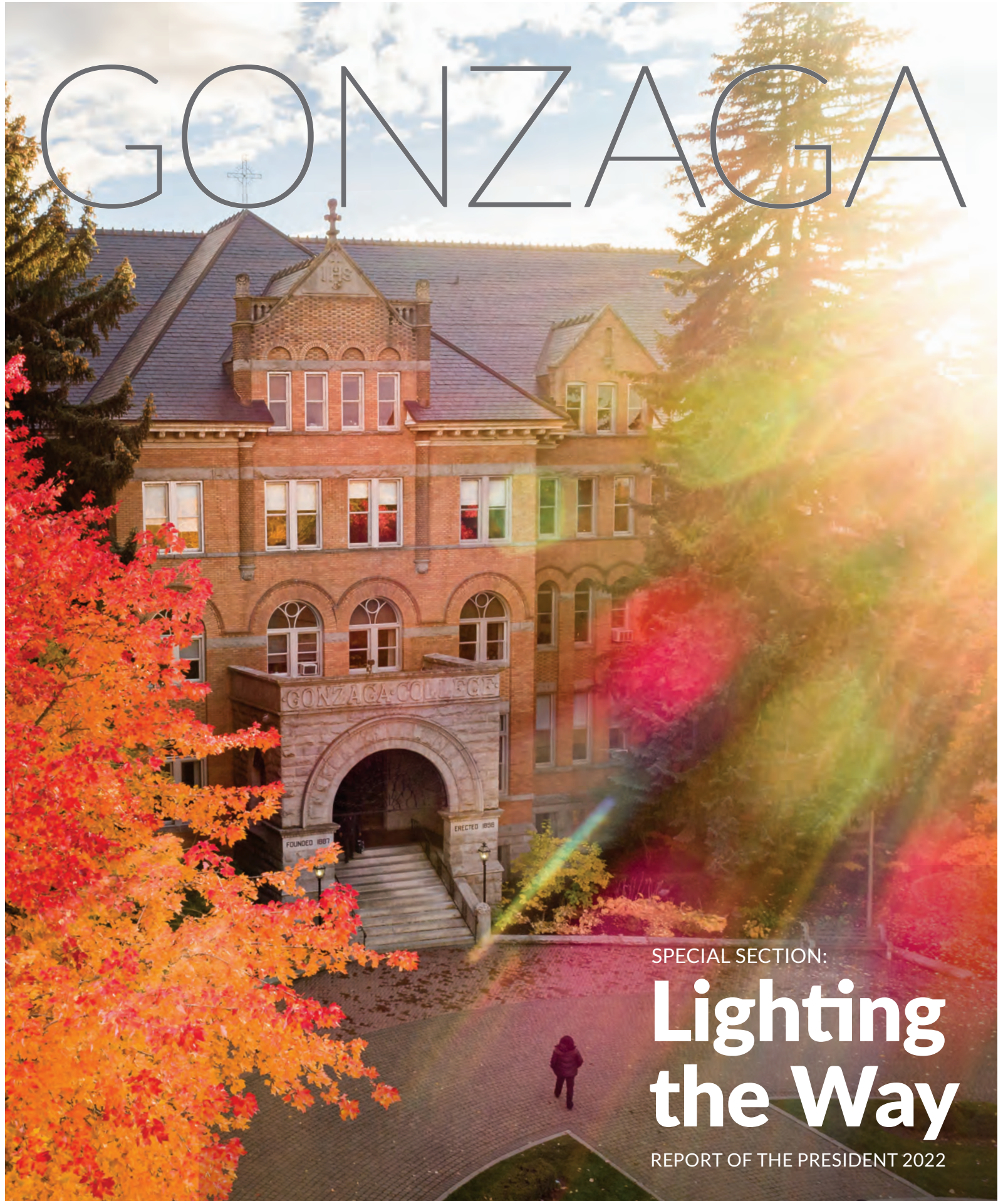


GONZAGA



SPECIAL SECTION:

Lighting the Way

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT 2022

GONZAGA IN PHOTOS

Enjoy the beautiful campus images inside? You can purchase prints of select photos for your home or office, or as gifts for others!

» gonzaga.edu/photos

ON THE COVER & THIS PAGE

Fall on campus: Photos by Zack Berlat ('11)



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LIGHTING THE WAY:
REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

"The Grand Challenge," 2022 Year in Review, Financial Report, Donor Honor Rolls and more



Online: gonzaga.edu/magazine



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As a PR/journalism major, I interned in 1988 as a junior at The Spokesman-Review, and did not like writing for a beat. As a senior, I interned at Washington Water Power (now Avista), making PSAs and TV commercials about the community events and grants the company supported. I loved it! I ended up working as a public affairs officer for the U.S. Army and now teach and freelance as a photojournalist in Florida. Every year, I have at least one student who complains how I am too strict on their spelling or grammar. Thanks to my Gonzaga journalism degree!

Lisa Browne-Banic ('90)
Boca Raton, Fla.

As a former Bulletin managing editor and editor-in-chief, the individual stories were great fun to read. Each reminded me of the truly exceptional kindred spirits I was privileged to work with to produce the early 1950s Bulletin. In fact, all the 1952 and 1953 issues of the Bulletin were combined to create the Spires yearbooks. The depth and breadth of the careers of those interviewed in this story were both heartening and impressive. The bottom line, as in my own work history, is that the Bulletin was and is an integral part of a true Jesuit education. Thank you for the superb story.

Louis J. Baumer ('53)
Fort Myers, Fla.

Readers respond to the Summer 2022 features on alumni of The Gonzaga Bulletin and the journalism program.

TURNING THE TABLES

I found your article "Turning the Tables" very interesting. Back in my day (1959-64), Gonzaga had one journalism teacher, Fr. Lee Teufel. The Bulletin was a rag-tag operation that managed to publish regularly. I wrote a column during most of my time at GU. Eventually, Hank Anderson hired me as the student sports information director. That opportunity allowed me to also report for United Press International (UPI) and the Associated Press (AP) and a number of regional newspapers. Although I never pursued a career in journalism, I eventually did some reporting for the Las Vegas Sun and the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin. For all this I can thank Fr. Teufel and a single journalism class. I am so happy to see that there are more opportunities available to GU students today.

William Dobner ('64)
Newbury Park, Calif.

» CHIME IN

Have a question or a response to a story in Gonzaga Magazine? Visit gonzaga.edu/editor.

THE WORLD OF MY HEART

[Referring to the travelogue authored by Kristin Deasy ('07)]
Kristin, your openness, honesty and vulnerability touch my heart. Sri Nasaggatta said: "In peace and silence you grow." Reading your story allows me to witness that.

Kevin Smith
DePere, Wis.



Unity Multicultural Education Center



» CALLING ALL UNITY HOUSE / UMEC ALUMNI!
This year marks 25 years since the beginning of the Unity House, now the Unity Multicultural Education Center. If you'd like to share a memory or a reflection of what the service meant to you while a student, please connect: gonzaga.edu/editor.



MOMENTUM FOR A NEW ERA

This fall, President Thayne McCulloh and Provost Sacha Kopp shared with faculty and staff enthusiasm for renewing Gonzaga University's strategic plan. From novel approaches to recruiting classes of Zags (students of all ages) to responding to contemporary critiques of higher ed, leaders asked for the campus community's participation in developing the next big ideas for how to continue living out our mission.

After a couple of grueling years in pandemic mode, this energized discussion left me feeling hopeful. I truly sensed the eagerness among Gonzaga leaders to embrace a new movement in university life.

Gonzaga is in a position to reinvent itself, to stake its claim among premier institutions. Departments across campus are stretching their individual and collective imaginations to meet the real-world needs of a skeptical population. And most importantly, we're asked to embrace those opportunities with an increasingly vibrant expression of Ignatian pedagogy and Jesuit ideals.

Early this fall, I set about culling the gems of the strategic planning endeavor, what Provost Kopp calls "The Grand Challenge," to publish in the university's annual report, which normally mails to a small selection of our community. Just before that publication was set to print, we decided this moment of renewal is far too important not to share more broadly. We asked ourselves: Why not include it in Gonzaga Magazine for all readers to see?

So, this issue will not be a standard Gonzaga Magazine. In place of some of our topical features, you'll find the Report of the President, a chance to learn what faculty and staff have been hearing about, as well as to check out the University's financial performance. Don't worry – alumni wedding announcements and "In Memoriam" sections are still here, along with a few other items from the normal fare.

I invite you to choose a beverage and settle into a comfy chair and read our annual report to see what's "Lighting the Way" for Gonzaga's bold future. And then, drop me a line and tell me what inspires you or evokes surprise, delight or questions: gonzaga.edu/editor.

I wish you and your household a healthy holiday season, full of experiences that bring you great joy.

Sincerely,

Kate Vanskike ('22 M.A.)
Editor

G

FALL/WINTER 2022
VOLUME 13, NO. 1

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WEBSITE: GONZAGA.EDU/MAGAZINE

Gonzaga Magazine is an opportunity for alumni, parents and friends to stay connected to one another and to the University's Mission. We are dedicated to building community with our readers through authentic storytelling and beautiful images. This publication is our gift to you. If you would like to help offset the costs, please consider a donation to the Fund for Gonzaga at gonzaga.edu/givenow.

The opinions expressed do not always represent the views of the administration, but are intended to foster open dialogue and lifelong learning in the Jesuit tradition.

We welcome your feedback. Visit gonzaga.edu/editor.

GU Professor Leads **Native American Academic Journal**

Daniel Stewart, an enrolled member of the Spokane Tribe and a business professor at Gonzaga since 2006, is an editor of the Indigenous Business and Public Administration Journal, along with Deanna Kennedy (University of Washington) and Joseph Gladstone (Washington State University). In an interview with Nina Culver ('96) from The Spokesman-Review, Stewart said the goal of the journal is to create progress in the development

of Native American academic theory in the fields of business and public administration. The journal fits at Gonzaga because the University offers a master of business administration degree in American Indian Entrepreneurship. "It's the only program of its kind I'm aware of in the country," he said. "We're the only program that focuses on Native American business. What better place to have a journal?"



◀ Denial Just Means **'Not Yet'**

Of the many lessons imparted by Olga Custodio, those five words might hold the biggest lesson learned in a life full of overcoming barriers. The 2022 Presidential Speaker addressed a rapt audience at the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center in October about the perseverance that ultimately led to her becoming the first Latina fighter pilot in U.S. history and the first Latina pilot for American Airlines.

Custodio's appearance and lecture, "Persistence, Passion and Patience," marked the eighth lecture in GU's Presidential Speaker Series. The series launched in 2011 to bring thought-provoking leaders, authors, activists and researchers to campus to share their passions. Custodio joined scientist Jane Goodall, journalist Thomas Friedman and activists Tarana Burke and Ronan Farrow as one of President Thayne McCulloh's noteworthy guests. This year marked the first Presidential Speaker since 2018 and came on the heels of Custodio receiving the Hispanic Heritage Foundation's STEM Award for her advocacy of expanding opportunities for students in underserved communities interested in STEM fields, especially aviation and aerospace.



Trustees in Italy: **Mission Formation**

In September, 22 of 30 voting Trustees, two Trustees Emeriti and 19 spouses and family members embarked on a five-day pilgrimage in Italy, joined by eight Gonzaga employees and Fr. Bob Niehoff, S.J. ('77), the provincial assistant for higher education for the Jesuits West Province of the U.S. The trip was in the works for several years, ever since the office of Father General Arturo Sosa,

Superior of the Society of Jesus, extended the invitation at the conclusion of the Mission Priority Examen process in 2019. Watch for the next issue of Gonzaga Magazine to read about the participants' encounters with Jesuit leaders, visits to historic Jesuit sites and deep connection to the roots of Gonzaga's Catholic, Jesuit, humanistic mission.



Zagapalooza: Home is Where the Zags Are

From the class of 1954 to 2022, nearly 70 years of Zag alumni came home to Gonzaga for Zagapalooza Oct. 14-16. The all-class reunion weekend included more than 20 alumni events on campus and around Spokane, culminating with the Bulldog Blast party at the Spokane Convention Center.

Alumni toured campus, participated in class socials and took delight in visiting with friends. For some, this was their first time back to campus in a very long time.

“I haven’t been back in 40 years,” said Dorothea Burke (’82), who flew in from Tampa, Florida, for the weekend. “It was a great opportunity to see where the University has gone and to reflect on all the things the University gave me.”

Hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations, Zagapalooza featured partnerships with the School of Business Administration, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, Unity Multicultural Education Center, the Office of Mission and Ministry, Career & Professional Development, Admission, Athletics, Theatre & Dance and others.

The variety of programming allowed alumni to reconnect with their Gonzaga experience through social gatherings, prayerful moments, continuing education and festive celebrations.

» [View the reunion recap video!](https://gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare)
gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare

Campus & Community Learn from Holocaust Exhibit at Foley Library

Gonzaga University had the privilege this fall of hosting “Americans and the Holocaust,” a touring exhibit created in collaboration between the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the American Library Association that investigates the United States’ responses to the Holocaust and participation in World War II.

Brad Matthies, associate dean for library services, spoke after the exhibit’s conclusion on its hopes for educating patrons about the Holocaust as it moves around the country.

“In terms of the educational outreach and what this exhibit is trying to do, it’s bringing the Holocaust experience into the future,” Matthies said. “What does it mean for us today? Why should we combat hate?”

To host the exhibit, libraries engaged in a competitive application process. This year, there were 250 applicants and only 50 universities were accepted. Matthies attributes Gonzaga’s selection to three reasons: its mission of humanistic values and social justice, the support of offices such as the Center for the Study of Hate, and Gonzaga’s proximity to hot spots of Christian nationalist groups and white supremacist acts.

