colombian American poet, speaker and actor who has become an equity and inclusion strategist, performing at hundreds of colleges across the country and venues around the world. His books include the memoir *Man Up: Reimagining Modern Manhood*. He has been featured on HBO's *Def Poetry Jam* and in the Spike Lee movie *Inside Man*.

uggling a full load of classes while holding down a nine-to-five job is never easy, but when that job is being an intern at the United Nations, it can be particularly challenging. Maria Smutelovicova '23 managed the juggling act like a pro.

"Maria has a very strong work ethic and skill set," says Father Mark Knestout, attaché of the Holy See Mission at the United Nations and director of its internship program. "She's bright and capable and was tasked with a good deal of responsibility."

Smutelovicova's résumé shows why she was a good fit for the internship: A double major in diplomacy and international relations as well as modern languages, she minored in Catholic studies. But she still had to pass through a rigorous application process.

According to Father Knestout, the Holy See considers about 25 applications each semester from Seton Hall and other universities internationally. Just getting to that step requires letters of recommendation from a professor and a clergy member, along with a letter explaining why the applicant wants the position. "We then send the applicants a report on an issue from the U.N., and ask them to write a summary of it," Father Knestout explains. "Then we interview the applicants and whittle the list down to 12."

The interview process generally involves a diplomat, a negotiator, a lawyer and Father Knestout, and dives into the applicants' school life, faith life, and knowledge of the U.N. At the end of the interviews, the Holy See selects eight students for the internships.

Writing briefs on intense global affairs

As an intern for the Holy See, Smutelovicova was immersed in the daily operations of the U.N. Security Council. "We began every day with prayer and a staff meeting at the mission," she says, "where we decided who would be covering what."

Her focus was covering Security Council meetings, which often involved talks of wars and peace building.



"It could be very intense," she says, "and there was always a lot happening around the world."

The meetings moved at a rapid pace, says Smutelovicova, and she had to listen carefully and understand what the council was discussing. She then had to write a brief on what occurred. "This wasn't just a set of notes, but a summary and analysis. My work would go to the Holy See staff, and then on to the Vatican."

"I was very aware of the fact that the pope is informed from my reports," she says. "But I really enjoyed the fact that I could sit in on a meeting at the U.N., listen to them, and be in the middle of the decision-making that has a global impact."

To dedicate so much time and attention to her U.N. tasks, Smutelovicova depended on a set of understanding professors and staff at the Holy See so that she could work during the week and take her classes online over the weekends. "It was only through good communication with everyone that I was able to pull it off," she says. "It was extremely challenging around exams." Smutelovicova's internship was during the fall semester of 2022, but she left such an impression that the Holy See asked her to return part time in the spring to cover for the mission's human-rights and development team. "We ended up down an intern that semester and Maria was so good that we knew she could fill in," says Father Knestout. "She was a great help to us."

Following graduation in May, Smutelovicova took a well-deserved break by visiting family and friends in Slovakia. She returned to the United States in August, and is considering either working in international relations or pursuing a master's degree.

Smutelovicova will treasure one internship memory in particular: "Every year all the world's leaders gather at the U.N. for a special session, the general assembly's 'High-Level Week,'" she says. "I got to sit in that room and listen to what they had to say about how we could change the world for the better."

Amanda Loudin is a Maryland-based freelance writer.

THE NURSE of the second second

VELLER Roberts 1 Nurse Practit

Nurses have a friend and advocate in associate professor Mary Ellen Roberts.

urses are the nation's caregivers, but there aren't enough of them. The shortfall nationwide could reach 450,000 by 2025, according to a recent McKinsey report, a situation the consulting firm deemed "dire." Mary Ellen Roberts, associate professor in the College of Nursing and chair of the graduate nursing department, is determined to help change the equation.

Roberts already has had an indelible impact on growing the profession, particularly the number of nurse practitioners — nurses who function at an advanced level and often serve as primary-care providers. In June, she received the 2023 Legacy Award from the Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, which honors members who have made a profound and lasting impact on the profession.

"Healthcare systems must look at the shortage and chaos of the current nurse-to-patient ratio and understand its impact," Roberts said. "When the ratio isn't what it should be, you aren't going to keep people at the bedside."

Roberts' 30-year career has been a story of advocacy and leadership. Combining clinical, academic and legislative experience, she has served her profession in many ways.

Elevating the profession

Beginning in 1974 as a licensed practical nurse, Roberts worked her way up the nursing ladder, eventually receiving a doctorate from the University of Iowa in 2011. She received a master's of science degree in nursing and a master's degree in nursing education from Seton Hall in 1990, which allowed her to sit for her exams and become a nurse practitioner.

After working for more than 20 years in a cardiology practice, Roberts returned to Seton Hall as director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner programs. "I was asked to revive the curriculum for the programs and make it more appealing," she explained. "We've been able to successfully grow them both." At the time she took over, Roberts had just two students in each of the two programs. Today, the Acute Care program has 70 students enrolled and the DNP program has graduated almost 60 students in the past decade. "The academic side of my career is appealing because it allows me to get creative in training the future generation of nurse practitioners," she said. "I find that invigorating and satisfying."

Roberts also has helped develop standards of practice and worked on related legislation. She now is working to make New Jersey the 28th state to give nurse practitioners "full practice authority," meaning they could care for patients without physician oversight.

"Our governor suspended the need for physician collaboration during the COVID emergency," she explained. "We demonstrated it worked, so it's time to make it permanent."

Roberts has also contributed research, the latest focusing on the impact of the pandemic on nurse practitioners and patients. "A colleague and I decided we needed to know what the lived experience was for patients who survived," she explained. "We performed a qualitative study of patients who experienced the first wave of COVID. They all stated they were lonely, isolated and needed more support than they received."

In looking into the registered nurse experience during the pandemic, Roberts discovered that many experienced post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of providing care. "Many stated they would leave the field if they ever had to experience another pandemic," Roberts said. "Some have already left the profession, and others are contemplating it."

That final point is why Roberts is determined to shepherd in the next component of nursing education. "Schools need to teach nurses self-care and resilience," she said, "and we also need the medical system to care for nurses. Otherwise, we're not going to keep people in the profession."

Amanda Loudin is a Maryland-based freelance writer.

FROM SETON HALL TO THE SUPER BOWL

David Glover Jr., M.S. '04, assistant athletic trainer for the Kansas City Chiefs, learned the fundamentals at Seton Hall. ed, white and yellow confetti whirled past David Glover Jr., M.S. '04 as he stood on the football field last February, emotions overflowing. "You're so excited and you don't even know where to go, what to do," he says. "Everybody's hugging, everybody's crying. You're looking for your parents in the stands. You're grabbing confetti and feeling some of it in your pockets."

"It's like being a kid on Christmas morning," he adds, "and getting every toy you've ever wanted."

The Kansas City Chiefs had just won Super Bowl LVII, and as their assistant athletic trainer, Glover was there for every moment — just as he is for all the team's practices and regular season games. Whether he's fixing a tweaked knee, returning a post-surgery shoulder to full strength or helping prevent injuries on the field, it's Glover's job to keep Chiefs players healthy and safe.

"The biggest misconception I'd like to dispel is that athletic trainers just tape ankles," he says. "There's a lot more involved," from countless rehab sessions and weight room workouts to treatment plan huddles and constant on-field monitoring.

Seven days a week for at least half the year, his alarm goes off at 4:05 a.m. for his own pre-work workout, and he doesn't get home until after 8 p.m. — later on a game night. How many hours does he work in a week? "After a while, you just stop counting," he says. "But I don't ever feel like I can just take a day off or not be making the best decisions."

