

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

DEAN'S SUMMARY

Over the past year, the College welcomed seven new members of the staff and twenty-four faculty colleagues who joined Gonzaga in September, bringing the total number of full-time faculty to 261, 194 of whom are in tenure-line positions. We also greeted five new department chairs who were selected by their units. Fourteen faculty were promoted, and ten were tenured effective fall of 2017. At the end of the year, we said good-bye to long-serving professors Stephen Balzarini, Sr. Joy Milos, Theodore Nitz, Gail Nord, and Rose Mary Volbrecht, and we wish them well in their retirement.

CAS Accomplishments

Faculty Accomplishments

College faculty were actively engaged in scholarship, publishing eight books and 104 peer reviewed articles and book chapters. College faculty presented 246 papers at international, national, and regional conferences. (See *Appendix 1* for a compilation of faculty achievements.) 14 faculty were awarded external grants and brought in \$241,374.00 (for a compilation of grant information, see *Appendix 2*). Eight faculty members whose work received major professional recognition and highlighted the College's commitment to global engagement and interdisciplinarity were selected to present their research and creative work to colleagues in the Dean's Research Forum sessions (Matt Rindge, Rebecca Stephanis, Katey Roden, Stacey Taninchev, Greg Gordon, Molly Kretchmar-Hendricks, Suzanne Ostersmith, and Brook Swanson).

Faculty who received international, national and regional recognition include **Meagan Ciesla** (Copper Nickel Editor's Choice Award), **Emily Clark** (CHOICE Reviews Outstanding Academic Title; Francis B. Simkins Award, Southern Historical Association; Michael Thomason Award, Gulf South Historical Association), **Brian Cooney** (Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations Civil Rights Award, with Katey Roden), **Matt Cremeens** (O'Leary Scholar), **Mary Farrell** (2nd place 8th Painting & Mixed Media Exhibition, Lessedra Art Gallery, Sophia, Bulgaria), **Greg Gordon** (James B. Bradley Fellowship), **Tod Marshall** (Washington State Poet Laureate), **Vinai Norasakkunkit** (Fulbright Award, Japan), **Katey Roden** (Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations Civil Rights Award, with Brian Cooney), **Jonathan Rossing** (National Orientation Director's Association Innovative Program Award), **Robert Spittal** (Commission to compose a new work for clarinet & wind ensemble, Consortium of universities led by Idaho State University), **Tim Westerhaus** (Northwest American Choral Directors Association, elected President).

Dr. Kirk Besmer was selected as the next Alphonse A. and Geraldine F. Arnold Distinguished Professor (3-year term). Dr. Joanne Smieja is in her second year as Scholl Distinguished Chair of Chemistry (3-year term).

Staff Accomplishments

Ms. Cory Kittrell, Program Assistant for the Philosophy Department, won the third annual College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Staff Award.

University Mission

To acknowledge the Jesuits' new home in the Della Strada facility, the College gave Fr. Jim Voiss, S.J. (rector) cards of appreciation from departments and a housewarming gift—a print of the Madonna della Strada. In the spring, the College conducted the Mission Examen exercise: reading, reflection, conversation, and shared visioning about Gonzaga's Jesuit identity and mission priorities, including the identification of a core set of institutional values to guide our work. With guidance from Fr. Pat Lee and Michelle Wheatley, faculty in each department read documents explaining the self-study process, collected individuals' responses to a university-wide set of questions, met as a department to discuss them, and submitted a compilation of the responses and themes. The results of the self-study across the College will be submitted to the Provost this summer.

Vision 2018

Implementation of the Strategic Plan endorsed by faculty in 2015 was continued through the work by two centers and various taskforces. Additionally, an assessment of progress toward achieving Vision 2018 was begun.

Center for Public Humanities:

Led by Director Brian Cooney, in its second year the Center for Public Humanities continued to pursue its mission to promote and support community engagement with the humanities through teaching, service, research, and the public dissemination of knowledge in the tradition of a Jesuit, Catholic, and humanistic education. This year's work built on the inaugural theme last year of the veteran experience, particularly in its support of Dr. Lisa Silvestri's NEH-funded *Telling War* project, including cosponsoring a three-day visit from National Book Award-finalist Kevin Powers. Continuing to respond to the challenges of our times, the theme of Race and Racism was added. As a keynote for that theme, Angela Davis spoke to nearly 900 members of the GU and Spokane community, followed by a student-led discernment session. That address was also part of a robust autumn of programming that the Center co-coordinated with Kristine Hoover and the Institute for Hate Studies, titled "Communities for Justice." Other events the Center sponsored or co-sponsored to support this second-year theme included the performance artist Dominique Christina and the scholar Marc Anthony Neal in the spring.