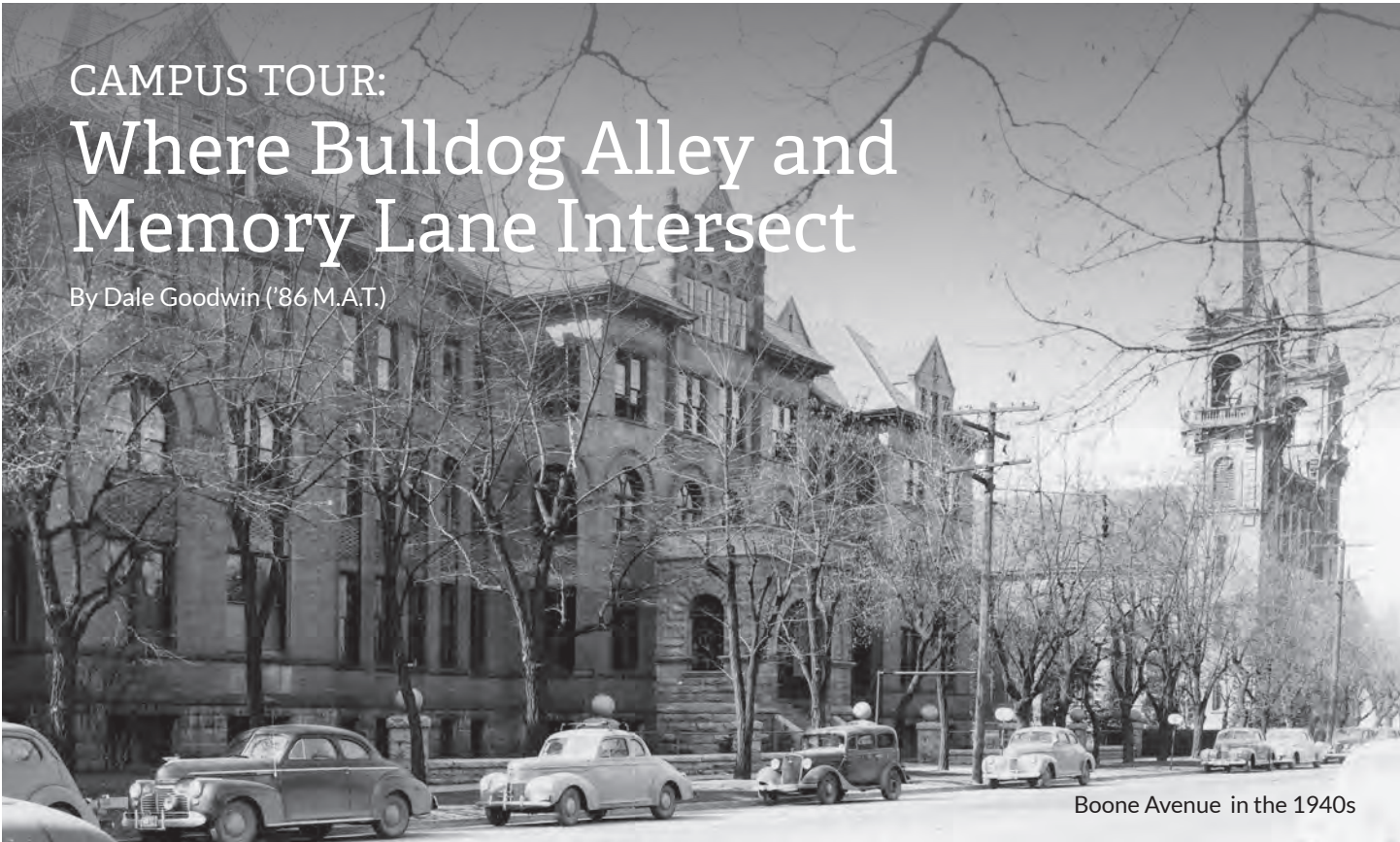
Dustin Gomez, Foley Library program assistant, says it is significant that Gonzaga was chosen because of the University’s Jesuit values that encourage people to put their education in action.



CAMPUS TOUR:

Where Bulldog Alley and Memory Lane Intersect

By Dale Goodwin ('86 M.A.T.)



Boone Avenue in the 1940s

When I first stepped foot on Gonzaga’s campus as an employee 41 years ago, it unveiled to me myriad scenes and emotions I had never explored. I grew up in Spokane but had only ventured to campus a couple of times – a Paul Revere and the Raiders concert in 1968 or '69 at the still-new-feeling Kennedy Pavilion, and Boys’ State in summer 1973, when I laid my weary head down every night in a room of fabled Catherine-Monica Hall.

Back then, I had no plan to be here this long nor did I understand the profound impact this place and its people would have on me and my family.

My first office here was in the Kennedy Pavilion, third floor, a mass of concrete and pumice block walls with hanging ropes to the north where mountaineers like Bob Loomis ('85 J.D.) would do their workouts. I was sports information director and my office, the largest one I ever had here, looked out through sloping windows to the basketball court below. Everyone wanted to stop by and see my view. The Athletic Department moved into Kennedy in 1965, a building that was named for the only Catholic president to that point, John F. Kennedy, and was dedicated by his brother Edward.

Kennedy Pavilion included a swimming pool to the west, and in 1987 the new Charlotte Y. Martin Centre featured a field house, and a glassed atrium made for indoor passage between the gym, pool and field house. It provided a perfect spot for a reception with my bride, Mary “Scooter” O’Neill ('84), following our wedding on Pecarovich (baseball) Field in August 1989. The main pavilion was modernized, and this is where Gonzaga

men’s basketball began its current 24-year streak of NCAA tournament appearances amid the deafening cheers of the crowds reverberating off the tight walls at each end of the court as the old bleachers shook mercilessly.

In those early days, only a parking lot, sagebrush and tumbleweeds separated Martin Centre from the tree-enshrouded north bank of the Spokane River. The U.S. Postal Annex sat to the south at the river’s bend until 1998 when construction began on the new Law School building, and in 2005, on the Patterson Baseball Complex.

After seven years in Athletics, I moved to the Administration Building, which in the early 2000s received a significant makeover while maintaining its historical character, under the watchful eye of Campus Architect Mac McCandless. He was also the guy who helped design and oversee construction in 2012 of the Grotto at the west end of the Ad Building, inspired by the grotto at Notre Dame where he had been a student.

By the time I became the University’s public relations director in 1989, my favorite greasy burger joint, Pakies, was gone from the corner of Sharp and Standard, and the busy Boone Avenue thoroughfare became the Johnston Family Mall, a beautiful addition to campus, serving as a conduit from east to west, and bridging the barrier from north to south sides of campus. This was Trustee Elizabeth Hanson’s baby. Her family’s donation was integral in bringing a scattered campus together.

In 2007, the Administration Building became College Hall to give the University’s largest college/school its own home as

continued



Gonzaga campus in 1948

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 St. Aloysius Church (1911-present) | 8 DeSmet Hall (1925-present) |
| 2 Original Administration Building (1887-1963), replaced by Jesuit House | 9 McGoldrick Lumber Co.; PACCAR and Bollier centers today |
| 3 Goller Hall (1908-1970), burned down | 10 High school barracks (1947-1954); Aluminum Jesus/Welch Hall today |
| 4 Champion Hall Barracks (1947-1958) | 11 Football stadium (1922-1949); Foley Field and Center today |
| 5 Original tennis courts | 12 Webster School (Gonzaga HS 1941-45, then Law School 1963-2000); now Corkery Apartments |
| 6 College Hall (1898-present) | |
| 7 Dillon Hall (1948-present); now Herak Center | |



The COG (Center of Gonzaga) opened as the University's dining hall in 1954, and served students until its destruction in 2013 to make way for the Hemmingson Center. It also housed Spike's, later Maggies, and the book store in the basement, and was site of many dances and other events in the Spokane Room.

the other schools had their own places. Business had Jepson, Engineering had Herak, Education had Rosauer, etc. But after the Jesuits moved into the Della Strada Jesuit Community residence in 2017, Jesuit House became a home for the humanities, and the College of Arts and Sciences' main office.

During my 22 years working alongside four presidents — Father Bernard Coughlin, S.J., Harry Sladich, Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., and Thayne McCulloh — I saw campus change from what seemed like black-and-white to living color. Old buildings were torn down and bright new structures replaced them. Grounds became greener, and the south rim of campus blossomed with Foley Library (1992), the Jundt Art Center and Museum (1995), the McCarthy Athletic Center (2004), the John and Donna Luger Soccer Field (2007), PACCAR Center for Engineering and Applied Science (2008), a completely renovated and expanded Jepson Center (2008), the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center (2018), and the John and Joan Bollier Family Center for Integrated Science and Engineering (2021).

The original COG lived a useful life for nearly 55 years, but in 2013 was demolished to make way for the John J. Hemmingson Center for student activities, gatherings large and small, and a new version of the COG with delectable offerings from around

the world. Those who ate in the former COG cannot believe the choices available today in the new version. Hemmingson has become the center of campus life. And it even houses a Starbucks, a common place for students, faculty and staff to gather nonchalantly most mornings.

Before Hemmingson construction began, the University built a 650-space parking garage, which became home to the greatly expanded Zag Shop (bookstore). The east side of that structure we call the BARC (Boone Avenue Retail Center) housed campus dining for two years while the new COG was being created. Now, staff offices for University Advancement and Marketing and Communications occupy that creatively engineered space. That's where I now park my tush, telling your stories.

This quick campus tour doesn't begin to chronicle all the changes that have occurred since I arrived 41 years ago, like all the new student housing that's gone up, including the last one, Coughlin Hall in 2009, named for my mentor, longtime friend and Gonzaga legend. Student activity spaces have significantly increased, including the Rudolf Fitness Center (2003), the Stevens Center for golf and tennis (2014) and the artificial-turf-covered Mulligan Field (2006). (Thank goodness, no more muddy paths to class for those living in CM and Madonna halls.)

Each academic area has its own space, including the Human Physiology department, which just moved into its new home in the University of Washington School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Health Partnership building, catty-corner across Spokane Falls Boulevard to Coach Steve Hertz Field, which this fall converted from natural grass to artificial turf to allow for play almost year-round.

All the changes have been with one goal in mind: Make Gonzaga better for students. My time here is ebbing, but I am confident that students today and in the future will be drawn by and accommodated with some of the best facilities, green spaces and top educators around. For in the end, it's what happens inside these structures that make Gonzaga such a special place. Zags, you know what I'm talking about.

» **Come see for yourself. If you'd like a campus tour with historical perspective, I'd be happy to give you one. Find me at goodwin@gonzaga.edu.**

Most Beautiful

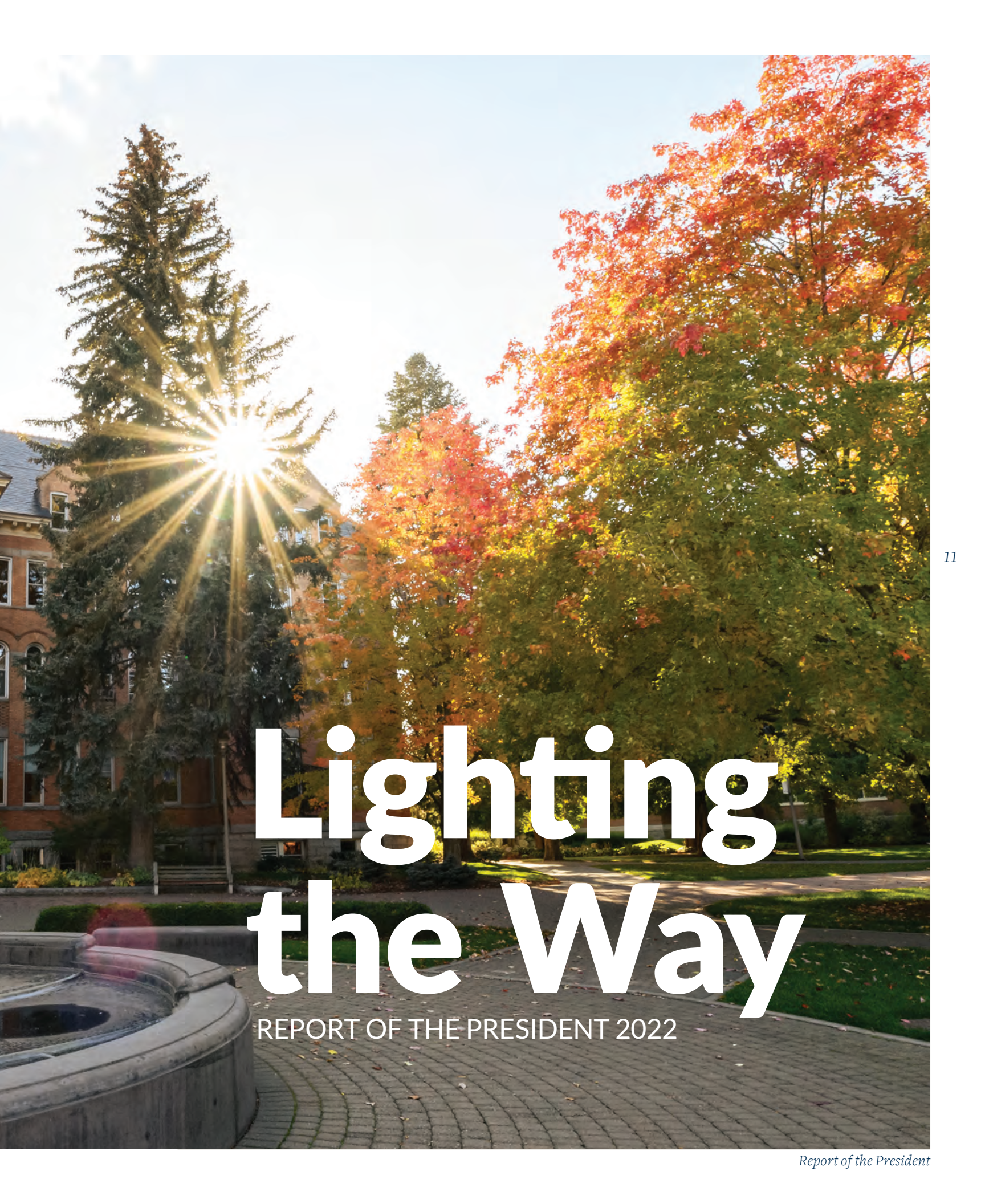
Zags everywhere know how gorgeous the Gonzaga campus is. Now, more of the world knows it, too.

Condé Nast Traveler named Gonzaga among the "56 prettiest college campuses in America" in 2022.



Formerly the Jesuit residence, this facility just southwest of College Hall houses the humanities and honors program faculty. The kitchen that once served the Jesuits now provides a home for the Center for Community Engagement's Campus Kitchen, which prepares meals to serve residents of the Logan Neighborhood.





Lighting the Way

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT 2022

Gratitude, Renewal, Opportunity



This fall, in an address to faculty and staff, I shared a story that I believe provides the Gonzaga community – those on campus and those who engage with and support us from a distance – a helpful outlook for a season of strategic planning with a renewed understanding of our purpose.

In the early months of the COVID pandemic, after campus had resumed for in-person instruction, I had an encounter with a student I'll call John. We crossed paths as he was moving back into his residence hall and he shared how grateful he was to be on campus again. John's father, just before his death from COVID-induced organ failure, implored John to return to school and finish his degree.

The student had many reasons not to. He was worried about his mom and had his own depression to face, but he did come back. I will never forget what he said: "For some of us, Gonzaga is a light in the darkness."

Amid his grief, John finished his degree and launched a career for which this university prepared him.

This is why we do what we do. This is our unique purpose as a Catholic, Jesuit, humanistic institution.

Despite criticisms of higher education – the suspicion about politically motivated indoctrination, the question of whether a college degree is really worth the expense – I believe with every fiber of my being that the perseverance of our students is all we need as testament that we are worth the investment.