It's a job that Glover has dreamed of since he first learned about it in high school. After he strained his hip flexor during a basketball game his senior year, the school's athletic trainer helped him recover and then allowed Glover to shadow him. "I really fell in love with figuring out how the body worked and if something was broken on it, how you fix that," he says.

He studied health fitness and exercise science at Central Michigan University. Then his academic adviser, Rene Revis Shingles — an award-winning athletic trainer and the first Black woman inducted into the Athletic Training Hall of Fame — suggested he consider Seton Hall for graduate school.

"They allowed us to be involved in everything in the training room," Glover says of Seton Hall's athletic training master's program. "And they were big sticklers on knowing your anatomy and being good with your hands. That's something that's always stuck for me. In athletic training, your hands can tell so much more than your eyes can in terms of checking joint play or taping."

He continued straight into a seasonal intern role with the New York Jets and joined the Chiefs in 2006. He's been there ever since, including in 2013, when tight end Travis Kelce came onto the team — and then missed his rookie season due to a knee injury.

A recovered Kelce won the NFL's Ed Block Courage Award the following year, selected by his teammates for showing sportsmanship and strength. "When my boss told [Kelce] he had won, the first thing he said was, 'Well, I want to take DG with me to Baltimore when I go out there to accept the award,'" Glover says. "I was just dumbfounded that he would want to take me with him." But after all, it was DG who had helped him day in and day out as he rehabbed his injury and began playing again.

In 2022, Glover himself was the one accepting an award: the Tim Davey AFC Assistant Athletic Trainer of the Year Award. "I was completely and totally blown away that I was nominated, and then to receive the award was more than I could have imagined," he says.

That recognition and his two Super Bowl rings are certainly high points, but Glover says the most gratifying part of his job is helping an injured player get back on the field, and then watching him score his first touchdown or get his first sack. "The excitement when they come off the field and they thank you — that thank you is the most genuine one you may have ever gotten," he says.

Molly Petrilla is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.

A DREAM FULFILLED and SHARED

Seton Hall gave Thomas Tran '78 the chance for a college education nearly 50 years ago. Now he's helping others get theirs.

t was 1975, seven days before the fall of Saigon at the end of the Vietnam War. From his home in Saigon, Tom Tran's parents drove the 18-year-old to the airport and left him with a command: "Just follow everybody else." There were thousands of people in the airport, trying to escape the impending attack by the Vietcong.

Thanks to a cousin who had emigrated and got his graduate degree in electrical engineering at the Stevens Institute of Technology, Tran had financial sponsorship. He boarded a C-130 and landed in Guam and then the U.S. Marine Corps Camp Pendleton. He was en route to New Jersey, where his cousin was waiting.

"Did I know anything about New Jersey? The honest answer is zero," Tran recalls. "I had no money, no English and only two pieces of clothes."

But he also had gumption — and a dream. In Vietnam he had enrolled in business school to avoid the draft, determined to one day become a chief financial officer. He was taking a chance coming to America, and he needed others to take a chance on him.

Tran's cousin had a friend who had studied at Seton Hall and recommended it.

Tran spoke to the University's international student adviser, Patrick Kennedy. "He asked me, do you have any SATs? I said, no. I can't even prove that I finished high school. Kennedy said, we'll let you in, and you can either sink or swim."

Tran not only swam; he soared out of troubled waters to build a successful career.

While at Seton Hall, Tran worked several parttime jobs: in warehouses, washing dishes at Chinese restaurants, bartending and working at Carvel, in order to pay for his single room in a house in Maplewood and then an apartment in Irvington. Determined to finish his program in three years, he took extra courses and summer classes, loading up 21 credits. He recorded his lectures so he could listen to them again at home, an English/French dictionary in hand, to make sure he understood what the professors were saying.

Somehow he found time to have fun, joining Alpha Kappa Psi, going to games in Walsh Gym and sneaking into a racquet club in Florham Park at midnight to play tennis with friends.

Though it's been nearly 50 years, Tran remembers the Seton Hall professors who helped him secure positions in accounting firms and banks. With the help of one of them, he entered the training program at Chase Manhattan Bank, and realized he was going to make it.

After earning his M.B.A. at NYU, Tran found himself in a whole new industry: health care. Cigna saw promise



in Tran and invested in him, moving him every two years through various roles in the company. After 13 years he had broad expertise in all facets of management.

Tran was then in a position to sponsor his family members who had remained in Vietnam, and he brought them to America.

He remained in health care until recently retiring (for the fourth time) from UpStream Healthcare. He reached the top, becoming chief financial officer of multiple organizations, including two Fortune 500 companies; he achieved his dreams and is now able to give other refugees, immigrants and students-in-need the same helping hand he received as a youth.

Tran decided to make a \$500,000 endowed gift to help fund the RISE scholarship at Seton Hall, which benefits low-income students, first-generation students and students who use disability services. He had previously endowed a significant scholarship at the Stillman School of Business.

"Without Seton Hall I wouldn't have gotten to where I am now. I will always remember that."

Ruth Zamoyta is Seton Hall's director of advancement and campaign communications.



As assistant director of the FBI's Directorate of Intelligence, Tonya Ugoretz, M.A. '01, is vigilant about security in the U.S.

FEATURE |

onya Ugoretz, M.A. '01 was just 18 months into her career at the Federal Bureau of Investigation — 18 months removed from graduating with the first full class at Seton Hall's School of Diplomacy and International Relations — when in 2003 she was chosen to serve as the daily intelligence briefer for FBI Director Robert Mueller.

With the nation at war in the Middle East, the gravity of the assignment could not be overstated: Ugoretz would meet with the director before 7 a.m. each day to update him on the panoply of threats — terroristic, technological and otherwise — posed to the United States from across the nation and around the world. The director would take that information to his daily morning briefing with the president.

The FBI is a famously agent-driven agency, yet Ugoretz was an intelligence analyst at the bureau, not an agent. ("I don't carry a gun," she assures.) So it's worth noting she was the first non-agent to be chosen as the director's daily briefer. And it's fair to say she felt some pressure. "If you screw this up," she remembers thinking to herself, "you'll also be the last analyst to serve as the director's briefer."

She needn't have worried. In a decorated FBI career now in its 23rd year, Ugoretz has served in one highpressure position after another, some in collaboration with other federal agencies, including a tour of duty in the CIA's Counterterrorism Center.

Today she's the assistant director of the FBI's Directorate of Intelligence. "My work has been focused on analyzing intelligence that helps us identify threats, both domestic and international," Ugoretz says. "All of our adversaries are trying to leverage the latest technology in order to achieve their directives. Our goal is to stay a step ahead of them."

Upon graduating from Seton Hall, Ugoretz was selected as a presidential management fellow in a prestigious program that prepares advanced degree holders across academic disciplines for leadership careers in the federal government. She figured she might be destined for the State Department.

But the FBI came calling. Ugoretz was offered a position as an intelligence research specialist in the bureau's Investigative Services Division. She knew little about the FBI other than what she'd seen in the movies but thought the two-year assignment would at least be a foot in the door.

And then, on September 11, 2001, while Ugoretz was awaiting the completion of her FBI background check, 19 members of Al Qaeda hijacked four American jetliners, crashing two of them into the World Trade Center in New York City, one into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and another into a field in rural Pennsylvania. "Immediately," Ugoretz says, "what I was going to be doing with the FBI had a lot more relevance."

Ugoretz made an immediate impact. A year after starting at the bureau, she moved to the Counterterrorism Division as an intelligence analyst. A year later, she became the director's daily briefer. She

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All of our adversaries are trying to leverage the latest technology in order to achieve their directives. Our goal is to stay a step ahead of them.