Digital Humanities project:

Working closely with the Center for Public Humanities, Dr. Katey Roden (Visiting DH Scholar) worked to raise faculty familiarity with research practices and pedagogical methodologies in the field of digital humanities and to recruit new faculty to the working group. The purpose is to invite students and faculty to engage humanistic modes of inquiry with digital culture and technological innovations. She developed sessions for faculty, some co-sponsored with the CTA, supervised student interns, and initiated development of three foundational projects: 1) creating a digital platform that chronicles and also provides non-violent strategies for combatting the rise of white nationalism, in partnership with the Institute for Hate Studies and the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations; 2) student-curated digital exhibits on the life and impact of philanthropist Myrtle Woldson, to be publicly displayed in the Woldson Performing Arts Center; and 3) a collaboration with our sister Jesuit university in Cali, Colombia, the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, to digitally map grassroots citizens' media organizations.

Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry (CURCI):

To raise awareness of undergraduate research and creative inquiry activities across the College, CURCI developed its website to better highlight information about opportunities such as the Morris Undergraduate Research Fellowships and student travel awards. An Undergraduate Research Showcase at ZagFam Weekend was well attended. A talk by a Distinguished Alumni Researcher, Dr. Nicki Bush, was hosted. Six students who were awarded Morris Fellowships conducted summer research with faculty mentors in Music, Sociology, History, Art and Computer Science/Computational Thinking, and Criminal Justice, and 64 students were awarded summer undergraduate research assistantships with 26 faculty mentors from Biology, Chemistry & Biochemistry, and Physics. The College was able to support the participation of 22 students in professional meetings including the Annual Regional M.J. Murdock Conference on Undergraduate Research, the Southern Thoracic Surgical Association Annual Meeting, the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology, the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics/Native Americans in Science, the Annual Northwest Undergraduate Conference on the Ancient World, the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, the American College Dance Association, the Phi Alpha Theta Pacific Northwest Region Conference (History), the Pacific Inland Mathematics Undergraduate Conference, the MathFest National Meeting of the Mathematical Association of America, the Western Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Science, and SIRC.

In addition, Gonzaga sponsored the annual Graduate Philosophy Conference as well as an Undergraduate Philosophy Conference (for a complete listing of student achievements, see *Appendix 3*).

Global Engagement:

At the end of the 2016-17 academic year, the College Taskforce on Global Engagement recommended using the emerging partnership with Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, in Cali and Bogata, Colombia to broaden our thinking and discussions around global engagement. The Columbia Community of Practice is at the center of this new collaboration. In June and July, a cohort of four faculty travelled to Cali, Colombia, where they took Spanish language and cultural enrichment courses at Javeriana University and developed collaborative teaching, scholarship, and/or service projects with research partners at the Javeriana universities in Cali and Bogata. This group continued their work during fall 2017 with regular meetings to further develop their work and partnerships. In October, Fr. Luis Felipe Gomez Restrepo, S.J., President of Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, in Cali, Colombia traveled to Spokane and delivered the inaugural presentation for the College's Javeriana Lecture Series. In November, the Community of Practice shared their research findings and teaching activities with the entire College during the Dean's Research and Creativity Forum.

Innovations in Teaching and Curriculum:

After proposing a values statement for teaching in the College of Arts and Sciences, the committee has continued to partner with the Center for Teaching and Advising in sponsoring a series of workshops focused on specific pedagogical topics: Teaching Writing in the 21st Century, Metacognitive Strategies to Help Students Master Difficult Content, Teaching the

Whole Student, and Globalizing the Classroom. Forty-seven faculty from the College attended at least one workshop.