As I consider the previous academic year and look ahead to the next, I am struck by overwhelming gratitude, a sense of renewal, and opportunities the likes of which we have not encountered in many years.

Gratitude

The recent U.S. News & World Report college rankings once again recognize Gonzaga's excellent teaching and support services, which contribute to high retention and graduation rates. This is a testament to our talented, tireless faculty and staff. A recent story by Condé Nast

Traveler also named Gonzaga one of the prettiest 56 college campuses in the U.S., among the thousands of postsecondary institutions in the nation. Hats off to Plant Services for this honor. Few institutions can claim having opened two major facilities during the pandemic, as Gonzaga did with the John and Joan Bollier Family Center for Integrated Science and Engineering and the University of Washington School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Health Partnership building, thanks to collaborative, innovative partners. Furthermore, GU received an incredible number of individual gifts of \$1 million or more, from generous benefactors who want to ensure that more students like John can experience a light in the darkness.

Renewal

The years of COVID have been transformative. Alongside lessons and new opportunities, Gonzaga, like so many others, experienced a significant amount of change in its employee population. Students were anxious about what they missed and how that may impact what they are capable of doing. Our community – among the first places to bring back in-person college experiences – is now ready to move forward into a new era in the actualization of the mission.

New members of our Executive Leadership Team are up to the challenge. Provost Sacha Kopp has a curiosity fueled by his joy of learning, and is thoughtful in engaging complex issues. Acting Vice President of Mission Integration Ellen Maccarone has a genuine love for this university and expertise that will aid in discerning the path forward. Vice President of Human Resources Ray Kliever brings depth of experience from large institutions and private industries to improve Gonzaga as an employer. These three – in addition to many long-serving leaders – will help Gonzaga find new ways to meet the high expectations of students, families and the community.

Opportunity

In my time at Gonzaga – more than three decades in various capacities – I have learned that resource growth almost always comes from new sources of revenue. And thus, our vision for the future requires increased philanthropic support and development of new non-tuition sources of funding. We must adapt to attract graduate and undergraduate students in an increasingly competitive environment, develop new academic programs, and refine existing programs to ensure they are relevant to students seeking to address the world's greatest challenges.

This all sets the stage for updating our strategic plan, to ensure Gonzaga is competitive in areas where the demand is high. Under the guidance of Provost Kopp, we initiated this fall a process called The Grand Challenge to engage faculty and staff in identifying goals and initiatives for research and creative academic activities, student development and new programs of study. The resulting priorities will create exciting opportunities for funding support and partnerships.

Sustainability and stewardship are part of the evaluation, too, understanding that we must thoughtfully consider where resources will be deployed in fulfillment of our mission.

Moving Forward, Together

As a Jesuit institution, we are called to emulate the model set by St. Ignatius of Loyola – to be “contemplatives in action.” I believe this is the foundation for successful strategic planning, to consider how we best serve others, distinguish our university and most effectively work to facilitate care and stewardship of God's creation.

Gonzaga University is woven into the fabric of so many lives, and we all play a critical role in its future. Thank you for the support that has made Gonzaga what it is, and for your care and engagement in what it will become.

Sincerely,



Thayne M. McCulloh, D.Phil.
President

U.S. NEWS & WORLD
REPORT 2023
RANKING HIGHLIGHTS

93%
RETENTION RATE
(TOP 15%
IN THE NATION)
(*first-year students*)

1,330 students enrolled in 2021, marking GU's second-largest first-year class and its most geographically, racially and ethnically diverse class.

204 students enrolled at the School of Law in 2022, the largest 1L class since 2007 and the school's most diverse class with 27% identifying as people of color.

1,200 undergraduates and **786** graduate and doctoral students received degrees in 2022. Commencement also included a special celebration for the Class of 2020, whose own celebration was muted by COVID-19.

98%
GRADUATION
SUCCESS RATE FOR
STUDENT-ATHLETES
(*#1 in West Coast
Conference,
#2 in the nation*)

TOP 100
NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

#12
BEST TEACHING
(*undergraduate*)

TOP 13%
NURSING
(*undergraduate*)

TOP 15%
ENGINEERING
(*undergraduate*)

TOP 20%
BUSINESS
(*undergraduate
entrepreneurship,
management, finance
and accounting*)

13

Read On

Learn about The Grand Challenge, inclusive excellence and more of what's in store for Gonzaga, ahead.



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FY 2021-22**

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|--|--|--|---|
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Lighting the Way

By Kate Vanskike ('22 M.A.)

“Gonzaga is a light in the darkness,”

a student told President Thayne McCulloh.

It was a poignant encounter amid the complexities of returning to campus: The COVID-19 pandemic continued its disorienting progression, national conversations on higher education emphasized rising costs and student debt, and cultural shifts and demographic changes added to the questioning of higher ed as we know it.

How can higher ed remain relevant to a changing societal structure that no longer expects its entire workforce to show up in person to get the job done? Are universities actually helping to address real-world needs? Is a college education worth the expense?

McCulloh reflected on those questions with the student’s “light in the darkness” comment echoing in the background. “I believe with every fiber of my being that the perseverance of our students is all we need as testament that we are worth the investment,” he told Gonzaga faculty and staff this fall. Through a message of gratitude, renewal and opportunity, he galvanized a hopeful future made possible by discernment and strategic planning. *(Read an adaptation of that message on p. 12.)*

The first step into the future is revitalizing the University’s strategic plan to clarify how Gonzaga will bolster its relevance and viability while remaining true to its mission as a Catholic, Jesuit, humanistic institution. In the pages ahead, learn how the University will continue providing academic excellence and preparing students for lives of leadership and service while also addressing the significant challenges in the higher ed space today.

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Situational Analysis: The Data

- » Over the past decade, college enrollment in the U.S. has declined by 12.3%. (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center)
- » Looking back to 2017 and ahead to 2027, enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions will level off or slightly decline in the traditional 18- to 24-year-old population while increasing among 25- to 29-year-olds. (Institute of Education Sciences National Center for Education Statistics)
- » Enrollment among white students will decrease, while enrollment among Black, Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander students will increase, with the largest growth (14%) expected from the Hispanic community. (Institute of Education Sciences National Center for Education Statistics)
- » Inside Higher Education, in 2021, cited new realities that colleges and universities must embrace to remain relevant. Among them, “abandoning traditional practice, rejecting time- and place-based education, emphasizing digital, offering pioneering subject matters and certifications” and “generating revenue through things like continuing education and micro-credentials in place of degrees.”

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Lifelong Learning

Inclusive Excellence

Sharpening the Vision

Seven years ago Gonzaga University developed a community-driven strategic plan framed in the context of four commitments:

- » Foster Responsibility for Shared Mission
- » Animate Academic Excellence across the Institution
- » Provide an Integrative Jesuit Educational Experience for Students
- » Optimize Institutional Stewardship and Sustainability

President McCulloh began the 2022 academic year with a message to faculty and staff about the ways this plan has animated the University during a dynamic period in its history: “It affirms and defines our mission of Catholic, Jesuit and humanistic education, and articulates a vision as ‘a premier liberal-arts based university, recognized nationally for providing an exemplary Jesuit education that empowers its graduates to lead, shape and serve their chosen fields and the communities to which they belong.’”

Many of the actionable goals in the strategic plan have been accomplished, he noted: record-high graduation rates; launching compelling degree programs; continued progress in the diversity of our students; building the Della Strada Jesuit residence; completing the John and Joan Bollier Family Center for Integrated Science and Engineering; creating the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center; dedicating new space for the humanities; and ongoing strength in intercollegiate athletics.

“In light of our progress, but also given the social and economic disruption catalyzed by the pandemic, now it is time to ask ‘What’s next?’ It is time to update our plan for the next five to seven years. We will not deviate from the mission, commitments and strategic objectives laid

out in the current plan, which have served as an effective north star,” McCulloh said.

Strategic Planning

Guiding the revision of the strategic plan was top of the priority list when **Sacha Kopp** joined GU as provost in summer 2022, bringing with him extensive experience in public higher education coupled with a passion for mission-based work. Launching a discovery process called The Grand Challenge, Kopp has asked faculty and staff to submit proposals for actionable items related to five areas: academic scholarship, research and creative work; holistic student development; faculty and staff development and retention; sustainability of environmental and operational resources; and new degrees, certificates and credentials.

“What aggressive goals will we seek and what will make us current in 2030 that we didn’t know in 2010?” he asked.

“Economic access will be key,” he said, along with “providing a different set of support services for transfer students, adult learners and professionals.”

Nearly every sector – from business and government to education, technology and health care – is looking at how to build and engage the workforce through professional development. “Certification programs are more needed now than ever,” Kopp said. “Companies are developing learning certificate programs for their employees. Why not us? A foundation for this is already in place through the School of Leadership Studies; we simply need to build more and provide the credentials professionals are seeking.”

And yet, as vital as economic access and program innovation are, Kopp believes Gonzaga’s biggest challenge and opportunity is its mission.

“We have to renew our commitment to mission every day,” he said. “Our mission includes a commitment to social justice, living and learning in community, development of the whole person, as well as how we attend to spiritual, health and social development within an academic institution. It also involves critical inquiry by those who ask hard questions of their community and society.”

“One of our biggest accomplishments going forward will be to develop a renewed mission focus as a team,” Kopp said. **Ellen Maccarone**, associate professor of philosophy and former faculty adviser to the president, is acting vice president of the Office of Mission Integration, which has continued to bolster faculty and staff mission formation programming.





DeSmet Hall, Gonzaga's oldest residence hall

Housing Solutions

It has been 13 years since new housing became available on Gonzaga's campus, with Coughlin Hall opening in 2009. In that time, enrollment has grown, retention rates have increased and some dormitory floors have been repurposed for other University uses. However, those are not the primary reasons Student Affairs Vice Provost **Kent Porterfield** believes it's time to update campus housing.

"We desire to serve student needs better, offer a residential experience that enhances student learning and provides opportunities for more upper-division students to live on campus," Porterfield says.

He and Chief Strategy Officer **Chuck Murphy** are leading the creation of a master facilities plan to improve the quality of existing housing and amplify the student experience through integrating learning and developmental opportunities with well-situated common spaces for socializing and studying.

A firm specializing in college housing needs conducted a physical assessment of Gonzaga's campus and existing facilities, as well as a market analysis and review of practices among competitive universities. Recommended for long-term planning is the development of housing

units specifically for first-year students, sophomores or upper-division students, with the individual facilities in the same vicinity sharing outdoor spaces. The priority in implementing "village" style environments is to address the biggest gap currently challenging existing resources: dedicated space for sophomores.

With a long-term plan likely to actualize over many years, Porterfield is hopeful the University can begin building sophomore housing in summer 2023.

Inspiring Support

The proposals faculty and staff members develop for The Grand Challenge also provide necessary direction for other critical work at the University, namely fundraising. **Joe Poss**, vice president of University Advancement, is eager to invite the broader GU community to help advance ideas that come from the process through philanthropic support.

Advancement's goal is to engage alumni and benefactors in envisioning Gonzaga's future and encouraging participation in fundraising efforts.

continued

Proposals submitted to Provost Kopp for strategic planning consideration are being organized into four or five signature ideas to discuss with vital partners and benefactors.

“We’re committed to creating compelling cases for support and engaging with stakeholders to infuse momentum from those who are inspired by what a Jesuit education at Gonzaga can do for our students and our world,” Poss says.

A New Direction for Admission

Julie McCulloh, longtime leader of undergraduate admission, became associate provost for the Office of Enrollment Management in 2019, catalyzing necessary integration between undergraduate and graduate admission. This year, her team has launched a strategic enrollment plan with a mission to “intentionally diversify Gonzaga’s student body and strengthen its academic offerings, both influenced by the fostering of external partnerships and with a focus on experiential learning, always valuing and being informed by the tradition of Jesuit education.”

This vision is:

- » **mission-focused, with specific attention to the Spokane region and a more diverse student population;**
- » **responsive to external market shifts, aligning Gonzaga’s academic portfolio with market demands to generate growth at the graduate level;**
- » **dedicated to Gonzaga’s sustainability, with growth in graduate and non-degree-seeking populations to protect the financial stability of the University.**

From those pedestals come priorities to refine strategies for recruitment, marketing and financial aid.

In addition, McCulloh says: “We need to strengthen our student success infrastructure, coordinating operations and analytic support to enhance the progression of at-risk populations, and respond to demands for certificates and accelerated professional programs. We also need to identify mechanisms that will incentivize program growth to drive revenue.”

Lifelong Learning

The launch of the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL) in 2022 puts some of the strategies within the strategic enrollment plan into action. While Gonzaga’s School of Leadership Studies has offered certificates and professional training and development programs for several years, continuing education offerings in other areas had been minimal or nonexistent. **Jolanta Weber**,

vice provost of academic affairs administration and Gonzaga leader since 1988, has guided the development of the CLL, recognizing the untapped potential among the College of Arts and Sciences, and schools of engineering, nursing and human physiology, business and education.

“Gonzaga has a significant opportunity to leverage its brand, excellent faculty, subject-matter experts and network to provide companies with professional development,” says **Rachelle Strawther**, CLL director. “Other institutions are providing courses that our instructors are well-qualified to teach, and we know the value the Gonzaga name would provide to many who want to improve or advance in their careers.”

The vision for the CLL, guided in part by Strawther’s prior experience as director of the training and development program in the School of Leadership Studies, is to “create pathways for people from all backgrounds and educational levels to learn and grow at Gonzaga University.”

Beyond continuing education and professional development, the CLL also will have personal enrichment offerings, available to people of high-school age and up, via workshops, retreats or academic camps.

The concept is not new, but it is expanding rapidly. Ample data shows this is the future, and most institutions are lagging. As Gonzaga increases its focus, it will be critical to differentiate from other programs.

“The Center for Lifelong Learning will design certificates with intentionality, based on the needs of the students and what will help them learn best,” Strawther says. “Certificates already offered (through Gonzaga’s School of Leadership Studies) boast a 95% completion rate, and that’s in large part due to the highly relational aspect of our courses. The students engage regularly with their instructors and peers, even outside of class for networking.”

Strawther seeks to increase certificate offerings and other non-degree professional development options quickly, with five new certificates by fall 2023.

Inclusive Excellence

Chief Diversity Officer **Robin Kelley**, who heads the Office of Inclusive Excellence (formerly the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) is rolling out a strategic plan that follows the framework of the University’s strategic plan and creates a roadmap to achieve aspirations to be more inclusive and equitable.

“We want to embody our educational mission authentically in an increasingly culturally diverse context,” Kelley says. “In keeping with our Catholic, Jesuit and humanistic identity, we want to foster the holistic development of our students, preparing them for social justice-driven citizenship and leadership.”