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FEATURE |

would start work each day around midnight, poring over stacks of reports gathered by the agency's 56 field offices across the United States and elsewhere across the globe.

She had no more than 15 minutes with the director each morning, so she knew her presentation had to be both precise and concise. The director's conference room contained a single long table, with a door at one end. Ugoretz had to walk the length of the table to reach her seat. Many were the mornings when Mueller would ask Ugoretz, "What have you got?" before she even sat down.

It was in preparing for these daily briefings — as

fleeting as they were critical to the nation's security that Ugoretz would recall the advice she had once received from Courtney Smith, today the dean of Seton Hall's School of Diplomacy and International Relations. Smith had been one of her professors during her first semester of graduate school, and she remembered him imploring students, in their writings, to get to the heart of the matter with all due haste. "Your papers are not a murder mystery," she recalled Smith counseling. "Don't

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It's no exaggeration to say my time at Seton Hall really changed my life," Ugoretz says, "and set me on my path that got me where I am today.

77

agencies. For six years starting in 2012, she served as a special adviser with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, a senior adviser at the National Intelligence Council, and the first director of the Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center. Her work did not go unnoticed.

In 2018, Dan Coats, the director of national intelligence, awarded Ugoretz with the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal. Three years later she received the Presidential Rank Award, which recognizes sustained exceptional performance by senior executives within the federal government. Ugoretz says

> the award is bestowed on just 1 percent of the federal government's senior executive service employees. "That's a very meaningful one for me," she says.

Looking back on the evolution of her career and the ever-shifting menu of national security challenges, Ugoretz says the "threat landscape" has only grown more complex. "When I started," she says, "we were focused on counterterrorism. Now there's really a whole

wait until the end to tell me your point." In preparing her morning briefings for Mueller, Ugoretz applied that lesson on a daily basis.

Ugoretz joined the FBI's Directorate of Intelligence in 2008 as a unit chief, overseeing the FBI's contributions to the U.S. intelligence-gathering apparatus as well as the daily intelligence briefings for the FBI director and the attorney general. Two years later she was promoted to section chief of the directorate — the FBI's chief intelligence officer. She ascended to her current position in 2022.

Over the course of her career, Ugoretz has compiled extensive experience working with other federal

range of threats. There's the continued terrorism threat, which is still the FBI's No. 1 priority. But there's also counterintelligence — protecting against influence, espionage, protecting government secrets.

"We continue to focus on weapons of mass destruction, the growing cyber threat, with more adversaries, whether criminals or countries, and then the criminal threat — public corruption, financial fraud, things like transnational criminal organizations. The range of threats that the FBI is the lead agency for not only investigating but preventing is extremely broad."

Ugoretz draws a straight line between her experience

as a master's student in Seton Hall's new School of Diplomacy and International Relations and her work at the FBI. She had earned bachelor's degrees in Spanish and international relations at Ursinus College in Pennsylvania and afterward served in editorial positions for foreignpolicy journals, including one covering the Middle East. And though she had long held an interest in global affairs and always wanted to work in the federal government, she felt she needed additional training.

She embraced Seton Hall's new master's program with brio, serving as the founding editor-in-chief of the student-run *Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations*. Her inaugural issue contained a heady

compilation of bylines, among them Robert Torricelli, then a U.S. senator from New Jersey; Robert Picciotto, the director-general of operations evaluation at the World Bank; and Crown Princess Maria Teresa of Luxembourg. "It's no exaggeration to say my time at Seton Hall really changed my life," Ugoretz says, "and set me on my path that got me where I am today."

Foryer-Tranks for your great leadership-Lim Chapper, DNJ, 2018-2017

In 2016, as the School of Diplomacy prepared for its annual commencement, the faculty decided to ask a graduate of the school to deliver the commencement address. Smith and his fellows chose Ugoretz.

At one point in her speech inside Jubilee Auditorium, Ugoretz addressed the graduates directly, referencing the social-media hashtag by which the students will forever be known: Diploforlife. "You should know that when I meet a fellow Diplo," Ugoretz said, "there are a few things I know about you."

Her fellow Diplos, she said, have a desire to solve problems, are persistent, have strong interpersonal skills, and an insatiable curiosity about the world. And

> inevitably, she said, that curiosity will enable the Diploforlife to find common ground with others, essential to building effective coalitions at work and in life.

Ugoretz invoked the advice she had received 15 years earlier from Professor Margarita Balmaceda, a faculty member at the School of Diplomacy since its founding in 1999. It was

Smith, the dean of the school, says Ugoretz's tenure as the *Journal*'s editor set a tone for the entire program. "She had the right skill set, mindset and maturity," he says. "The fact that Tonya did it and did it effectively gave us the faith to give other students the chance to excel. That set the template that we could use time and time again in our development."

In the classroom, Smith says, Ugoretz's engagement in the curriculum also served as something of a blueprint. "I remember her being really insightful," he says, "not just doing the bare minimum of what you would expect, but really wrestling with the material at a deeper level, being analytical in her thought process, and contributing to class discussions in a way that helped model that behavior for other students." the spring before graduation, and Ugoretz was grinding through the hiring process at several government agencies, when Balmaceda told her: "Always be doing something that's charging your batteries more than it drains them." It's a simple piece of advice, Ugoretz said, but its application is practically universal.

And with that, Ugoretz offered a final bit of advice of her own. "Whatever you do in life, seek solutions and common ground," she told the graduates. "Be persistent, stay curious, build relationships, find what you share in common with others, rather than what divides you, and keep moving toward what energizes you."

Christopher Hann is a freelance writer and editor in New Jersey.

CALLED to CHRIST'S

FEATURE | KEVIN COY

Deacon Peter Barcellona, part of Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology's first diaconal formation program in 2015, has a ministry marked by its 'depth and breadth.'

MANTA



FEATURE |

HELETTER WAS FROM THE

bishop's office and Peter Barcellona found it waiting for him when he returned to his Woodbridge home from a 2011 Easter-break trip to Washington with his youngest daughter. He had received several letters from the bishop's office over the last year or so, mileposts along his latest faith journey, and this was the one that would tell him if he had reached his destination or not.

It would tell him whether he could take the decisive next step on the long road to becoming a deacon in the Catholic Church.

"Every time a letter would come to me, I would say, 'OK, they're probably going to kick me to the curb now,'" he says.

His hands shook as he opened it. He wasn't out on the curb — he had passed the last stage of the discernment process and been accepted into the first class of the new Center for Diaconal Formation at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology at Seton Hall University. Classes would start in the fall. But before he told anybody he took the letter and drove to his parish church, Saint Anthony of Padua in the Port Reading section of Woodbridge. "The church was open, and it was dark," he says. "And I went in and I laid the letter at the tabernacle, and I went face down on the floor right in front of it."

He was 50, with four daughters and two grandchildren, and he had already given much of himself to others. He had started a network of local food pantries that he still ran and had traveled overseas as a lay missionary. He had also endured much in his own life, having survived cancer. Twice.

Four years after that day he got the letter, he prostrated himself again. This time it was in a cathedral filled with light and hundreds of other people, as he and 17 other men were ordained as deacons at Saint Francis of Assisi in Metuchen.

"I think that's a wonderful example from the very beginning of Peter's deep humility, for all that he has accomplished and the things he's done," says Deacon Andrew Saunders, director of the Center for Diaconal Formation. "It's that sense of humility that allows deacons, that allows Peter, to do the work of Jesus Christ. It's not our ministry. It's Christ's ministry flowing through us, and he got it from the get-go."