Committee for the Assessment of Teaching and Learning:

Following up on the group's final report last year, which concluded with several recommendations, the committee made concrete plans for achieving Priority 1: promoting a culture of formative assessment among departments in CAS. They created guidelines for a three-meeting peer-teaching support group focused on formative assessment that will be offered to all CAS departments next fall.

Technology and Online Learning:

The College again offered a series of workshops in the spring for "Online Faculty Fellows" for those teaching online for the first time, with seven faculty participating. Chairs were asked to share information on existing Virtual Campus instructional technology trainings with their departments and provide feedback on desired training for faculty for next year.

Liberal Arts Education and Transferable Skills:

The Vision 2018 theme of engaging students in learning that builds meaningful and *practical* knowledge was highlighted. At the fall CAS meeting, faculty discussed the employment value of Jesuit education. Nearly three dozen faculty participated in the Career and Professional Development Center's "Career Kindler" program to learn ways to integrate career education into their classrooms and their interactions with students, and three faculty received grants from the Center to involve 150 students in panels on Careers in Government, Careers in the Arts, and Career Paths for Language Learners. Emphasizing the relevance of a liberal arts education, the College developed and began implementing a "campaign for the liberal arts" with the assistance of the Advisory Council. We also began administration of the Washington Consortium for the Liberal Arts (WaCLA), an association of public and private higher education institutions, organizations, and individuals promoting the value of a liberal arts education to the people and communities in our state.

Assessment of Progress towards Vision 2018:

Several members of the Vision 2018 committee volunteered to assess how far the College has progressed in the four areas of our strategic plan: transform, build, engage, and collaborate. Specifically, the group began to examine progress on the approximately 40 objectives that had been identified for each of the four goals. The areas in which we have made progress include improving space, technology, and infrastructure for instruction, research, and offices; and developing and promoting formal academic opportunities to study social justice (for a review of the progress toward achieving Vision 2018, see *Appendix 4*).

Curriculum, New Programs, and Assessment

Academic Council approved a major revision of the Communication Studies program and the addition of an interdisciplinary Visual Literacy Minor to be offered by the Departments of Integrated Media and Art

Program reviews were conducted by the departments of Classical Civilizations, Integrated Media, and Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Consonant with the university-wide emphasis on assessing program learning outcomes-in particular the last step in assessment, closing the loop-we worked with department chairs so that all programs are able to show that they regularly use assessment results for action. Academic Technology Applications Support (ATAS) is working with individual CAS departments to add information to this year's assessment reports (due August 3rd) that will incorporate follow-up and action plan sections in the assessment reporting tool.

Teaching beyond the Classroom

One of the College's strengths remains faculty work with students. Sixteen departments reported sponsoring one or more Honors societies or other student clubs. (See *Appendix 5*.)

Faculty work to ensure rich co-curricular offerings to help students put classroom learning into context. Departments offered numerous public lectures, including those organized on an ad hoc basis (COMM, CLAS, NTAS, RELI and WGST) and named lecture series such as the Arnold, Davis, O'Leary, Powers, Rukavina, and Flannery lectures. They also offered the annual Homerathon (CLAS), the Visiting Writers Series (ENGL), and Kreielsheimer Visiting Artists (VART).

Faculty also sponsored activities that facilitate learning outside of the classroom. Nearly two dozen students in four Mock Trial teams competed at a number of qualifying events, and two teams competed in the national championship tournament. Students from the Model UN team won Distinguished Delegation awards at the Northwest and National Conferences. The Debate team won a number of awards in regional and national competitions and hosted public debates on campus.

Exhibitions/Performances/Concerts

Jesuit education stresses the importance of human creativity, and once again last year, students, faculty, and staff shared their talents with the community. THEA offered three main stage and four second stage productions. For the fifth year in a row, the program participated in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. MUSC produced 63 concerts, including student, faculty, and degree recitals and ensemble concerts hosted by Gonzaga either in Spokane or throughout the Northwest. The Senior Art Show was for the second time held in downtown Spokane to provide students with the opportunity of preparing their work within a professional context and for a larger public. Gonzaga is one of the few universities its size that is lucky enough to have an art museum. Last year, the Jundt Art Museum featured four special exhibitions, including a fourth year of the outdoor display of sculptures by David Hayes and shows entitled *From the Collection: Pop! and Beyond*, and *The American Scene, 1932-1946*. Between June 1, 2017, and May 30, 2018, the museum hosted 24,153 visitors. During that same time, the museum provided numerous guided tours.