The six priorities in the Inclusive Excellence strategic plan are:

- » Recruitment, retention and success
- » Campus climate and intergroup relationships
- » Teaching, scholarship and service
- » Education, training and development
- » Community relations and partnerships
- » Assessment, reporting and accountability

Objectives include increasing the representation of culturally diverse populations among all components of the campus, from students to faculty, staff and administrative leadership. Also important is reducing the incidence of bias complaints, offering incentives to faculty and staff who pursue related training, and promoting engagement in multicultural activities by all campus communities.

Reflecting the continual concerns from groups who feel marginalized in predominantly white institutions, Gonzaga's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts are branching out to focus on belonging.

"One of the most significant rewards in life is the sense of belonging. The need to feel that we belong is strong within each of us," Kelley says. "With Gonzaga's faith-inspired

mission, we engage in more intentional actions to honor the human dignity of all members."

Within the division of Student Affairs, Gonzaga created in 2022 two positions to improve service to students through Diversity, Inclusion, Community and Equity (DICE). Of note, 2023 marks the 25th anniversary of the Unity Multicultural Education Center, an opportunity to celebrate, educate and connect.

» Join Us in the Journey

Find your place within this dynamic moment in Gonzaga's history.

- » For links to programs and plans mentioned: gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare
- » Share feedback: gonzaga.edu/editor
- » Talk with a gift officer about ways to offer support with a donation: **Jeff Geldien, geldien@gonzaga.edu or (509) 313-6213.**

The University of Washington School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Health Partnership building, located on Spokane Falls Boulevard.



UWSOM-GU Health Partnership Building Opens

In September, the navy blue of Gonzaga University and the purple of the University of Washington paired perfectly at the long-awaited grand opening of the new UW School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Health Partnership building.

Hundreds of school representatives, dignitaries, supporters and community members gathered outside the impressive four-story facility, which also is home to GU's Department of Human Physiology.

Initial conversations about the two universities joining in a new physical space began nearly a decade ago (2014) as rural communities of Washington state sat in dire need of medical providers. The unique partnership "between two great universities, one public and one independent, ushers in a new chapter of medical education in Spokane," said Gonzaga President Thayne McCulloh.

Dean Allen, managing partner of Emerald Initiative and CEO of McKinstry, the company behind the design and construction of the innovative new facility, praised the building's unique aspects, from the heating and cooling system that takes advantage of the natural aquifer below the building to the complete absence of carbon-based fuels in its functionality.

"Important buildings come via great partnerships," Allen said. "And great partnerships benefit from shared values and aspirations."

Human Physiology Moves In

Gonzaga's human physiology department started the 2022-23 academic year in the new facility, with eight sophisticated labs for teaching and research, plus expanded classrooms and networking areas to allow GU students to connect with and work alongside medical students from the University of Washington School of Medicine.

"This new space is world class," said David Thorp, department chair during the planning stages. "We've targeted teaching and research space that makes best use of the faculty's expertise."

"Our entire department is thrilled about our incredible new capability to improve student learning and student research," said Ryan McCulloch, the new chair of human physiology. "We've already begun to host students in our lab spaces, and they are amazed by our new spaces and capabilities."

» Explore online:
gonzaga.edu/HealthPartnership

Enriching STEM Exploration

During the spring, faculty and students moved into new spaces in the building they helped design – the John and Joan Bollier Family Center for Integrated Science and Engineering (pictured below).

Among the 18 labs is a math learning center that supports students across programs, as well as providing outreach and tutoring to local K-12 students. Chemistry and biochemistry labs will investigate parasitic, viral and bacterial diseases, along with cancer-cell growth. The two-story structural lab will help expand the construction and structural industry’s understanding of recycled and natural materials.

“With student project labs, natural science labs, engineering labs and meeting spaces galore, this will be the new heart of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) on campus,” said Mechanical Engineering Associate Professor Tim Fitzgerald. He was particularly excited about conducting large-scale vibration studies and fatigue testing on parts designed and built by undergraduate research students and senior design teams.

“I feel energized to have such state-of-the-art teaching, lab and project space to help us better inspire our students in both the classroom and through research projects,” said Civil Engineering Professor Sue Niezgodna.

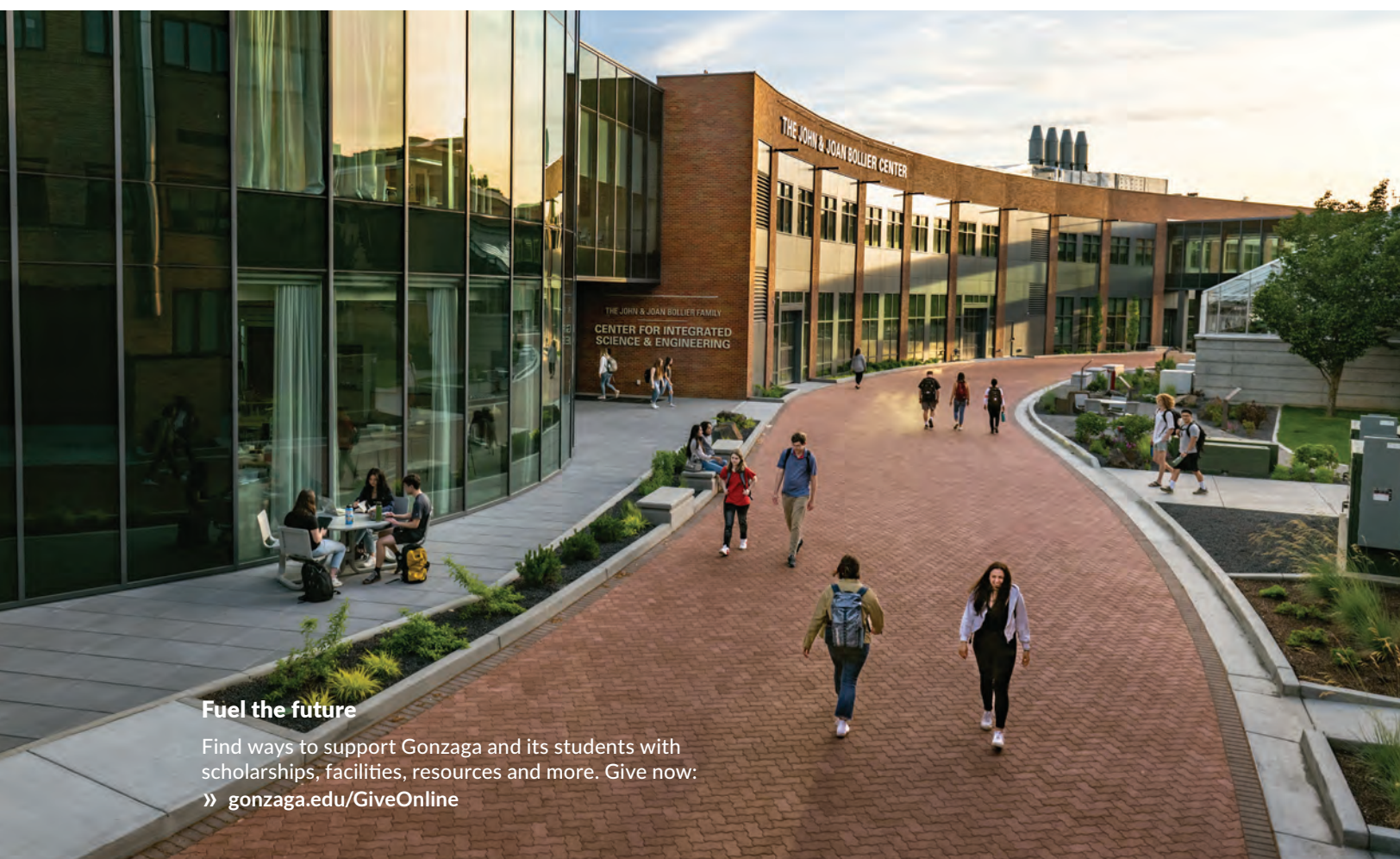
Computer Science Assistant Professor Gina Sprint marveled that all computer science professors are housed along one corridor in the Bollier Center. Previously, their offices and labs were in two other facilities.

“I love that Bollier has been filled with students from so many different STEM majors since the first day it opened,” said Jennifer Shepherd, professor of chemistry and biochemistry. “I am most impressed by the open design of Bollier that connects offices, study spaces, research labs and teaching labs; the architecture naturally facilitates collaboration between students and faculty in the STEM disciplines. We are incredibly fortunate to have this state-of-the-art facility on the Gonzaga campus.”

The Bollier Center, alongside the PACCAR building, Herak Center and Hughes Hall, increases Gonzaga’s space for STEM education to 270,000 square feet.

» Explore online: gonzaga.edu/BollierCenter

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Fuel the future

Find ways to support Gonzaga and its students with scholarships, facilities, resources and more. Give now:

» gonzaga.edu/GiveOnline

New Leadership



Sacha Kopp

Provost

Provost Kopp succeeded Deena González as provost, following a stint as senior vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. There, he led the academic enterprise and launched numerous strategic planning and campus engagement endeavors in collaboration with student affairs, finance, enrollment management, advancement, and diversity, equity and inclusion. Kopp also held administrative and faculty positions at Syracuse University, the University of Texas at Austin and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Educated in Catholic elementary and secondary schools – and inspired by his father, who served on the faculty of a Catholic college for 40 years – Kopp is excited to serve an institution committed to education of the whole person in the context of a Catholic, Jesuit and humanistic tradition.

Ellen Maccarone

Acting Vice President for Mission Integration

Following the departure of Michelle Wheatley ('07, '12 M.A.), the first woman and layperson to fill the highest role in mission at the University, Gonzaga named Ellen Maccarone as acting vice president for Mission Integration. Maccarone, associate professor of philosophy and faculty adviser to the president, worked diligently to incorporate Ignatian pedagogy and practices from the Jesuit intellectual tradition into her teaching. She has participated in many Jesuit mission formation projects since joining the University, and helped to lead many related endeavors, including the faculty Scholars for Mission program, the Mission Fellowship Evaluation Committee, Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life and Core Curriculum Fellows for Mission.



Ray Kliewer

Vice President of Human Resources

Filling Gonzaga's first chief of Human Resources role, Kliewer was previously the HR lead for the School of Medicine at Indiana University. A native of Louisville, Kentucky, he holds degrees from the University of Louisville, along with a number of professional certificates in areas such as employee benefits law, executive coaching and leadership training. Kliewer brings nearly 30 years of experience in human resource management and a passion for building HR competencies and outcomes across the organization.

Deeper Learning

The newly established **Institute for Research and Interdisciplinary Initiatives**, under the direction of Associate Provost Paul Bracke, enables the University to leverage opportunities for both faculty and student research, and provides a catalyst for interdisciplinary projects.

Gonzaga's three libraries (Foley, main campus; Chastek, Law; and Gonzaga in Florence) were accepted as members of the Orbis Cascade Alliance, whose mission pushes the boundaries of what is possible in library services through strategic collaboration in the Pacific Northwest.

Rob McCann ('06 Ph.D.), president and CEO of Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington, spoke on "Lifeguards, Hikers and Mathematicians," about the sobering realities and consequences of intergenerational poverty. The presentation launched the **School of Education's Hope Dialogues**, a lecture series presented by the School's Office of a Pedagogy of Hope through Research and Practice.

Gonzaga completed a yearlong celebration of the **School of Business Administration's centennial**. Founded in 1921 to help stock the fledgling city with business leaders, bankers, accountants, economists, financial and trade experts, the school (shown below) has become one of the most prestigious business schools in the western U.S.





Members of Gonzaga's and Spokane's Jewish communities celebrated the gift of a copy of the Torah, the sacred text of the Jewish faith.

In All Things: Justice

Addressing many forms of justice – social, environmental, political – is a common thread in opportunities presented by Gonzaga's academic departments.

- » The School of **Education** teaches future educators to see the ways many students are overlooked. An event with Spokane Odyssey Youth Movement offered data on the impacts of homophobia and transphobia on students. A Teacher Education Talk (T.Ed. Talk) explored examples of white nationalist recruitment efforts occurring in local schools, and specific targeting of members of the autistic community to join racist endeavors.
- » The School of **Law** sponsored a talk on criminal justice, mental health and the media; a daylong symposium on children's human rights; a summer symposium in Florence on artificial intelligence, government, corporations and human rights; and a webinar with Michelle Alexander, renowned author of "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness." Notably, the school began a partnership with Heritage University in Toppenish to increase access for Indigenous and Latinx students in Central Washington to explore law school.
- » In the School of **Business Administration**, special lectures covered topics such as housing affordability and immigration. Two entrepreneurial business students won funding for their individual projects aimed at serving people with disabilities.
- » The College of **Arts and Sciences** created a minor in health equity – a multidisciplinary approach to exploring the social determinants of health, health care inequities and structural impacts on the health of communities. Courses include sociology, biology, Spanish, women's and gender studies, solidarity and social justice, and economics, with potential for opportunities with the UW-GU Health Partnership.
- » More than 450 people from 30 states and 15 countries engaged in the **Center for the Study of Hate's** sixth International Conference on Hate Studies, "Justice and Equity: Challenging Hate and Inspiring Hope." Gonzaga's Journal of Hate Studies published a special edition titled "Hate Amid the Pandemic." The Eva Lassman Award honored the Asian Pacific Island Coalition of Spokane and Limerick University's European Centre for the Study of Hate.
- » Analyzing the documentary "Picture a Scientist," a panel of **female scientists** and students raised an important question: "How do we engage more women in STEM at Gonzaga?"
- » Gonzaga students Shyh Saenz ('23) and Anasofia Gutierrez ('22) were among 100 students from Catholic and secular universities across the Americas helping to launch "**The Building Bridges Initiative**" in a videoconference with Pope Francis.

Faculty & Staff Accomplishments

Funded

Humanities

Katey Roden, English professor and director of digital humanities, and **Greg Gordon**, chair and professor of environmental studies, received a \$29,329 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant to develop a digital platform that will allow neighborhoods in northeast Spokane impacted by the North Spokane Corridor to celebrate their histories.

Biology

David Boose, chair of the biology department, landed a \$25,400 start-up research grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, which, matched by Gonzaga funds, supplied equipment and summer research stipends to a new field ecologist, **Jens Hegg**, whose research addresses conservation and resource management.

John Orcutt, biology, also received funds from the Murdock Trust. His research in mammalian evolution received international attention following his discovery of a giant saber-tooth cat that lived 5 to 9 million years ago in North America.

Appointed

Carol Kottwitz, associate professor and director of Gonzaga's psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program, was elected a member of the Class of 2022 Fellows by the National Academies of Practice.

Kevin McQuilkin ('83) joined the School of Business Administration as its first Executive in Residence. He brings experience as managing director of mergers and acquisitions for Wells Fargo Securities after serving in similar positions at both Deutsche Bank Securities and JP Morgan Securities.