Deacon Barcellona — who was honored with a Seton Hall Servant Leader Award in 2015, the year he was ordained — learned about service growing up the youngest of eight children in a family with deep and enduring roots in Woodbridge. His grandfather was a barber in town, his father a police officer, and his mother always had enough food in her kitchen to feed whoever tumbled in at suppertime. All eight children — seven boys, one girl went to the parish school, Saint James.

"We were always taught to give more than we take," he says. "My parents were very, very community-active people in town."

He started giving at a time in his life when other people might have been inclined to start taking: when he was in his late 20s, he found himself a single father raising two girls under the age of 4. A friend of his, also raising two sons alone, had an idea. "So he said to me, 'Hey, let's go work at the food pantry,'" Deacon Barcellona recalls.

Well, why not? Saint James had a food pantry, but its hours were short

and irregular, and it was never open in the evening, the only time some people could get there. And the parish had helped his own family after an on-the-job motorcycle accident had put his father out of work for months. They opened the pantry on Thursday evenings. "What did we know about running a food pantry? We knew nothing, but we dove into it and the kids were working beside us," he says. "I think that's the seed that was planted. We were two single fathers floundering in the sea of life, and it was like, 'Where are we going with this?' It fueled my passion for giving back to the community."

Within three years, his volunteer work at the pantry had led to the townwide organization he helped start

Within three years, his volunteer work at the pantry had led to the townwide organization he helped start and still runs: We Feed Woodbridge. and still runs: We Feed Woodbridge, which has grown since 1992 from five pantries to 11, serving an average of 1,400 families a month. His full-time job as a public health investigator for Woodbridge Township helps keep him in contact with the network of donors who provide food and the community of clients who need it.

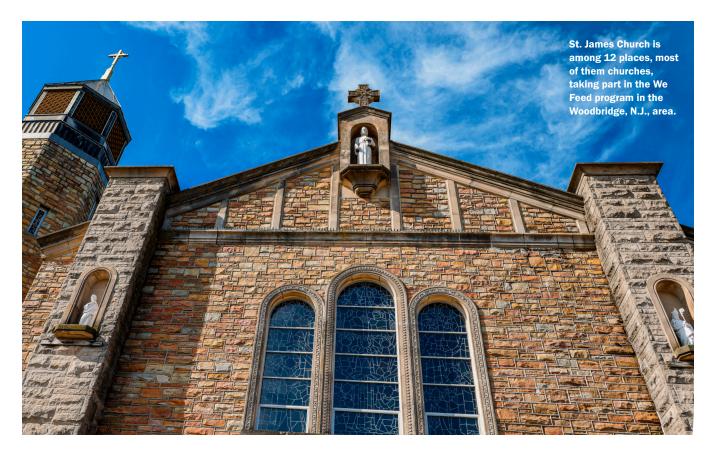
FEATURE |

But then came cancer. He was 36, and testicular cancer spread to the lymph nodes in his abdomen and a lung. "When I was diagnosed I said, 'Whatever your will is, if this means the end then I'm OK with that.' I made my peace with what I needed to make peace with," he says. "I knew the kids would be taken care of, I "When you have that kind of come-to-Jesus moment your whole perception of what life means totally changes," he says. Metuchen's Catholic Charities Solidarity Team? To El Salvador with the Maryknoll missionaries? Sure.

"I worked locally with the marginalized — I never use the word 'poor' — and those who are food insecure for quite a long time," he says. "Once I had that first trip to Guatemala, it kind of just

fueled my passion for not only helping the marginalized locally but the marginalized globally."

And Barcellona said yes when a friend who was a deacon suggested he become one, too. The program he attended at Immaculate Conception Seminary was among the first in the United States to bring diaconal candidates to study in a seminary, the start of a movement to make the formation process more intellectually rigorous. He had been to community college and a business college but he didn't have a bachelor's degree, and despite all that life had taught him he worried about how he would fare in

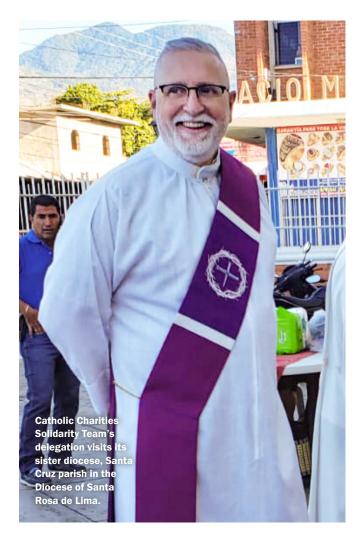


had put things in place, but I was going to fight until I couldn't fight anymore, which I did."

And which worked, it seemed, until a little more than a year later, in 2000, when cancer was back in his lung. Forty debilitating hours of chemotherapy a week wasn't enough; he had surgery to remove part of his lung.

"When you have that kind of come-to-Jesus moment your whole perception of what life means totally changes," he says.

He started saying yes even more often when he heard calls to serve. Travel to Guatemala with the Diocese of



a classroom. And by now, he had two more daughters. But for the next four years he spent evenings and Saturdays in theology classes.

After ordination he was assigned to Saint Anthony of Padua, where, like most deacons, he assists at Masses, performs baptisms, marriages and other rites. He has conducted the marriages of two of his daughters (the other two were married before he was ordained), and baptized the three of his five grandchildren who were born after he became a deacon. He has become especially adept at a task that at first he wasn't sure he would be up to.

"To break open the scriptures and preach? That's a lot of responsibility," he says.

His life continues to give him much to draw upon in his homilies. His mission work has expanded since his

ordination: Tanzania, Lebanon, Egypt. When he preaches on Luke 16: 19-31, the story of the rich man who ignored the beggar Lazarus at his gate, embedded in his message are his memories from Tanzania of holding a 4-year-old girl with malaria, and celebrating Mass under a tree with worshipers who brought a live chicken for the offertory. Also embedded is his knowledge of how much difference clean drinking water and a nurse who can provide basic immunizations can mean to a town in Guatemala.

"Maybe we have walked down a street and come upon someone calling out for food or help? What are we inclined to do? Do we make believe we do not see them? Do we glance elsewhere, so that our eyes do not meet theirs?" Deacon Barcellona preached one week at Saint Anthony. "Jesus is saying to us, 'Wake up! You still have time. Look around and see.'"

He is now the director of the group he accompanied on his first trip to Guatemala, the Diocese of Metuchen's Catholic Charities Solidarity Team, and he serves as a global fellow ambassador for Catholic Relief Services, the American church's agency for international humanitarian work.

"What makes him different than most other deacons that have come through our program is the depth and breadth of his ministry," Deacon Saunders says. "What he has been able to do is take those experiences and come back and preach on them and make people aware of some of the things that are going on around the world."

Deacon Barcellona often travels to schools and parishes far from his own, spreading the word about the work of Catholic Relief Services, telling stories and showing images of the people he's met and the places he's been overseas, carrying that message from the Gospel of Luke.

"They're not looking for a handout — all they want is to have their story told, so they're known," he says. "My work is all about telling the story." His cancer never returned, and when he does his five-mile walks now he says he would never know he's missing half a lung. He has plenty of breath to keep talking.

Kevin Coyne is a freelance writer based in New Jersey.

SPORTS | SHAWN FURY

A Powerful Comeback

elsey Carr's junior season for the Seton Hall softball team featured dominant performances as a pitcher and clutch displays as a hitter. She spearheaded a remarkable turnaround in the standings as the Pirates finished 42-18 and captured the BIG EAST Tournament Championship for the first time since 2005.

But the seeds to Carr's sterling 2023 campaign were planted the previous year, when a shoulder injury kept her from playing a single inning as the Pirates went 20-23.