Internships

The College continued its collaboration with the Center for Career and Professional Development, involving students and faculty in Treks. Under the leadership of Internship Coordinator Ray Rast, the CAS Internship Program supported internships connected to the Digital Humanities Initiative, supported faculty in the development and supervision of academic internships, and supported students by fielding questions and connecting them with faculty

members. The Internship Coordinator remains a valued resource for College students and faculty, and as a collaborator with the CCPD. One hundred and thirty-two students enrolled in an internship for academic credit over the course of the academic year (8% more than in the previous year, and 52% more than in 2015-2016).

Community Outreach Gonzaga faculty continue to be involved in the Spokane community through, for instance, faculty lectures and presentations, but the College also has various outreach programs that focus on children: the MATH department, for example, continued its weekly Mathematics tutoring, and BIOL its Science in Action! Series, involving GU students. Additionally, a StarTalk grant for the ninth consecutive year helped us offer summer Chinese language instruction to 60 students (grades 2-12) from the Spokane area. Gonzaga's Dance faculty hosted 24 dance students from around the region in a week-long Summer Dance Intensive including Ballet, Modern, Contemporary, Jazz, Hip Hop and Musical Theatre. Approximately 175 students from 17 states attended a Gonzaga summer debate institute. The Francis Youth Institute for Theology and Leadership (funded by the Lilly Foundation) hosted 18 high school students for a week-long institute. In addition, the Center for Community Engagement named Dr. Joe Johnston a Community Engaged Learning Faculty Fellow (2-year term). In this role, he will contribute to the expansion and development of community-engaged learning, scholarship and practice at GU. (See *Appendix 6* for a complete listing of community partners.)

Collaborations

College faculty have initiated, or are continuing, collaborations with internal and external partners. Collaborations included interdisciplinary productions and projects (THEA/BIOL, CHEM/VART, VART/THEA, THEA/PSYC/INST), classroom activities (Farrell/Cooley, Truitt/Roncero-Bellido); research (Lassiter/Norasakkunkit); and co-sponsored presentations (WGST/ENGL, NTAS/WGST). Faculty in COMM and ENGL also collaborated with faculty in the SEAS. The Departments of Integrated Media and Art hired a new faculty member for the interdisciplinary Visual Literacy minor to begin next fall.

Following the approval of the collaboration with the UW Medical School in April of 2016, College faculty began teaching in the Foundations Phase of medical education for the UW School of Medicine. As a result of the UW School of Medicine/Gonzaga Regional Health Partnership, 3 students from the College were matched for the first time with UWSOM-Seattle research mentors. We are working to identify ways for more faculty and students to participate in the UWSOM/Gonzaga Regional Health Partnership.

Space and Facilities Update

Work on converting the Jesuit House to the Humanities Building was nearly completed during the spring semester. By the end of the summer the building will be fully occupied. Religious Studies and English Departments occupy the top 2 floors, and the first level now houses the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's suite as well as the CAS Centers (Public Humanities, Center for Undergraduate Research). The other features of the Humanities Building include Honors Program offices, additional teaching spaces, specialized project areas for digital humanities work, and Science in Action! preparation rooms.

Faculties in the sciences and engineering continued to collaborate on the design of the Integrated Science and Engineering Building.

Last year, faculties from Music and Theatre/Dance participated in programming and design sessions with consultants for the Woldson Performing Arts Center. The build-phase of the project is progressing with a projected completion date in March of 2019.

The College is pursuing a unique space in downtown Spokane to house an arts center that will serve the music, art, and theater and dance departments. The details of this arrangement are in the process of being finalized, and we anticipate work on planning and construction will commence later this summer.

College PR

ZagFam Weekend

The college featured the Center for Public Humanities, the Digital Humanities Initiative, Washington state's poet laureate Tod Marshall, the NEH-funded Telling War Project, and the newly-installed Powers Chair of Humanities Ann Ciasullo in a series of Saturday lectures. Students with the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry and the Gonzaga Science Research Program also presented their research at a poster presentation, and six CAS faculty members presented academic sessions that demonstrated the College's breadth of expertise: topics included race on the college campus, pop culture, fake news, excavation on the Turkish Black Sea Coast, cosmic rays, and social justice in the post-Civil War South. (See *Appendix 7*.)