Jeffery Ramirez, psychiatric nurse practitioner and professor in the School of Nursing and Human Physiology, is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

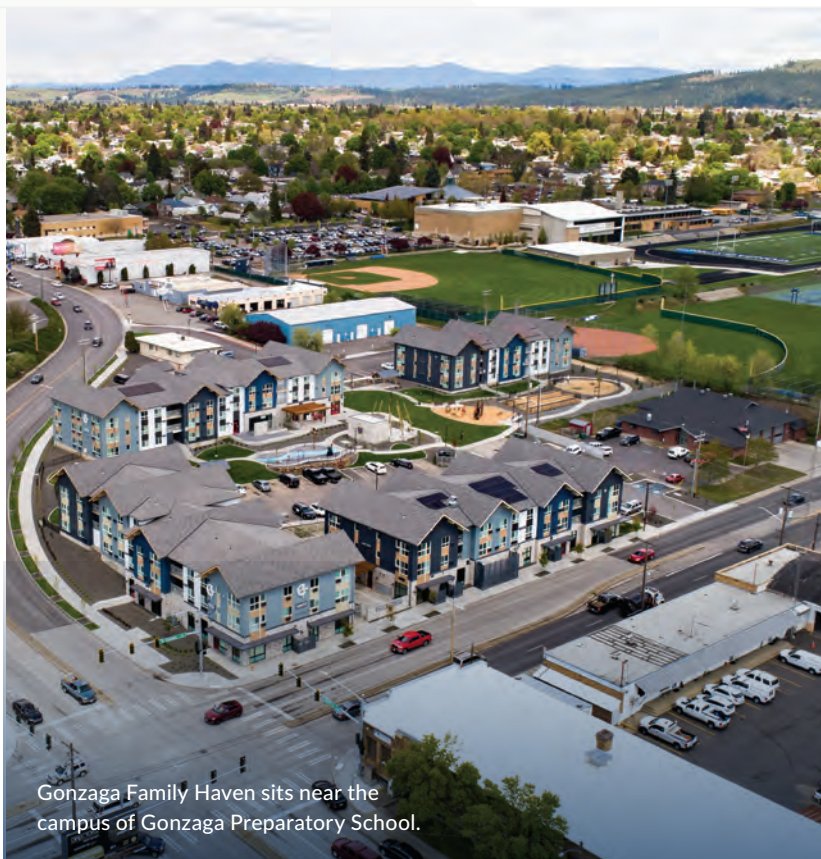
Recognized

Molly Ayers, senior director of the Center for Community Engagement, received the 2021 Ignatian Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Jesuit Student Affairs from the Jesuit Association of Student Personnel Administrators, representing all 27 Jesuit institutions of higher education in the U.S.

» Find many more: news.gonzaga.edu

In the Community

- » Gonzaga University partnered with Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington, Gonzaga Prep and St. Aloysius Parish to open **Gonzaga Family Haven** (at right) for 73 disadvantaged families, offering housing, support and education.
- » In partnership with the city of Spokane, the School of Leadership Studies introduced the **Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy** to offer education and training to neighborhood leaders, aiming to provide the skills that neighborhood council volunteers need to be effective.
- » Sixteen rising ninth- and 10th-graders from John R. Rogers High School participated in **Catalyst**, a three-day program on the Gonzaga campus. Part of the University's Opportunity Northeast initiative, Catalyst engaged students in a personal narrative course, dance movement class, and provided other opportunities to experience a glimpse of college life.



Gonzaga Family Haven sits near the campus of Gonzaga Preparatory School.

Student Accomplishments

Entrepreneurship

Siena Merrin ('24), Hayley Mosby ('24) and Kate Sprague ('24) won first place at the Sparks Weekend entrepreneurship competition, making them eligible for \$50,000 in seed money for their business, Zaps. Anna Deschane ('24), joined a team that won second place for its venture, Gameleon Boards.

Debate

After victory in the prestigious Lafayette Debates in Washington, D.C., debaters Molly Martin ('22) and Avalyn Renee ('23) presented their research on the United Nations' New Urban Agenda to the top U.N. official overseeing its implementation.

Science

Cassidy Sebastian ('22) won the poster prize in biochemistry at the Murdock College Science Research Conference.

Leadership

Ten doctoral, graduate and undergraduate students from Gonzaga's School of Leadership Studies participated in the Brussels European Forum, a weeklong intensive global leadership experience including simulations of the North Atlantic Council, Foreign Affairs Council and G-20.

Business

The Master of Business Administration program placed No. 29 in the Corporate Knights 2021 Better World MBA ranking, maintaining its top 30 position and again recognizing its emphasis on sustainability in course content and faculty research. Only seven U.S. programs are ranked higher than Gonzaga's.

For the third time in six years, students in a Gonzaga finance class won the top award among 21 schools participating in the Student Investment Program sponsored by D.A. Davidson & Co.

Athletic Success

Gonzaga's nearly 350 student-athletes earned an all-time high grade point average of 3.45, with women's tennis leading with a 3.73 GPA. GU's graduation rate for student-athletes who complete their eligibility at Gonzaga is 98%, best in the West Coast Conference and tied for second in the nation. Zags also contributed 2,429 hours of service to the Spokane community.

- » Men's basketball earned its seventh straight Sweet Sixteen® appearance, the longest stretch of any college in the country, and ranked No. 1 for nine weeks
- » Women's basketball enjoyed its 13th NCAA tournament appearance and 10th West Coast Conference tournament title
- » Baseball reached a national ranking of No. 10, and its 12th trip to the NCAA Tournament
- » Women's rowing captured its 20th WCC championship and placed 18th at the NCAA championships
- » 3 runners advanced to the NCAA regionals in women's track, and women's cross country climbed to No. 29 in national rankings
- » 4 men's track runners advanced to the NCAA Regionals; men's cross country ranked 13th
- » Women's soccer earned its most wins in program history at 15 and ranked No. 16 nationally

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Alumni Energy

With a slight ease in pandemic precautions, Alumni Relations staff were thrilled to get back to what they do best – gather with alumni on campus and around the country. They welcomed the return of many in-person events after a two-year hiatus, including alumni socials at the WCC and NCAA tournaments; the Alumni Scholarship Benefit; not one, but two summer reunions; and Zagapalooza, an all-class reunion this fall.

Alumni leaders planned a special belated commencement celebration with the Class of 2020, which never had an in-person graduation ceremony during the pandemic. Highlights included a graduation ceremony at the Spokane Arena, a special Mass, reception and champagne toast on campus. The energy and enthusiasm were truly contagious.

For all those in attendance at the Class of 2020 celebration and the Class of 2022 commencement, a new tradition began: All graduates received their diplomas and a commemorative license plate frame as a reminder that they will always be part of the GU family.

Other engagement activities over the past year:

- » Alumni Relations hosted **seven career Treks** in cities across the U.S. for current students and alumni to explore employment opportunities.
- » The **Zag Business Directory** launched on Gonzaga Day, Feb. 12.
- » The inaugural Gonzaga alumni affinity community – the **Alumni of Color Community** – held its first virtual event in June.
- » **Chapter programming**, including game watches, professional networking, family events and lifelong learning, resumed across the country and around the world.
- » The **Distinguished Alumni Awards**, celebrating the School of Business centennial, recognized the impactful work of five Gonzaga alumni and friends during the Ignatian Gala. (See p. 28.)
- » **Zags Night at the Mariners** returned with more than 1,800 Zags in attendance and included a special celebration honoring the life of assistant baseball coach Danny Evans ('03), who passed away after a yearlong battle with cancer.

Looking Ahead

Another Alumni affinity group, the Military Service Community, will launch in spring 2023.

» Stay involved: gonzaga.edu/alumni

» Watch a special Zagapalooza recap video: gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare



Noteworthy

Abundant Support

The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust issued Gonzaga a \$1.6 million grant, Murdock's largest commitment to the University, for Gonzaga's transformational John and Joan Bollier Family Center for Integrated Science and Engineering.

During the past year, the University received six gifts in excess of \$1 million, including the lead gift by John and Joan Bollier for the Integrated Science and Engineering facility; a gift to match more than \$2 million in gifts to the building and its operation by Jeff and Margaret Reed; \$5 million from Terry and Patt Payne to support scholarships for high-achieving, low-income students; two significant contributions by McKinstry CEO Dean and Vicki Allen to the Health Partnership Building construction and student research opportunities; \$2 million from Dan and Cecelia Regis to establish the Jud Regis Chair in Accounting; and \$1 million from Thomas Woodley to support political science, among other generous gifts.

Worthy Recognition

At the May 2022 Commencement ceremonies, Gonzaga bestowed honorary degrees on West Coast Conference Commissioner Gloria Nevarez, businessman and philanthropist Terry Payne, entrepreneurs and hoteliers Walt and Karen Worthy, difference-maker in education Angela Jones ('16 J.D.), and Holocaust survivor Carla Peperzak. Former Washington Gov. Christine Gregoire ('77 J.D.) received the Law Medal.

Climate Health & Sustainability

Gonzaga became the first U.S. university to commit to the Laudato Si Action Platform inspired by Pope Francis' 2015 ecological encyclical, "Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home."

The newly launched **Center for Climate, Society and the Environment** received a \$100,000 ClimeTime grant from the Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to support climate literacy. Faculty in teacher education offered professional development workshops for K-12 teachers, with a focus on climate change and climate science as a local issue with hope for local community solutions.

The center also was one of 30 semifinalists for the 2022 American Climate Leadership Awards, and hosted Washington Gov. Jay Inslee for discussion on the need for developing viable solutions. These are but a few of many activities the Climate Center has supported since its inception.

Two student-centered projects addressed energy costs and carbon footprints. The **Gonzaga Sustainable Energy Club** helped secure solar panels for Transitions, a Spokane nonprofit, to save an estimated \$116,000 over the course of 20 years. Through the Climate Center, a window-weatherization program assisted students residing in the Logan Neighborhood.

The League of American Bicyclists named Gonzaga University a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly University campus for promoting and enabling safe, accessible bicycling.

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Centennial Honors

The School of Business Administration honored five individuals at the Ignatian Gala, culminating the School's centennial. Shown here, left to right: **Ken Anderson**, dean ('81); **Kevin McQuilkin** ('83), Service to Gonzaga Award; **Terry Coombes**, Faculty-Staff Award; **Callie Johnson** ('15), Recent Alumni Award; **Xochitl Velazquez** ('12), Service to the Community Award; **Kevin Daniels** ('79), Professional Achievement Award; and **Molly Pepper**, associate dean.



Mission Formation for Faculty & Staff

Within the Office of Mission Integration, mission formation for employees has become a greater focus and is supported more robustly now through staffing, budget and programming. As an institution of higher education, the professional and personal development of Gonzaga employees is a priority. Additionally, for students to be formed in the Catholic, Jesuit tradition, the faculty and staff who engage with them in and out of the classroom must also be formed in that tradition and embody it in their work. Mission Integration now offers multiyear cohort-based programs as well as standalone offerings that are intellectual, spiritual and experiential in nature, to facilitate personal appropriation and application in one's role and field.

Formation Opportunities

- » 18 faculty completed the level one Ignatian Mission Formation Program
- » 6 faculty members completed level two, the Arrupe Seminar
- » 15 staff members from across the University participated in the pilot cohort of the Cardoner Staff Formation Program – a two-year commitment
- » 21 employees gathered for Conversations on Conversations to discuss articles in the Jesuit higher education magazine

Spirituality Offerings

- » 12 employees participated in the First Spiritual Exercises, a 4-week mini-retreat in daily life
- » 9 employees participated in a summer mission book club
- » 50 people shared in a prayer experience called Visio Divina, using Scripture passages and illuminated images from the University's edition of the St. John's Bible, during Lent and Advent
- » Employees who are alumni of SEEL (9-month Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life) gathered for prayer, conversation and shared discernment about support for their spiritual growth at the University
- » 39 faculty and staff members engaged in the Synod on Synodality, with 13 as facilitators and 26 as participants

Mission staff members also provided team retreats; engagement in New Employee Experience and New Faculty Orientation; support for Organizational Development; consultation for learning assessment and Ignatian pedagogy; care for those on the periphery; and collaboration, partnership and fun with Staff Assembly.

» Explore more: gonzaga.edu/mission

AS OF MAY 31, IN MILLIONS

(Amounts derived from audited financial statements)

GROSS OPERATING REVENUES

\$395.0M

2022

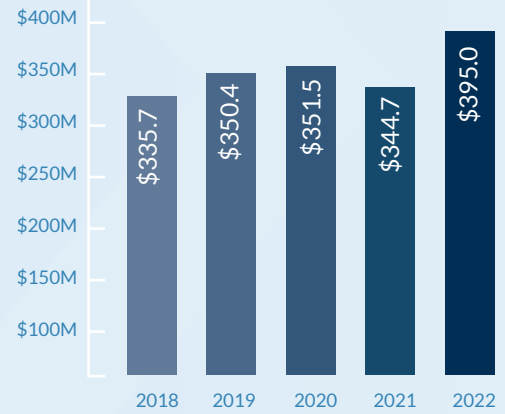
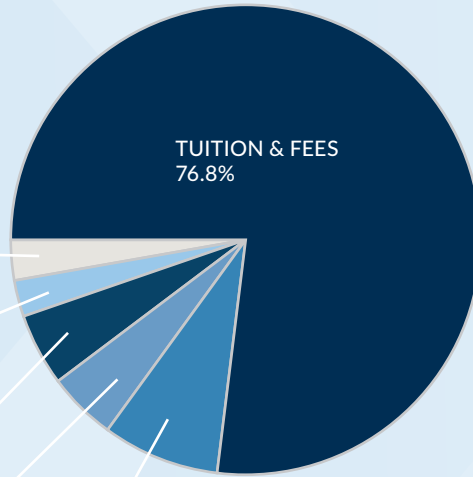
RETURN ON INVESTMENTS
*designated or distributed for
operating activities*
3.0%

GRANTS & CONTRACTS
2.6%

CONTRIBUTIONS
4.9%

OTHER SOURCES
4.8%

AUXILIARY ENTERPRISES
7.9%



GROSS OPERATING EXPENSES

\$388.8M

2022

DEPRECIATION & AMORTIZATION
4.8%

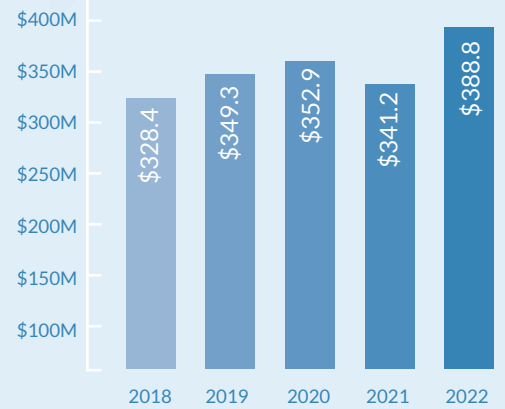
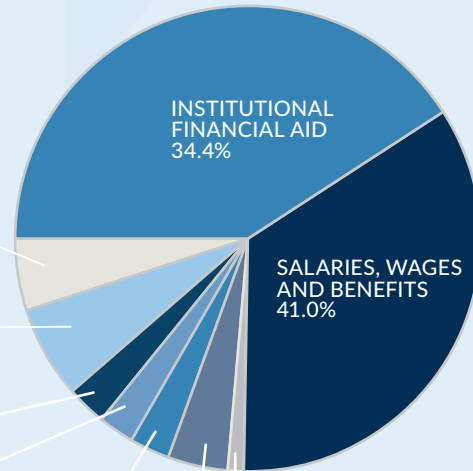
PROFESSIONAL FEES & CONTRACTED SERVICES
6.4%

MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, PRINTING & POSTAGE
2.9%

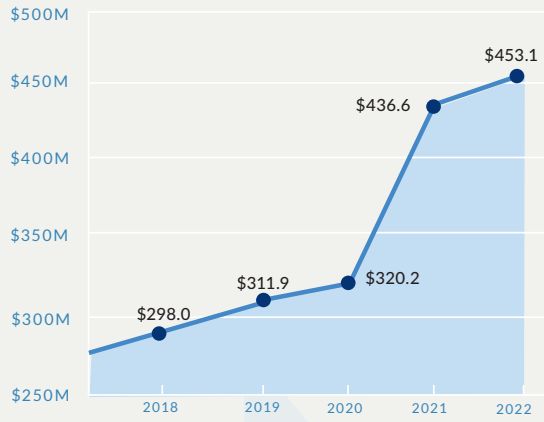
MEETING, TRAVEL & MEMBERSHIPS
2.8%

INTEREST
2.3%

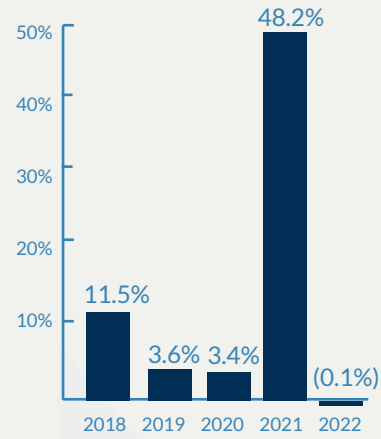
OCCUPANCY, UTILITIES & MAINTENANCE
4.3%



ENDOWMENTS AND LIFE INCOME VALUES

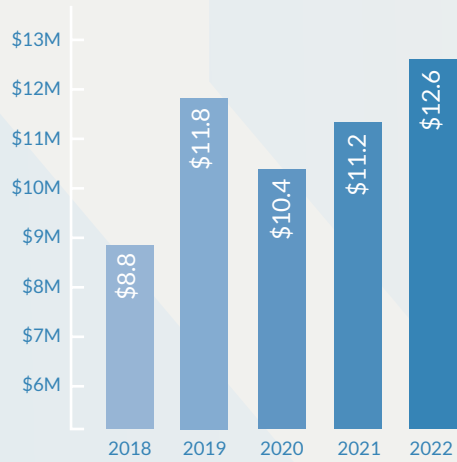


ENDOWMENT RETURN, AS OF MAY 31

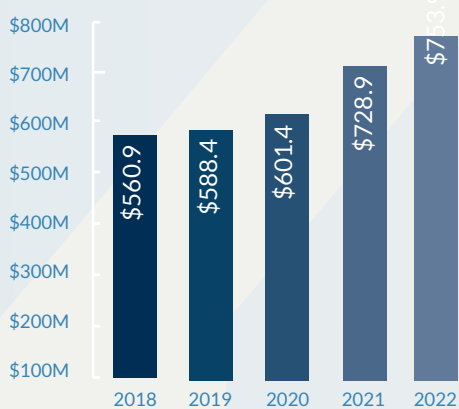


The endowment is designed to generate at least a 7% average annual return over a longer term, recognizing that performance can vary significantly from year to year. The 10-year annualized return through May 31, 2022 was 11.1%.

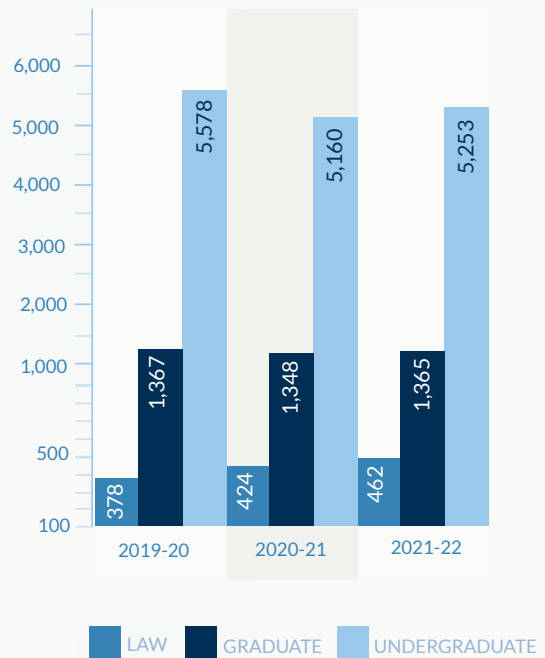
ENDOWMENT SPENDING



NET ASSETS



FULL TIME EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT (FALL)





THE SPIRES SOCIETY

The Spires Society honors and celebrates the incredible generosity and leadership of those who have made lifetime gifts, pledges or estate provisions of \$1 million and above to help support Gonzaga University.

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The following donors are part of Gonzaga's Leadership Circle and have made gifts of \$50,000 or more to the 2022 Annual Campaign (June 1, 2021-May 31, 2022). These contributions help various programs, initiatives and infrastructures at the University run efficiently. † = Deceased

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These individuals have given to Gonzaga University for a total of 50 or more years, through May 31, 2022. Their generosity has helped create the special place that Gonzaga University has been and will continue to be far into the future. † = Deceased

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|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 1949 | Charlie O'Connor54 | 1960 | Jeanette (Jenny) Nelles54 |
| 1950 | Dr. John F. Comfort.....56 | | Guy Ossello58 |
| | Bill Eng61 | | John Quinlan †58 |
| 1951 | Gladys (Cerenzia) Peretti56 | | Rojean Siljeg60 |
| 1953 | Joan M. (Treibel) Kilian54 | 1961 | Michael Seubert51 |
| | Wil Loeken56 | | Ted Sivalon57 |
| | Raymond W. Murphy56 | 1962 | Peter G. Banulis54 |
| 1954 | Patrick Riley60 | | Ann M. (Allen) Porter52 |
| | Lester Schwaegler, Jr.57 | | H. Eugene Quinn52 |
| 1955 | Jerry Monks56 | 1963 | Donald Bodeau51 |
| | Dr. Willard J. Wyman59 | | The Honorable Richard Schroeder ..53 |
| 1956 | Gayle (Neumann) Dever54 | 1964 | Merrilu (Silva) Sloboda56 |
| | George Fish60 | | Rosemary (Dellwo) Toft †54 |
| | Bethine J. (Hess) Kenworthy58 | 1965 | Norman R. Agostino.....55 |
| | Helen Ferry McDuffie53 | | Stephen T. Cavit51 |
| | Shirley A. (Duffner) Morphy56 | | K. Nozaki Ewing51 |
| | Marty Weber60 | | David R. Shea50 |
| 1957 | Ernie Becker † and Anita Morphy ...55 | | Eugene D. Sloboda56 |
| | The Honorable Robert J. Doran56 | 1966 | Elena J. (Cinelli) Agostino55 |
| | Joe J. Schauble63 | | Christopher Bulger50 |
| | Gerald Shaw56 | | Stephanie A. (Cada) Burke52 |
| | Al Stadtmueller50 | | Elaine (Duffy) Cavit50 |
| 1958 | Va Lena (Scarpelli) Curran53 | 1967 | Robert N. Greco50 |
| | Mr. John H. Hanson56 | | Dennis O. Mayer53 |
| | Colleen (Kane) Meighan61 | | Tom Nollette, Sr.53 |
| | Jacob W. Meighan61 | 1968 | Christy E. (Smith) de Viveiros54 |
| | Jim Ringwood55 | | Dale de Viveiros54 |
| | Roger J. Roman58 | | Colleen (Eugene) Flynn50 |
| | Ernie Vollmer60 | | Nancy D. McDonald52 |
| 1959 | Leo Finnegan62 | 1969 | Dennis A. Kamimura50 |
| | Jim Garvey53 | | Leo Mellon50 |
| | Mary Lou Lane53 | | J. Patrick Naughton, Ed.D.52 |
| | Paul N. Luvera60 | | Patricia (Eakin) Smith50 |
| | Donald P. Nelles †54 | 1970 | Dorothy Mellon50 |
| | Emmett Quinn52 | | Theresa (Auer) Tesarik52 |
| | The Honorable Philip M. | | Georgia R. Wilkinson50 |
| | Raekes52 | 1971 | Bill Barkas50 |
| | Bernadette (Suva) Renouard52 | | Douglas R. Tesarik52 |
| | Edward J. Renouard52 | 1972 | J. Shirley (Draska) Davis50 |
| | Sharon K. (Rusing) Roman58 | 1974 | Mark Sonderen55 |
| | Dr. Richard S. Rosler55 | | Valerie Sonderen55 |
| | Carolyn (Magee) Schauble63 | 1975 | Bart Gallant52 |
| 1960 | Don Curran53 | 1977 | Lita B. (Barnett) Luvera60 |
| | Sylvia Friede52 | | Chuck Steilen51 |
| | Alex Herzog57 | 1983 | Lindalou (Cady) Shea 50 |
| | Joan (Enders) Morgenstern57 | | |

Heritage Society

Gonzaga is honored and grateful to have received estate gifts between June 1, 2021, and May 31, 2022 from the following alumni and friends whose legacies have an impact on the following areas:

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- **Melanie A. Homan ('67)** provided a gift from her trust for the Gonzaga in Florence Discretionary Fund/Legacy Fund in honor of her Florence experience.

GENERAL SUPPORT

- An unrestricted gift was made from the late **Henry L. Day's** donor-advised fund in support of the Fund for Gonzaga.
- A bequest in support of Gonzaga's mission was received from **Cathy Elting ('58)** on behalf of her late husband, Jim, by way of the Elting Family Trust.
- **R. Bruce Hankins ('62)** made a gift in support of the University's greatest needs by listing Gonzaga as a beneficiary of his life insurance policy.
- **Dolly M. Ito ('51)** made an unrestricted gift from her will, which was added to the Fund for Gonzaga.
- **Gregory P. Ruff ('81)** made his ultimate gift for the benefit of Gonzaga University as a residual beneficiary of his estate.

SCHOLARSHIPS - ENDOWED

- **Hilario (Larry) J. Arguinchona** made Gonzaga the beneficiary of his IRA for the benefit of the Tony Arguinchona Memorial Endowed Scholarship fund.
- The remainder of a charitable gift annuity established by **Robert W. Bratton** was added to the Lawrence F. ('27 and '29), Kathleen Connolly and Aileen Connolly Bratton Scholarship for students with financial need.
- By listing Gonzaga as a beneficiary of his retirement account and life insurance policy, **Richard J. DeBlieck** made a gift in support of the Richard J. DeBlieck Endowed Scholarship for students majoring in biology and biochemistry.

- Through a provision in his trust, **Kevin J. Kenneally ('72)** made his ultimate gift in support of the Fr. Donald Davis, S.J., Endowed Scholarship, the Dr. James G. McGivern Engineering Endowed Scholarship and the California Endowed Scholarship.
- In honor of his good friend, **Joseph M. Lynch ('57)** made a gift from his living trust in support of the C. Maya Lit Art Endowed Scholarship for art majors.
- **Kenneth K. Tai ('74)** left a gift in his will for the Hiki No Endowed Scholarship which provides athletic scholarships for men's and women's golf.

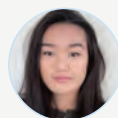
*You are our Heritage.
Your Legacy is our future.*

For a complete listing of our Heritage Society Honor Roll 2021-22 visit gonzaga.edu/HonorRoll.

We greatly value the accuracy of these lists. Please contact Laura Gatewood, AVP, Donor Relations, with changes: (800) 463-6925 or gatewood@gonzaga.edu.

A Personal Note of Thanks

"I am the youngest child and the first in my family to go to college. I was adopted when I was a baby from Vietnam and have grown up in Montana. Thank you so much for helping me along this journey and showing your support and belief in my future. This means so much, especially since I am the first to go to college and the first of my name to be in the United States. I have worked hard to get where I am, and I am forever grateful for you and your generosity!"



DeLaney Heppner ('23)
Accounting major from Helena, Montana



Ally Schmidt ('24) Master in Teaching program, engages with elementary students.

Connections for Life

By Sydney Fluker ('23)

While traditional college students were away for the season, others made the Gonzaga campus their home for inspiring and challenging weeks of learning this summer. Both the **Summer Language Program** and the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences **Summer Immersion Program** featured Gonzaga faculty and students working with Spokane-area partners to provide attendees increased confidence in their abilities, plus connections to last a lifetime.

Opening Doors with Language

Directed by Associate Professor James Hunter, the language program teaches English to K-12 children and refugees recently displaced from their native countries. Since 1998, GU's School of Education and Spokane Public Schools have offered this chance for language learners to improve their skills and learn more about American culture. This year, nearly 120 English learners enrolled, representing 15 language/culture groups.

The camp is divided into two parts: morning sessions for undergraduate and graduate Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) students, and afternoon sessions for refugees, often taught by TESL participants. Along with language development, students are able to form connections with one another and staffers through games and activities designed to forge community.

Peya and Nikuze, siblings who have attended for three years, have found confidence and friendships.

"The language program is really good because when you first come here, you don't know anyone and you feel

like you're the only one who doesn't know how to speak English," Nikuze said. "When you come here, you meet new people and make new friends who are on the same level as you, so you are learning together, taking classes, doing fun activities and games you didn't know existed."

Peya and Nikuze speak French, Ngala, and now, English. Entering their senior year of high school, they have been learning about college options, application processes and other career-oriented skills to help them succeed after graduation. They both want to attend a local college, and attending the summer program also afforded them the chance to attend a job and college fair, with booths from Gonzaga, Eastern Washington University, Whitworth University and Community Colleges of Spokane.

On the younger levels, STEM-based curricula like Rogue Rodent Mystery and Oceanic Exploration create a fun and engaging environment for students to learn comfortably. Teachers follow the local school curriculum plan so that material is congruent with what students will be learning in school that following year.