As hard as it was for Carr to sit and watch that season, Seton Hall head coach Angie Churchill believes the experience paid off.

"She learned a lot about the mental side of the game that she probably hadn't tapped into yet," Churchill says. "As tough as it was for her going through rehab ... she grew so much mentally and emotionally that it helped her have the year she had this past year."

The numbers tell the story for her in 2023. At the plate she hit .328 and slugged a team-best 13 home runs. Her 50 RBIs led the team and left her one short of the singleseason school record held by Alexis Walkden '18. As a pitcher Carr went 11-5 with a 1.95 ERA, striking out 97 in 125.1 innings, figures that earned her the BIG EAST Pitcher of the Year honors.

And she accomplished all of that while battling a leg injury that left her in a walking boot off the field.

But Carr saved her best moments for the biggest of games. Take the BIG EAST Tournament opener, when the Pirates fell behind 4-0 against a scrappy DePaul team. In the sixth inning, with two runners on base and Seton Hall in desperate need of offense, Carr smacked a three-run homer to left field to bring the Pirates within a run. "I definitely wasn't thinking home run," Carr says. "In those situations, it's just about hitting the ball hard. ... We needed runners, we needed people to score. It definitely lit a fire in us, and I think everyone just had full faith that we were going to be able to win it."

Carr made sure of that. After the Pirates tied DePaul at 4-4 in the bottom of the seventh inning, she came up with the bases loaded and two outs. Carr drilled a game-winning single to give Seton Hall the 5-4 victory, prompting play-by-play announcer John Fanta '17 to memorably say, "And what started looking like a shipwreck turns into the Pirates sailing on!"

Three games later, Carr put the championship away for the Pirates by throwing a complete game in a 6-1 win over Villanova. Two years earlier Seton Hall won just nine games. Now the Pirates ruled the BIG EAST. "Everyone just fed off each other's energy and everyone enjoyed being at the field and being around each other," Carr says of the reversal of fortunes. "We all knew it was something we could accomplish, and we just had to take the steps to get there."

Seton Hall's historic season came to an end in the NCAA Tournament, as the Pirates fell to a tough Texas team before dropping a heartbreaking 4-3 game against Texas State, despite Carr swatting a home run and allowing only two earned runs. Still, those last two losses hardly dimmed the joy brought on by the 42 wins that came before them.

Looking ahead to 2024, Seton Hall loses several key contributors. But the team will have Carr back, to lead the way at the plate and from the pitcher's circle. "We just want to take the energy forward into next year and just try to do it all over again," she says.

Shawn Fury is an author based in New York City.

The numbers tell the story for Kelsey Carr. In 2023 she hit .328 and slugged a team-best 13 home runs. f

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Master Diver

5

eton Hall diver Quinn Murtha took an unusual path on his way to Division I success. Unlike student-athletes who get courted by dozens of colleges, the Georgia native says, "I never really took diving that seriously. I was just going to be done after my senior year. And then I think my guidance counselor at high school sent my email out to places."

While most athletes express supreme confidence, Murtha quips that when he arrived at Seton Hall, "I thought I was going to be significantly worse than every other kid." And during competitions, instead of pumping

himself up by listening to hard rock or hip-hop, Murtha would put on "Silly Love Songs" by Paul McCartney and Wings, a decidedly laid-back recording.

Yet all the quirkiness, selfdeprecation and humor can't disguise this fact: In two seasons, Murtha established himself as one of the finest divers in Seton Hall history.

At the 2023 BIG EAST Championship, Murtha captured

the 1- and 3-meter titles. He became the first Pirate to win those events since Ben Mitchell '15. Nobody understands the secrets to Murtha's success more than Mitchell and not only because he was a great diver himself — he's also his coach.

"Quinn is not going to refuse a lot of stuff that you tell him to do, and he will always be moving at like 130 percent and just working hard the whole time," Mitchell says.

"The reason he's really good is he has the upper hand in most diving events, especially in the 1-meter, because his DD, or degree of difficulty, he has a step above because he's got two dives that are generally harder than the rest of the field that he can put down really well. So he always has a little bit of an advantage."

Murtha says that in his sophomore year, "I tried to pick my battles more strategically. Freshman year, I was just like, 'All right, let's go for the hardest thing that I can possibly do.' And especially at a conference meet, you mess up one dive, you're probably not going to win. So this year I found the right balance."

Everything came together at the BIG EAST meet. On the opening day of competition, Murtha put up a score of 569.75 to take top honors in the 1-meter event. Two days later he sealed his BIG EAST Men's Most Outstanding Diver award by winning the 3-meter event with 613.80 points. Entering the competition, Murtha felt confident, considering his standout performances during the

> season — especially a memorable home meet against Georgetown that his family attended, which saw him win two events and achieve a qualifying score for an NCAA zone championship. But when the BIG EAST meet arrived, "I got there on the first day and I was watching warmups and everybody was doing really well and I was like, oh, this might be harder than I thought. I went

from thinking I would be able to get first, second, third to I could end up in eighth or ninth."

Instead Murtha cruised to the two championships, matching his coach's mark from eight years earlier. And with two years left at Seton Hall, Murtha isn't done being compared with Mitchell, whose name dominates the Pirates' record book. Find a record, you'll find Mitchell's name. For now, at least. "He could possibly take down my 1-meter six-dive record," Mitchell says. "I think he's gotten pretty close before, but he just needs a couple changes to his list. He is more than capable of doing it." Mitchell notes with a laugh, "A lot of people ask me, 'What are you going to do when he breaks your record?' And I'm like, OK, first of all, if anyone's breaking my record, it's going to be under my watch."

Shawn Fury is an author based in New York City.

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Photo courtesy of Seton Hall Athletics

NEWS & NOTES

50s

Charles M. Lyon '56/M.D. '60 laid a wreath at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial above Omaha Beach in France. Lyon spent 11 years as an Army surgeon, including postings at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., and one year as commander of the 45th Surgical Hospital in Vietnam, the first MUST Unit (Medical Unit, Self-Contained, Transportable) deployed during the Vietnam War.

70s

John Yavelak, B.S. '73/M.B.A. '79 Before retiring in April 2022, John coded an OnStar automated testing platform to work with 1/3rd the QA Team size; it completes testing in less than half the old Manual Test time. ... Robert Bewighouse '77 published his book Turning Pro: A Revenge Thriller under his pen name M.J.S. House, featuring a senior point guard at Seton Hall with big plans. ... Dr. John Potomski Jr. '77 was elected chairman of the Brevard County, Fla., Commission on Aging. ... Ruth Baskerville, M.A.E. '78/ Ed.D. '93 is a retired K-12 educator and administrator. In addition to working with writers as an editor and ghostwriter, she is CEO and president of Waverly's Way, offering academic tutoring to all ages. ... Morris Pasqual '78 was appointed acting U.S. attorney for Chicago/Northern Illinois. ... Peter J. Melchionne '79/J.D. '83 has joined the law firm Hartmann Doherty Rosa Berman & Bulbulia and leads its new family law dispute resolution team. He is retired from 15 years as a family court judge in Bergen County, N.J.

80s

John Coiro '81 was re-elected to a seventh term as mayor of Totowa, N.J., in November 2022. ... Michael P. Laffey, J.D. '86 retired from legal practice and is traveling the country in an RV with his wife, Karen.

Charles S. Aaron Jr. '90 celebrated the eighth anniversary of his Mount Olive, N.J.,

company Jersey Girl Brewing in April 2023. ... Gary B. Brandt, '92/M.A. '12, was promoted to captain with the New Jersey State Police and is now bureau chief of the Critical Infrastructure Bureau at Division Headquarters. He is also the lead intelligence and investigations section chief of the New Jersey All Hazards Incident Management Team, becoming the first credentialed person in that position in the country.