Publications

The College of Arts & Sciences Marketing and Event Coordinator, Amy Shellenberger, produced an extended newsletter focusing on intercultural competence, as well as Spring and Fall events guides distributed to College alumni, high-level donors, and the general public.

Digital PR

Amy worked in conjunction with a student media intern to write and edit blog posts highlighting the noteworthy activities of College students and faculty, published additional stories as news items on the redesigned GU website, and promoted College events by publishing event pages on the website and posting weekly schedules and news items on social media. In addition, the College hired a dedicated web content specialist, Vince Velonza, who completed the College's migration of information to the new website and worked with departments to update content and ensure its accuracy.

New Projects

Following the suggestions of the College's Advisory Council, the dean's office staff collaborated to begin developing a multi-channel career readiness toolkit promoting liberal arts educations. The kit will include a video of high-level employers testifying to the value of skills students acquire through the liberal arts, an FAQ, information to include in admissions packets, and sessions during 2018 ZagFam Weekend validating liberal arts educations.

College Committees

CAS Advisory Council:

The purpose of the Council is to assist the Dean in accomplishing the College's mission and vision, and to advise her on the promotion of and fundraising for the College. The Council convened three times over the past year to discuss undergraduate student research (October meeting), liberal arts education and career readiness (January meeting), and developing a multi-media marketing campaign on the value of liberal arts education (April meeting).

Student Council:

The Dean continued to convene a council consisting of students who were nominated by their department chairs as a focus group to gather information about perceptions of the College, and to gauge students' interest in College initiatives. A December meeting with this group of students focused on their thoughts and concerns in the areas of academic advising, curriculum, and developing practical knowledge and transferrable skills for future careers.

College Awards Committee:

In its third year, this committee oversaw the selection of an endowed professor and the distribution of College funds for faculty development in the areas of research/creative activity and teaching.

Key Challenges

A significant improvement is that some of our academic units are moving out of houses (ENGL, RELI, ENVS, and WGST) and into buildings. Lack of lab and office space for faculty in the STEM disciplines makes it imperative that the university move forward with building the ISE. As predicted in last year's report, we have run out of office, teaching, and research spaces for our faculty in Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Mathematics, and Physics. New faculty beginning next fall in these departments will have offices in buildings away from their departments. Offices for new Math faculty have been on loan to us from SEAS for two years.

The Jundt Museum (facility) remains substandard for accreditation purposes. We are grateful that funds were budgeted for next year to hire an environmental consulting firm to assess the needs, possible remedies, and related costs for bringing the museum's environment in line with standards that would permit us to attempt an accreditation process with the American Alliance of Museums. Additional funding will be required for actual improvements to the facility that will create prestige, allow for greater exhibition opportunities, and open up a larger pool of possible grants we could earn.

As noted in last year's report, while we do acknowledge the generosity of donors who made it possible to move forward with key initiatives (such as the Centers), there have been no new budget allocations for this work. Support for the humanities and for undergraduate research would indicate a cultural commitment on the part of Gonzaga University.

As reported for the last two years, the funds dedicated to updating technology are insufficient. The most recent budget allocation is insufficient to fund the increasing demands of faculty for integrating technology into their curricula and software applications for research, nor does it

meet student expectations around technology infrastructure. While ITS has been working on a proposal for a centrally funded computer refresh program and will run a one-year pilot of this program for faculty and staff in the departments of English, Philosophy, and Religious Studies, it does not appear that this proposal will remedy our problems with adequate funding for computer labs. A report from our Computer Labs Manager shows that over the past four years, the College has received computer replacement funds that have enabled us to upgrade only about 25 computers per year.

The budget remains a challenge. New funding requests that are continued from year to year go unfunded due to other priorities. There are insufficient funds to reallocate, using existing base funds, to departments in need of additional operational funds to support programming. An increase in the College's FTE requires an increase in the operational budget.

Appendices

1. Faculty Scholarly Activities
2. External Grants
3. Student Achievements
4. Vision 2018 Assessment
5. Honor Societies/Sponsored Clubs
6. Community Partners
7. College Expo Flyer