September Htoo has been in this program since she first arrived in fifth grade. She stopped coming three years later, once she felt confident enough with her English to focus on other areas. A current student at Eastern Washington University, she applied to be an assistant with the Summer Language Camp, wanting to give back to the program that helped her learn English.

"It connects you with other people in the same situations but with different languages, so you get to see a lot of people that you've seen at school before or have never

talked to, but you get to curate a bond and community here, which is so awesome,” Htoo said.

From the other side of the program, Htoo helped prepare the classrooms, picked up students from bus stops, helped

with random tasks, and interacted with them in a variety of ways.

“It’s building a community that people can rely on and helping them prepare for the school year so they won’t be completely lost in their education,” Htoo said.



Raven Haines ('23) was a mentor for high-school participants.

Especially for Women in STEM

The School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS) held its inaugural SEAS Summer Immersion Program in July, hosting a group of high school women interested in the engineering field. Directed by first-year engineering course coordinator and instructor Kirk Reinkens and created by SEAS Dean Karlene Hoo, the program arranged a variety of activities to expose high school juniors and seniors to engineering and computer science career options.

“We place participants into teams because the world needs teams of different thinkers to solve its complex problems,” Hoo said. “Then they hear from successful female engineers and computer scientists and learn about their career journeys.”

Faculty provided a brief overview of mechanical, electrical, computer and civil engineering; computer science; and engineering management. With the help of SEAS student mentors, who were available to answer questions and provide advice, the young women completed a variety of activities to gain a greater exposure to the field’s possibilities. They also toured local industrial facilities each day, from waste plants to private companies, seeing firsthand use of multiple technologies. During each

meal, a professional engineer shared her personal career journey and answered questions.

Emrie Langfeldt ('24), a mechanical engineering major, was a mentor for participants. She found the experience equally valuable for her own exposure to options in engineering. The tours, she said, were “really helpful for me to see that it’s more than just the calculations and hard sciences.”

Participating as a mentor, Langfeldt says, “helped me engage more with what I actually want to do and what my path down the line may involve.”

Both programs ended with showcasing new skills acquired by the students with their families, leaving the summer with new connections and skills. Learn more:

- Watch a video about the Language Program experience and hear more from high-school participants of SSIP.
- Find out how you can support next year’s summer programs.

» gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare



Off the Beaten Path

By Mina Robinson ('23)

R&B recording artist Allen Stone (center) enjoys a preview of a video recorded by Offbeat Films. Surrounding him are Zags Jess Clement (left of Stone), Danny Chastain (top right), Taylor Pedroza ('13, middle right) and Thomas Ackels (bottom right). Actors included Matt Vergara ('15, inset) and Connor Brenes ('13). Photos by Rajah Bose.

“Zags help Zags” transcends Gonzaga’s campus with alumni **Thomas Ackels** and **Danny Chastain**, who have built a company that reflects this Gonzaga motto. The two 2015 graduates started Offbeat Films, a Seattle-based production agency that aspires to “tell people’s stories in an authentic way,” Ackels says.

Growing up, Ackels and his brother nurtured a passion for storytelling. Their family watched movies together, and in their free time, the brothers created documentaries and music videos. For Ackels, pursuing this interest as a career never crossed his mind.

Ackels came to Gonzaga with an undeclared major, pondering the possibility of a music degree. His first class was a 9 a.m. music theory class, where Ackels met Chastain and others who became friends and future colleagues at Offbeat Films. Ackels and Chastain also took a GUTV class together with Professor Dan Garrity. Ackels says it was hands-on and taught him new skills. It brought back that same passion for storytelling that he had once before.

During their junior year, Ackels and Chastain started dreaming of having a production company together. “It kind of grew through junior year and that summer,” Ackels says. After graduating, they worked and volunteered in the production field for about two years, and in 2017, decided

they were experienced enough to start producing videos on their own and to pursue their dream.

Asked why they chose to base their company in Seattle, Ackels responded: “One of the big kickers was the Gonzaga connections; we knew in Seattle we had our friends. We knew in Seattle people knew what Gonzaga was and that would bring us a reputation.”

Seattle ended up being a good choice, especially early on when they were trying to figure out how to get business. The Offbeat team’s first job came through an old roommate who was interning at a public relations company and asked if they wanted to bid on a video project.

The Gonzaga connection has helped them in other ways. Many former classmates are contract workers or freelancers. Other Zag alumni are actors or editors for their videos. Jess Clement ('15), who was in the GUTV class with Ackels and Chastain, was part of the Offbeat staff before shifting her focus to other opportunities.

Offbeat Films exemplifies the power of the Gonzaga community and how it continues to flourish after graduation.

Check out some of their work: offbeatseattle.com.

Setting the World on Fire

By Kate Vanskike ('22 M.A.)

"I am first-generation everything. First-gen American, high-school graduate, college graduate and law school graduate," says **Lydia Lopez ('18)**.

Each of those was an achievement worth celebration for her parents who immigrated from Mexico to provide a better life for the children they wanted to raise. "To them, education was invaluable – it was how I could build stability in my future," says Lopez.

Maria and Jesus Lopez, Carson City, Nevada, helped Lydia with homework until she advanced beyond their abilities, and after that they continued to serve as cheerleaders as she crossed the finish line of law school.

"Having that support from my family is a good reminder of where I came from and what I can accomplish with them at my side," Lydia adds.

Gonzaga was another source of inspiration for Lopez. The Center for Community Engagement (called CCASL at the time) exposed her to myriad opportunities for involvement and growth outside the classroom. Lopez dove into community service all four years at Gonzaga. She volunteered in the Smile program at Whitman Elementary, cooked dinner for women in transitional housing and went on spring break immersions. Her senior year, she was the student leader for a Justice in January trip to the southern border to learn more about the plight of migrants and the systems that impact them.

But involvement in the Center for Community Engagement (CCE) was more than planned activities.

"I had great conversations with Molly (Ayers) and Julia (Larsen) and the immersion coordinators on politics and so many other things," Lopez says. "This is where I was encouraged to take my education and go 'set the world on fire.'"

"CCE showed me I could make a career out of helping people."

No surprise, then, when Lopez was sending out announcements of her graduation from the University of San Francisco School of Law she sent one to the staff of CCE with a note of thanks.

She chose USF because it shared the Jesuit ideology she had come to love at Gonzaga – the care of the whole person and the belief that every person has infinite worth.

"I take that ideology with me to my legal clients," says Lopez. "Even if my clients have made mistakes, they are still worthy of good legal defense."

Going to law school hadn't been planned, however. Even while leading the Justice in January experience, which involved several touchpoints with legal systems, a calling into law wasn't yet clear. It did make her want to be involved in immigration advocacy in some capacity, and she tried



Lopez with Julia Larsen

a year of community organizing after graduating from Gonzaga, but it wasn't the right fit.

"I realized I could have a bigger effect with a law degree," she says.

Lopez supplemented her courses with a fellowship at Open Door Legal in the Bay Area, doing affirmative immigration work pro bono for clients without the ability to pay for services.

"Legal aid is my favorite thing," she says. "I get to meet one on one with clients and help them understand what's happening in their situation. I was the native Spanish speaker on the team which allowed me to communicate and engage without an interpreter."

Although there were times she wondered if she could really be a lawyer, if she could "fit in" to that career, being involved in immigration work has given her a clear sense of purpose and belonging.

"To come to this work as a woman and to be able to speak the language – specifically with women who have been through trauma – is a really special skill," Lopez says. "What I do right now shows me that there is a space for me in the legal profession."

None of this surprises Larsen, a program assistant in CCE, who proudly shared the card received announcing Lopez's graduation from Law School. Larsen had, four years earlier, presented Lopez with the Father Leo Robinson Award for "passionately and fearlessly investing time supporting social justice and developing relationships to help further elevate these issues in Spokane and beyond."

As a staff supervisor on the Justice in January trip to the border with Lopez, I had written in support of the award nomination: "There are several names I will be watching for in the future – students who no doubt will go on to make headlines. There will be plenty who rise to superstardom and those will be fun to see. But there will also be those whose names are mentioned as having made a real difference in entire communities, and I believe Lydia Lopez will be among them. Her passions and goals come together as she stands for vital causes, guides others in their understanding of those issues, encouraging meaningful action."

She's already fulfilling that vision.



Big Achiever

◀ **'10 Kimberly Harden** won the 2022 Innovative Social Justice Response award from the Commission for Social Justice Educators and the 2022 Community, Equity and Social Justice Award from Washington State University. Founder and CEO of Harden Consulting Group, she has published her first book, "The Allyship Challenge."

Award-Winning

'67 Cornelia Davis, M.D., M.P.H., received the gold medallion and alumni humanitarian service award from her medical school alma mater, University of California-San Francisco, for 50 years of service as a physician and humanitarian worker.

'90 Alfonso Garcia Arriola is a 2022-2023 Albert Einstein Educator Fellow, an honor earned for his work as a STEM teacher.

'01 Sarah Hoiland received a \$2.3M grant from the National Science Foundation.

'04 Mikayla Patella-Buckley received a Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching Research Programs, funding travel with her family to Finland to conduct educational research and teach science.

'08 Sarah Olson received an International Education Administrator Fulbright Award to go to Germany in fall 2022.

'11 Jorge Quintana has earned five Excellence in Communications Awards from the California Public Relations Association during his time as the director of communications and community engagement for the Redwood City School District in California.

Noteworthy

'12 Lizzie Braicks-Rinker gave a TED Talk at the University of Washington this May.

'13 Andy Patton created a website dedicated to Gonzaga content called ScoreZagsScore and hosts the "Locked on Zags" podcast.

'14 Carson Thompson is a registered professional engineer working for Shutler Consulting Engineers in Bellevue, Washington.



Catholic Educators on PACE

These teachers graduated from University of Portland's PACE (Pacific Alliance for Catholic Education) program.

'20 Kau'i Ho'opi'i taught second grade at St. Cecelia in Portland.

'20 Megan McNulty taught high school science at Kennedy Catholic in Seattle.

'20 Sydney Lowe taught first grade at St. Ignatius in Boise.

Law

'95 Michael Ross serves the board of directors at Gallagher & Kennedy, a firm he joined in 2006.

'99 Mark Popovich is president of the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia.

Government & Military

'86 Chris Jones retired from the U.S. Government Accountability Office after 33 years of service. He plans to travel around the U.S. and to Asia, Europe, South America and Antarctica.

'00 Molly Weaver graduated from the Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy and is director of strategic operations for the assistant secretary of the Army.

» See photos and more online: gonzaga.edu/magazine

Business Leaders

'96 **Troy Ballew** is chief operating officer after 15 years as chief financial officer at Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative.

'08 **Stefani Herr** is co-founder of SortJoy, a female-founded, earth-friendly company that recently collaborated with Anthropologie.

'10 **Estakio Beltran** is the digital equity manager for Washington state's Department of Commerce. His work involves how families access education, connect with doctors, apply for financial assistance and maintain important social connections.

'12 **Ryan Tacke** is CEO of ThrivePass, a benefits technology company. He served as the organization's COO for the last three years.

'12 **Matt Tarzwell** is part of Fast Enterprises and has worked alongside five other Zags to help this company grow from 300 employees to 1,800. He is a project manager, celebrating 10 years with the Colorado-based enterprise.

Health & Medicine

'94 **Diane Blake**, CEO of Cascade Medical in Leavenworth, Washington, is chair of the Washington State Hospital Association.

'07 **Tyler Manson** purchased his medical practice, Oregon Institute of Foot Care, in early 2022. He is the sole owner and practitioner in the Lake Oswego, Oregon, practice.

'14 **Matt Beucherie** graduated from Sidney Kimmel Medical College in May 2022 and started his anesthesiology residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in June 2022.

'14 **Kevin Ferriter**, M.D. was Resident of the Year and the Resident Educator of the Year at University of Texas Austin Medical School. He is a chief resident for the school this academic year.

'14 **Gerald Deocariza Jr.** received his occupational therapy doctoral degree at University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences with a 3.94 GPA.

'19 **Christina Borst** is in her third year of business owning Front Range Family Psychiatry LLC, working to expand rural mental health care from two days per week to more.

Faith & Religion

'74 **James Welsford**, a religion teacher at Bishop O'Connell High School (Arlington, Virginia), was honored for 40 years of teaching. He also received honors from the Diocese of Arlington.

'07 **Amy Newell-Large** was ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church with the Diocese of Colorado. She serves St. John's Cathedral as Curate for Parish Life, focusing on hospitality and small-group ministries.

Published

'60 **Art McGinn** published a comic novel, "Telegraph Hill," about life in San Francisco.

'79 **Mary (Judge) Emmick** and her husband, David, published "A New Pentecost in the Time of Zoom" as their Synod response.

'99 **Joelle (Abi-Jaber) Jackson** published "Unlock Your Conscious Leadership," which takes readers on a journey of self-reflection and empowerment.

'09 **Tom Reuter** wrote a book called "The Tom Report."

'10 **Kyle Shoop** published his eighth novel, "The Touch of Love," which tells two interconnected love stories that span generations.

'12 **Russ Sharer** published his first book with co-author Michelle Richardson. *Agile and Resilient: Sales Leadership for the New Normal* addresses how the COVID pandemic has accelerated trends in business-to-business sales.



Squisito!

'05, '08 **M.B.A. Michelle (Chang) Manson** and her husband co-host Chicca's Cooking Club, partnering with a friend in Tuscany, Italy, to produce online cooking classes live from Tuscany.

- » Follow us on Instagram: **GonzagaAlumni** for timely news and celebrations
- » Share your updates: **gonzaga.edu/AlumniNews**

**Congrats to all these
love birds!**

'12 **Kristen Konrad** and Nick Borg married after he proposed on campus, knowing Gonzaga is her favorite place.

'12 **Amanda Beeuwsaert** and '12 **Daniel Meier** exchanged vows in Maryland, where they reside.

'13 **Sabrina Zshornack Topacio** and '15 **Timothy Ian Pilas Migala** reside in the Tri-Cities, Washington, area; Zabby is a software engineer and Tim is an electrical engineer.

'14 **Joseph O'Neil** and '15 **Helen Portillo** married in El Paso, Texas.

'15 **Kellie Malone** and '15 **Ben Yee** married in Hawaii with former GU President Fr. Robert Spitzer (bride's uncle) officiating.

'15 **Alana Buller** and '15 **Gregory Wang** celebrated their wedding in Carmel Valley, Calif.

'15 **Kendle Hargrove** and '15 **Dylan Armstead** enjoy life together as a software engineer and a travel nurse.

'15 **Eric Kohan** and '16 **Milly Miram** are attorneys in California; they competed on the Gonzaga Mock Trial team all four years.

'15, '18 **M.B.A. Eric Travis** and Jennifer Biagi married in Park City, Utah, seven years to the day after they met at Star Bar in Spokane.