00s

Cathleen P. Brenycz '01 is teaching first grade at St. Ann Classical Academy in Raritan, N.J. ... Carolyn J. Brown '02 was named deputy director of the Rodino Center Law Library at Seton Hall in January 2023. ... Amy Rice '02 was promoted to deputy director of communications at the New York City Department of Small Business Services. ... Gregory S. Sullivan, M.B.A. '02 was named Educator of the Year for the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Missouri. ... John A. Perez '05, an Army veteran, has joined the board of Warrior-Scholar Project, a veteran's service organization. ... Lyvonne E. Briggs '06 has published a new book, Sensual Faith: The Art of Coming Home to Your Body.... Angela C. Lofaro '08 researched and wrote an article titled "The Growth of the Test-**Optional Movement: Analysis of Test-Optional** Admissions Policies in American Higher Education," published August 2022 in the journal College and University.

10s

Leonard V. Jones '10/M.P.A. '11, joined Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney as an associate in the law firm's labor and employment section. ...Viannca I. Vélez '10 has been accepted into the 2023 National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures Advocacy Leadership Institute. ... Michelle Egan, M.A. '12, chief communications officer for Alyeska Pipeline Services, serves as chair of the Public Relations Society of America. PRNEWS named her to its 2023 class of Top Women in PR in the Industry Champion category. ...

Pirate Mascot Appearances

Surprise guests at your event with an appearance by the Pirate, who loves making appearances and is available to greet the crowd, make a surprise visit or pose for pictures at weddings, graduation parties, birthday parties and other special functions. For rates and more information please call 800-992-GRAD. Take advantage of all alumni benefits by visiting www.shu.edu/alumni and selecting "benefits" from the top navigation bar.

Victor P. Hayek, Ed.D. '13 was honored by the Association of California School Administrators with the Leadership Matters Award for 2023. ... Jonathan J. Weisbrod, J.D. '15 was promoted to vice president of human resources at Lyft. ... Nicole M. Marroccoli '16 was promoted to director of revenue operations and project management at The Sasha Group, a marketing consulting company. ... Cosmo Terrigno, Ed.S. '18, with 18 years of service, has the longest tenure as headmaster of Woodland Country Day School in Stow Creek Township, N.J. He also teaches eighth-grade composition and has been an adjunct faculty member at Rowan College of South Jersey for more than 20 years. Terrigno serves as the secretary for the New Jersey-based Hug-a-Bear Foundation.

e once dreamed of becoming a movie hero and running into a burning building to save lives. Now cinema stuntman Danny Schoch '09 has become that guy.

Schoch came to Seton Hall because it was a second home to him, growing up with stories of his godparents falling in love on the Green and his older cousins cheering for the basketball team. He flourished when he joined Pirate TV, delving into his passion at the only school that allowed him hands-on experience with film equipment. It was a getaway from coursework and an opportunity to bring his dreams to life.

Schoch was also active in theater at Seton Hall, becoming known for directing one play and acting in dozens of them. He learned how to run productions, which carried over into how to make a film set work, becoming familiar with the many little parts that make a show run well.

But from an early age, Schoch was drawn to movie stunt professionals who engaged in fight scenes, car chases and running through burning buildings. So he took a break from campus studies, moving to Los Angeles to gain more experience on film sets. He got a job as a production assistant, where he connected with other crew members behind the scenes and was able to try everything.

After two years, Schoch found that Seton Hall was still calling to him, and he returned to campus to finish his undergraduate degree. His love for action and production finally took form when he began doing stunts after obtaining his degree.

Now, he continues his passion for filmmaking and stunts. Schoch, along with his team, has been nominated twice for Outstanding Action Performance by a Stunt Ensemble in a Motion Picture awards, for his work on the 2020 films *The Joker* and *The Irishman*.

Before the strike by the Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists — which began in July 2023 — put a halt to movie production, Schoch was working on projects such as AMC's hit zombie thriller *Fear the Walking Dead* and Hulu's *Only Murders in the Building*.

Despite the strike, Schoch has remained positive, saying he cares about the people he works with and the art they create. He describes his career as helping to provide an escape for movie viewers. | ANTHONY D'ANGELICO



Photo by Kristine Foley

In Memoriam

Blanche Zeller, M.A.E. '41 Father Frank J. McNulty '48/M.D.M '52 Conrad L. Calabrese '49 Ruth M. Connolly '49 Angelo J. Spinazzola '50 Thomas L. Coless '51 Fred E. Mascolo, '51 Robert J. Sanders '51 Robert G. Schmitt '51 Monsignor Julian B. Varettoni '51/M.D.M. '55 Joseph F. Fennelly '52 Hugh J. Gallagher Jr. '52 Sidney Plotkin '52 Dolson H. Ayers '53 John J. Carlone '53/J.D. '56 Ann L. Kranick '53 Robert P. Ulesky '53 Jack Usdin '53 Allan M. Bontempo '55 Father Paul R. Manning '55 Emery Rosko '55 Robert C. Shelton Jr. '55 /J.D. '58 Joan C. Barth. Ph.D. '56 Vincent Difilippo '56 Dr. Joseph T. Farrell '56/M.D. '60 Thomas A. Kelly '56 Michael A. Pescatore Sr. '57 Herbert E. Zimmerman '57 James L. Caddigan '58 Herbert A. Grossmueller '58/J.D. '65 William F. Keimig '58 Gerald J. Mascuch '58 Patricia A. Matthews '58 Patricia C. Newman, M.A.E. '58 Harry F. Payton '58 David B. Blake '59 Carolyn M. Carine '59 Michael P. Hornvak Jr. '59 William A. Warmington '59 Sister Patricia C. Lally '60 William J. McKeon '60 Dr. Bernard S. Morse '60 Joseph R. Prinzo '60 Richard J. St. Jean '60 James J. Barrecchia '61 Louise C. DePiro '61 John F. Salmon, J.D. '61 Sister Maria A. Shurer '61 Robert J. Toscano '61 Diane M. Fitzsimmons '62/M.S. '78 Paul F. Gibbons '62 Louisa T. Hasselbauer '62 Dr. Patrick J. Loverde '62

Dr. Benjamin Smolenski '62 Francis P. Ciccone Jr. '63 Edward G. Costanzo '63 James T. Dattoli '63 Theodore L. Iorio, M.B.A. '63 John J. Niesz '63 Paul S. Temple '63 Albert A. Bonaria '64 George D. Connolly '64/M.D.M. '75 Dr. Anthony R. Dinardo '64 Robert H. Lanes '64 Joseph P. Marciniak '64 Dr. Raymond A. Troiano '64 Harold J. Bayerl '65 Grace A. (Guidera) Hammeke '65/M.S.N. '86 Mary Nelan '65 Joseph H. Perrone '65 Jay D. Tregellas, M.A.E. '65 Thomas J. Conway '66 Mary Ellen Finnerty Cronin '66 John L. Morino '66 Walter Polk '66 Dr. David F. Romano '66 Mario G. Romano, J.D. '66 Wilma J. Colella, M.A.E. '67 John J. Dooling '67

James P. Mura '67 Roberta P. Neary '67 Daniel L. Abel '68 Frank J. Culley, M.B.A. '68 Edward G. Dross '68 Joseph C. Gregory, M.A.E. '68 Thomas E. Lenney, J.D. '68 Dolores J. Nicastro '68 Rosemary E. Sekel '68 Donald A. Spear '68 James C. Warrick, M.B.A. '68 Vincent M. Wisniewski '68 Frank W. Bobrowicz '69 Joseph C. Bonk '69 William R. Brady, M.B.A. '69 Daniel A. Bozza, M.A.E. '69 Charles M. Grippo '69 Vincent D. Menzel '69 Raymond R. Reid '69 Robert C. Small '69 Monsignor David C. Hubba '70/M.A.T. '78 Peter J. Smith, M.A.E. '70 Irene Turano '70 William J. Watko '70 Jacqueline Core '71 Hugo L. Moras '71 Eileen Lill '72



More than 300 guests attended the 36th Annual Many Are One Gala on Friday, October 6, 2023, honoring Most Distinguished Alumnus Patrick "Pat" Walsh '90, managing partner and CEO of the accounting and advisory firm Withum, along with Dr. Sampson Davis '95 and Catherine Alicia Georges '65, Ed.D. Save the date – Friday, June 7, 2024 – for next year's event.

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Thomas F. Mills '72 Louis V. Demasi, M.A.E. '73 Allen N. Friedman, J.D. '73 Stanley Mendelson, M.A.E. '73 Raymond F. Williams '73/M.B.A. '77 Susan S. Alai '74 Ellen L. Asselmeyer, M.A.E. '74 Kenneth R. Hampton, J.D. '74 Charles Meadows, M.A.E. '74 Thomas M. Mulcahy, J.D. '74 Manuel Almeida '75 Gordon B. Connelly '75 John S. Luski '75/M.B.A. '80 Moira Modica, M.A.E. '75 Edward R. Mosley, M.A.E. '75 Alvin M. Neiman, M.B.A. '75 Gregory F. Brazaitis, M.B.A. '76 James H. Houghton, M.A.E. '76 Ronald I. Parker, J.D. '76 Ella M. White, M.A.E. '76 Joseph N. Conover M.B.A. '77 Kenneth Fischer Jr. '77 Mark R. Mongon Sr., M.A.E. '77/Ed.D. '01 Diane Bernert, M.A.E. '78 Thomas J. Manhardt, M.B.A. '78 Charlotte Metz '78 Marjorie A. White, M.A.E. '78 Anthony S. Benanti '79 Jeffrey E. Frail, M.B.A. '79 George T. Szymczak, J.D. '79 Paul D. Toomey '79/M.B.A. '82

Antonette A. Carpinteri '80 Mary A. Stringfield, J.D. '80 David Waverczak '80 David W. Ward, M.B.A. '81 Maureen Dolphin, M.A.E. '83 John J. Scarfi Jr. '83 Jacqueline Pierre Pierre '84 Christopher W. Alleyne '85 Theresa A. Macco '85 Brian T. Swift '85 Michael R. Koenig, M.B.A. '86 David Hopkins, M.B.A. '88 Lisa L. Valvano '88 Lisa Desposito '89 Thomas D. Drum Jr., M.S.T. '89 Lawrence V. Roche, M.A.E. '90 Robert A. Hyde, J.D. '91 Judith D. Wagenbach, M.A.E. '92 Angela M. Pantano '94 Carol C. Spelman, Ed.S. '95 Arcadio V. De Vera '96 Gerald T. Barbato '98 William F. Fritz '01 Christopher M. Schoonhen '01 Cara E. Davidson '02 Stacy L. Schwartz '03 Judy Gregg, M.S.N. '06 Lois F. Corcoran '08 Jennyfer G. Pierre, M.A. '10/Ed.S. '11 Todd A. Hood, M.H.A. '11 Andrew D. Echevarria '21

GIVING DAY BREAKS RECORDS

Seton Hall's sixth annual Giving Day, held April 19-20, saw significant success, breaking records and contributing to a historic fundraising year. Giving Day 2023 exceeded the goal set of 1,856 donors (in honor of the University's founding year) and raised over \$1.2 million from more than 2,400 enthusiastic Pirates.

Giving Day 2023 marked the most money raised and most donors taking part since the inception of the event in 2018, with 50 matches and challenges that amplified the fundraising impact.

The event, led by University Advancement, included more than 12 campus partners, including all schools and colleges, Pirate Blue Athletics, faculty, staff, students, the Board of Regents, the Alumni Board of Directors, the Young Alumni Council, and the Student Alumni Association.

To learn more about Giving Day, contact the Office of Alumni Engagement and Philanthropy at alumni@shu.edu.

Friends and University Community Members

Arlene C. Allen Deacon Edward A. Campanella Nicholas Cimicata Shirley B. Conroy Reverend George A. Dudak **Robert Harkins** Joseph W. Hottendorf Rosemarie lantosca Patricia Kuchon Kenneth F.X. Kunzman Carole Lackaye Helen F. O'Brien Father Brian E. O'Neill George Ottavinia Pearl M. Randall John J. Shannon Albert T. Zalewski

We regret that Desmond R. Abazia '73 was listed incorrectly as deceased in "In Memoriam" in the last issue due to a database error. Our deepest apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Save the Date!

7TH ANNUAL GIVING DAY April 17-18, 2024

37TH MANY ARE ONE GALA June 7, 2024

INAUGURAL ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND June 7-8, 2024

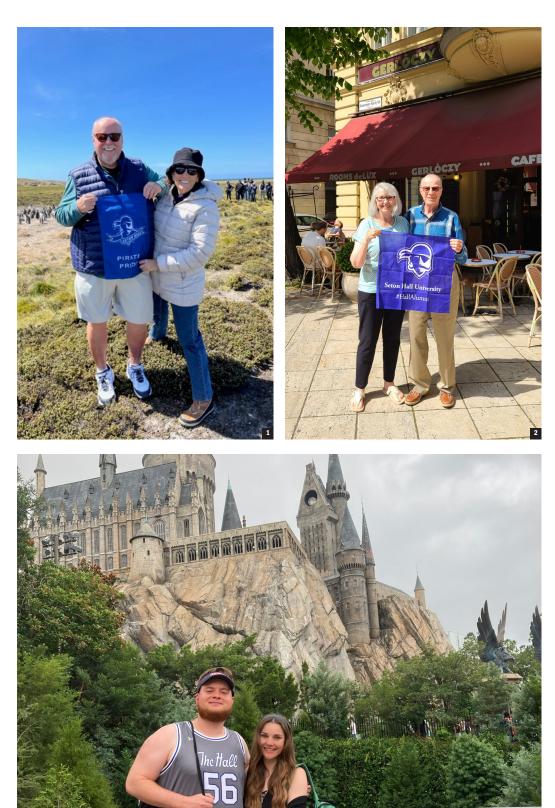
INAUGURAL HALL HOMECOMING AND FAMILY WEEKEND (SETON HALL WEEKEND)

October 2024

To learn more, visit shu.edu/alumni or contact us at alumni@shu.edu.

Pirate Pride

- 1. Michael Lee '78 and his wife, Mary Lee, took a cruise to Antarctica and visited the Falkland Islands.
- 2. David Purcell '65 and his wife, Kathleen Purcell, in Budapest, Hungary, after their European River Cruise in May.
- 3. Rocky Fodali '20 and JuliaRose Marsh '20 visiting The Wizarding World of Harry Potter in Universal Studios Orlando.



Tag us in your Wedding, Baby or Pirate Pride photos @ setonhallalumni or email us at alumni@shu.edu

Photo by MIchael Paras

here is no limit to how far a mentor can help a student. Kevin Majewski, Ph.D. '18 is proof of this.

Majewski credits much of his academic journey's success to the team of supporters he had along the way. After relocating to Montana at a young age, Majewski faced multiple educational barriers. Living in an unstable environment ultimately hindered his ability to get to class, resulting in being expelled at the beginning of his junior year of high school.

It was only when an Upward Bound adviser visited him at work and pushed him to enter a summer bridge program and pursue college that Majewski saw a path forward for his education. Upward Bound is a federally funded program designed to help students like him: first generation and low-income students who aspire to go to college but are limited in their resources.

Following his Upward Bound participation, Majewski graduated from Montana State University Billings in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in psychology — and as student body president. He headed to New Jersey next, earning a master's degree in psychological counseling from Monmouth University in 2009.

After working for a few years, Majewski considered pursuing a second master's until

his Upward Bound mentor advised him to push for more: a doctoral degree in Higher Education Leadership, Management and Policy.

Seton Hall University was the clear place to do this; Majewski loved the idea of in-person doctoral courses. As a Seton Hall graduate assistant and member of the Higher Education Graduate Student Association, he worked on projects that supported other students. And since earning his doctorate in 2018, he has directly provided the same kind of educational mentorship he once received, teaching at multiple universities, including Seton Hall, serving as an adjunct professor in the Educational Leadership program.

Majewski now works as the research manager for the New Jersey State Policy Lab at Rutgers University, studying and disseminating K-12 school practices to improve student learning outcomes in New Jersey.

The Upward Bound program first developed Majewski as a learner; Seton Hall molded him into a leader. "All of us have the potential to achieve our goals," Majewski says. "Many times there are situational things, barriers. But they're just that: situational. By persevering with your education or whatever your goal is, you can change your situation. That has a lot of power." | ANTHONY D'ANGELICO



Pirate Babies

- 1. Carolyn Brown '02 welcomed a boy, Kieran Edward, on June 21, 2022.
- 2. Jason Carter '08 and Meghan Carter welcomed a boy, Jackson Manning Carter, on January 30, 2023.
- 3. Manesh Dadlani '05 and Rachel Dadlani welcomed a girl, Emily Joan-Shashi Dadlani, on August 24, 2022.
- 4. Isabella Whelan '20 and Jacob Simon '18 welcomed a girl, Alba Jayne Simon, on February 12, 2023.
- 5. Margaret (Bystryk) Kosmyna '14 and Christopher Kosmyna '15 welcomed a boy, Henry Cole Kosmyna, on April 28, 2023.
- 6. Cora MacLean '01 and Louis Turenne '03 welcomed a boy, Caesar Louis Turenne, on September 17, 2022.













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- 7. Benjamin Canning '13 and Paulina Canning-Michalec '13 welcomed a girl, Sofia Canning, on October 2, 2022.
- 8. Lauren Lehman Ortiz '12 welcomed a boy in December 2022.
- 9. James Jurewicz '11 and Marta (Wojtowicz) Jurewicz '11 welcomed a boy, Henry Joseph Jurewicz, on May 24, 2023.
- Megan (Francis) Curto, M.A. '11/Ed.S. '13 and Alex Curto '12 welcomed a boy, Owen Robert Curto, on September 16, 2022.

Tying the knot

- Fatima (Grupico) Wiamer '13/M.A. '16 to Timothy T. Wiamer '19, on January 6, 2023, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Seton Hall University.
- 2. Gregory Fania '17 to Elizabeth (Swinton) Fania '18 on November 12, 2022, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Seton Hall University.
- 3. Zachary Laubernds '17 to Christina (Petruzzella) Laubernds '18 on May 19, 2023, surrounded by many fellow Pirates.
- 4. Daniela (Gloor) LeCras '14/M.P.A. '15 to Tim LeCras '12 on September 9, 2022, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Seton Hall University.
- Michael DiStefano '16/M.S. '16 to Khrystyna (Yermachenkova) DiStefano '16 on March 3, 2021, at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Seton Hall University.







Tag us in your Wedding, Baby or Pirate Pride photos @ setonhallalumni or email us at alumni@shu.edu

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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.

Send news to:

Department of Alumni Engagement and Philanthropy Alumni News and Notes 457 Centre St., South Orange, NJ 07079

Name

Class Year(s) and Degree(s) from Seton Hall

Home Address

Phone

Email Address

News to Share:

LAST WORD | PEGEEN HOPKINS

The Fight Against Deadly Fungus

Life-threatening fungal infections are on the rise, according to the journal Emerging Infectious Diseases. Hospitalizations rose more than 8 percent a year from 2019 to 2021, and the infections themselves can be hard to treat — and diagnose. Last year, Seton Hall's 3B Lab received an extremely competitive grant from the National Institutes of Health for research that could fight fungal infections better. Seton Hall magazine editor Pegeen Hopkins spoke with the head of the lab, Gregory Wiedman, assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, to learn more.

Tell me about your lab: the 3B Lab.

The name reflects my philosophy about the lab's focus. 3B stands for biochemistry, biophysics and biomaterials. It emphasizes the interdisciplinary nature of what we do. We use techniques from all these disciplines. Our current focus is on addressing infectious diseases; we work a lot with fungi and a bit with bacteria, finding ways to combat them and keep people healthy and safe.

Why is this interdisciplinary work important?

There was the assumption that once scientists found a drug to treat a disease, that was it, it was solved. What has happened over time is that many microbes — and even viruses — change. They respond to what we do to stop them, and they often change in unpredictable ways. So, we need to work with the mindset that these microbes are always going to change. We must keep up!

You received an NIH grant. What does it entail?

I came up with the idea with my colleague at Rutgers, Chaoyang Xue, to address what happens when you change the composition of molecules on the outside versus the inside of the fungus *Cryptococcus neoformans*, which is a leading cause of fungal meningitis. People can encounter it through soil or out in nature. The grant is to develop ways to trap lipid molecules on the outside of the cell to enable people whose immune systems are compromised to better fight off the infection. What our lab has been able to do so



far is develop several small molecules called peptides that block a certain enzyme, and what we're trying to prove is that this stimulates the immune system. Seton Hall alumnus Robert J. Tancer, Ph.D. '22, now a postdoc at Rutgers, is helping us do exactly that. In fact, it works well enough in an incubator that we were able to get a patent on it.

What's next?

We worked with the National Science Foundation Innovation Corps Program to study the potential market for our peptide. We asked infectious disease doctors and nurses what changes they would like to see in their treatment of patients. We talked to people who understand the financials and to people in insurance to understand how these things would be covered. I hope to apply that new business model, for either the peptide or for other molecules. I'd also like to work with other students and professors who are interested in commercializing their own technologies.

How do bioengineering and biophysics fit in?

Bioengineering and biophysics have gone into the design of membrane-active peptides that can interact with a cell membrane to open holes in it. A former student, Cristina Ventura, was working on a project where we opened the pores of a membrane when shining light on it. This may be useful for drug delivery. And with colleagues at the Universidad de Los Andes in Colombia, we're looking to see if the molecules can be used for bioremediation to clean up oil spills and water, for example. These are new research areas that we also hope to explore in the future.

Make your retirement account count forever.

Did you know when you designate retirement plan assets to your heirs, taxes can slice away as much as 65 percent before your loved ones see a penny? But if you make Seton Hall the beneficiary of your retirement plan, 100 percent goes to us tax-free!

Interested?

Contact the Office of Gift Planning 973-378-9878 • plannedgiving@shu.edu



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ROCK YOUR SOCKS AGAIN THIS YEAR

Keep it classic this Christmas season! Get ready to rock the socks while supporting students and spreading holiday cheer.

As a thank you to all donors who make a gift of \$35 or more by December 31, we will send a pair of our classic limited-edition Pirate socks. Gifts of \$60 receive both our classic and ankle socks. \$100 or more will receive both pairs of socks and the latest Seton Hall Christmas ornament!

Visit www.shu.edu/rockthesocks