'15 **Kelly Williams** and '16 **Devin Drake** married in Tacoma, Wash. They met at the Gonzaga alumni cross country and track banquet in 2017 and their love took off running!

'16, '17 **M.I.T. Brandy Rippon** and '16 **Kevin Featherstone** reside in Alabama where Brandy is a Ph.D. student and Kevin is a safety engineer for Mercedes-Benz.



▲ '03 **Taylor Elliott** and Jeanie Nguyen eloped in Cappadocia, Turkey.

'15 **Caitlyn Rosellini** and '15, '16 **M.Acc Tyler Schmutz** had a bridal party full of Zags.

'16 **Regan Permito** and '15 **Riley Harrison** married in San Diego.

'16 **Kelsey Jess** and '16, '17 **M.Acc Bryan Abbott** married in San Diego.

'16 **Iris Orion** and '16 **Austin Dickman** met in their first class, freshman year.

'16 **Dustin Feger** and '17 **Hannah Kim** reside in Nebraska. Dustin is a teacher and Hannah is stationed at Offutt Air Force Base.

'17 **Bradley Rustik** and '18 **Bailey Mills** tied the knot in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, after meeting at Gonzaga through intramural flag football.

'18 **Erika Beale** and '18 **Zach Frost** married in Oregon, with Phil Tyler (GU campus security officer) officiating. "We met him while we were both RAs in Cushing (2016-17) and he came to one of our events in our dorm (decorating/making caramel apples). We became close friends and it was so special to have him officiate our wedding."

'19 **Christopher Ward** and '19 **Kerrie Buehler** exchanged vows with Father Tim Clancy, S.J., officiating. They met on the first day of orientation at GU and were in the Honors program together.

Welcome, **Baby Zags**

'01 **Hollye (Gunter) Keister** and '01 **Todd Keister**: a son, Theodore Martin, their first child and a miracle baby.

'09 **Ellen (Mezzer) Lavaia** and '09 **Michael Lavaia**: a daughter, Abigail, who was born on her mother's birthday.

'10 **Louis Lefebvre** and '15 **Emily (Luse) Lefebvre**: a daughter, Ingrid Kelly.

'11 **Greg Marsh** and '11 **Alexa Marsh**: a daughter, Avrey Irene. Greg, Alexa, and big brother Graham are excited to welcome their newest Zag.

'11 **John Molloy** and Amy Molloy: a daughter, Lilliane Valentina.

'11 **Amanda Arrigotti-White** and '11 **Matthew White**: a son, Dean.

'11 **Jennifer (Spindler) Aiello** and '11 **Michael Aiello**: a son, Roland David.

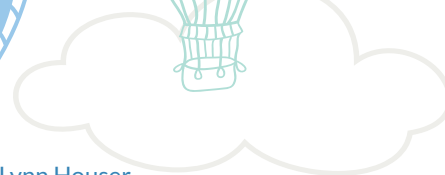
'13 **Meridith (Mason) Goforth** and Steven Goforth: a daughter, Nelly Joy. She was born just in time to cheer on the Zags in the NCAA tournament!

'13 **David Sackmann** and '14 **Emily (Cronin) Sackmann**: a son, Martin.

'14 **Kevin Evans** and '14 **Emily Evans**: a daughter, Birdy Eleanor. Kevin and Emily met freshman year in 2011 and married in 2015. They welcomed Birdy in January in Renton, Wash.



Ingrid Lefebvre



Lily Lynn Houser



Avrey Marsh

'14 **Justine (Portillo) Houser** and Gabe Houser: a daughter, Lily Lynn, born in Browns Valley, Calif., at 9 lbs 9 oz. Hopefully she becomes a Zag fan!

'15 **Meghan Montelibano-Gorman** and '15 **Ryan Gorman**: a son, Charles Richard who has spent the majority of his life watching Zag basketball and is excited for his first March Madness! He is already booked for several ring bearer duties for upcoming Zag weddings.

'15 **Sarai (Salmonsens) Libsack** and '09 **Andrew Libsack**: a daughter, Adelynn.

'16 **Emalise (Luzzo) Mitchell** and '16 **Connor Mitchell**: a daughter, Adelaide. Connor and Emalise welcomed their first child on Father's Day.

» **See them all online:** gonzaga.edu/magazine

» **Submit your news:** gonzaga.edu/AlumniNews

Our Mystery Zag from spring 2022 is ...

Randy Williams

Special Education Professor, 1979-2013

It is difficult to find a day when Randy Williams doesn't have a smile stretched across his face. He loves seeing his students excel in special education classrooms around the area. He opened many opportunities for them and exuded pride in their accomplishments. He was a student favorite and was honored for his teaching expertise.

Reader Responses

It is because of Randy that I became a top-notch early-childhood special education teacher, changing the lives of children and families in Tumwater School District for 31 years. Randy demanded attention to detail and the applied behavioral analysis I learned from him was the foundation for my classroom and student success. Data, data, data! That was his mantra and became mine. I hear him always in my head, saying, "How do you know what you are doing is working if you don't have the data?" I am forever grateful to Randy and Gonzaga for my incredible teaching career, from which I just recently retired. Thank you, Randy!

— *Deborah Wyatt ('88)*
Olympia, Wash.

This Zag is the best teacher I have ever had, and one of the most memorable people I have ever known. I know that Randy's dedication to high-quality effective teaching has impacted the lives of many, many people. His warmth and enthusiasm brightened my days at Gonzaga, even as I worked my tail off to meet his high standards. Randy is a bright light in this world, and I will always be grateful that our paths crossed.

— *Linda Christensen ('86)*
Kenmore, Wash.



That is Professor Randy Williams, from the department of my major, special education. Randy was one of the best teachers I've ever had with regard to communication. You knew what you had to do to succeed, and he made it possible. He is a big reason I was successful in my first teaching job. And he taught me to bowl. Thanks for making learning accessible even to a slouch like me!

— *Dustin Ooley ('03)*
Beaverton, Ore.

I was lucky to have had my first class as a freshman from Dr. Williams. He gave plenty of opportunities to students to show what they were learning. At Halloween, he turned his house into a haunted house, enlisting the help of other professors, and only upperclassmen were invited. As freshmen, we looked forward to finally being invited to attend. It was an unforgettable experience. I believe we even had to sign a waiver to enter.

— *Jennifer Ziolko ('98)*
Oregon City, Ore.



Who's this Zag?

Longtime friends called this beloved soul Padre. A former Carthusian monk who stopped by Gonzaga in Florence in 1969 to visit his friend and to offer several Masses, he soon thereafter entered the transfer portal and became a Jesuit priest. He served until 1982 as Gonzaga in Florence dean of students, then returned to GU's Spokane campus as alumni and men's basketball chaplain. He carried a card emblazoned with "Have Chalice Will Travel" as he performed hundreds of wedding services, baptisms and funerals for his Gonzaga family. He ended every conversation with "To be continued . . ." Who is this Zag?

» **If you know this Mystery Zag**, please share a favorite memory: **Visit gonzaga.edu/editor**, or write Editor, Gonzaga Magazine, Gonzaga University, 502 E. Boone Ave., Spokane, WA 99258-0070.

One of Gonzaga's Earliest Women Students Dies at 91

By Sydney Fluker ('23)

Being the only woman in a room was never a worry for Patricia Louise (Prague) Thomas.

She started at Gonzaga University in 1950, two years after women were first admitted. Coming from a family of lower-class means, Prague worked her way through the teaching degree she didn't want in the first place. Her goal was to pursue a business degree, but familial pressures led her to follow teaching.

Starting her first year at GU, she worked at the Sears Roebuck in downtown Spokane, where the library is today, in the advertisement department. She found support for her education in her boss, who worked around her class schedule to ensure she could manage both. Three days a week, she also worked at Monterey Skating Rink, across from Deaconess Hospital. She walked the 1.5 miles to the rink for \$1.50 a day.

It was this dedication that got her through GU. She covered tuition on her own, making weekly \$2 payments, which forced her to take an extra semester to graduate.

She graduated alongside seven other women in 1954, according to GU's special collections librarian Stephanie Plowman.

Following graduation, Prague married Floyd Thomas and took a teaching job in Four Mound Prairie where she taught 14 students between first and eighth grades in a one-room converted-barn schoolhouse. While she enjoyed the kids, it was the teaching she couldn't stand. To her relief, the job ended two years later when the barn's owner needed it back. She stopped teaching and never looked back.

Later, Thomas and her husband moved back to Spokane, where she took a job in what is now the Department of Social and Health Services. She served the department for 30 years, coordinating volunteers for 20 of those years. It was her work at Our Place Community Outreach, which mainly served as a food and clothing bank, that her son Kirk is the most proud of. There, she arranged for the county extension agent to come into the food bank a few hours



before it officially opened to provide cooking lessons using ingredients in supply.

"People, but primarily women, would come into the food bank and get this cooking lesson, and then they would go home with a week's worth of stuff that they now knew how to use to feed their families," Kirk said. "I love to brag about that, because [she] put that together."

Thomas was also active in the American Association of University Women, and chaired its annual scholarship fundraiser, a book drive that would take up an entire floor of a department store.

"Helping people is my favorite thing," Thomas said in an interview with the Gonzaga Bulletin.

That value is reflected in her involvement at Mukigawa Fort Wright, Spokane's campus for an all-women school in Japan. The Thomases lived across the river from the Spokane campus and found themselves building relationships with the school. They extended weekend home-stays to entire semesters housing girls — building relationships with their friends that they'd bring over and working to make Spokane feel like a home away from home.

Despite expecting nothing in return, her generosity would pay off. Host families were sometimes invited to travel to Japan to stay with the students' families, and the Thomases took that trip twice. On one trip, 32 of their ex-students organized a picnic for her and her husband, surprising them as a thank you for the kindness they had given.

Following a lifetime of adventure, Thomas visited all 50 states and more than 20 countries and territories. In later life, she found pleasure in reading *The Spokesman-Review* and long novels.

Thomas died peacefully at the age of 91 on July 23.

*“Now is your time of grief,
but I will see you again and
you will rejoice, and no one
will take away your joy.”*

(John 16:22)

'44 **Robert Spurck, M.D.**, radiologist and father. June 22 – Centennial, Colo.

'50 **James Felt, S.J.**, priest and lifelong educator. Feb. 17 – Los Gatos, Calif.

'51 **Leo Driscoll**, lawyer and former GU general counsel. March 13 – Spokane

'51 **Robert Dufner**, veteran and engineer. March 16 – Wenatchee, Wash.

'52 **Eli Thomas**, former Zag athlete and business owner. March 2 – Saratoga, Calif.

'53 **Ruth (Fisher) Rumelhart**, teacher, traveler and volunteer. July 12 – New Braunfels, Texas

'53 **Robert Welch, S.J.**, priest and educator. July 10 – Los Gatos, Calif.

'53 **Charles Lauerman**, veteran and singer. June 22 – Spokane

'54 **George Cheek**, Spokesman-Review editor and reporter. June 19 – Portland, Ore.

'54 **Robert Fallon**, proud Zag and veteran. March 7 – Palatine, Ill.

'54 **Lois (Silverstein) Urman**, pianist, organist and volunteer. March 3 – Portland, Ore.

'54 **John Patrick Stewart, S.J.**, priest, teacher and administrator. April 27 – Los Gatos, Calif.

'55 **Frank Vedelago**, beloved dentist. March 22 – Spokane

'57 **Edward Sand**, musician and lifelong singer. Jan. 1 – Wenatchee, Wash.

'59 **Kurt Kromholtz**, scientist, educator and author. March 1 – Spokane

'59 **Victor Robisch**, Air Force dentist and exceptional father. July 2 – Pasco, Wash.

'60 **Thomas Deno**, avid walker and veteran. June 8 – Claremont, Calif.

'60 **George Eastom**, entrepreneur and coach. Jan. 26 – Fallbrook, Calif.

'60 **Barbara Ann (Ross) Vermillion**, excellent student and teacher. June 2 – Spokane

'60 **Ann Giebel Hernandez**, social worker and advocate. May 23 – Sacramento, Calif.

'61 **John Foster, S.J.**, priest, educator and musician. April 22 – San Jose, Calif.

'61 **Jerome Wasson**, counselor and former Zag athlete. May 7 – Centralia, Wash.

'61 **Robert Bourbeau**, lifelong Zag, athlete and veteran. May 14 – Spokane

'61 **Richard Troeh**, veteran and music teacher. April 1 – Estacada, Ore.

'62 **Robert Boyd**, marathon runner and volunteer. May 25 – Vancouver, Wash.

'63 **Lynne Ann (McGreevy) Jones**, generous and service-oriented. July 8 – Centralia, Wash.

'63 **William Tanksley**, impactful dean and professor. Jan. 7 – New York

'64 **David Stoltz**, engineer and lover of life. May 16 – Liberty Lake, Wash.

'64 **Sr. Sheila (Mary Perpetua) Hughes**, superb pediatric nurse. April 27 – Victoria, B.C.

'65 **James Daskalos, D.O.**, beloved physician. May 24 – Oro Valley, Ariz.

'65 **Patricia (Hawe) Johnson**, lifelong educator and mother. Feb. 22 – Emmett, Idaho

'65 **David Feider**, tinkerer and engineer. Sept. 4, 2021 – Renton, Wash.

'65 **Howard Battan**, engineer and family man. April 20 – Anacortes, Wash.

'66 **Harley Unruh**, veteran and entrepreneur. April 10 – Walla Walla, Wash.

'66 **David Gordon**, military reporter and author. April 7 – Seattle, Wash.

'67 **Harry Turenchalk Jr.**, tech writer and volunteer. May 30 – Sunnyside, Calif.

'67 **Donald Pearson**, social worker and friend to all. Feb. 17 – Spokane

'68 **James Troske**, professional engineer. May 26 – Spokane Valley, Wash.

'68 **Michael Masterson**, journalist and sports fanatic. March 19 – Port Townsend, Wash.

**Gonzaga Trustee Emeritus Don Nelles ('59)
died September 12.**

Don served Gonzaga as part of the Seattle President's Council, boards within the School of Business Administration, on the University's Board of Regents, and ultimately the Board of Trustees, which he served with clarity, class and a generous spirit. Known for his candor and wit, he offered historical institutional knowledge and input on many important subjects. Originally from Missoula, Montana, Don was a member of Gonzaga's "Butte Rats," a group of fun-loving alumni hailing from the great cities of western Montana. He and Jeannette ('60) were married 57 years.

'70 **James Walker**, veteran, businessman and volunteer. March 21 – Spokane

'70 **Paul Hueber**, veteran and friend. Feb. 19 – Spokane

'70 **Darrell Larsen**, teacher and beloved community member. Dec. 9 – Ketchikan, Alaska

'71 **Daniel Feidt**, avid adventurer and architect. Mar. 24 – Excelsior, Minn.

'71 **John Weber**, Peace Corps member and researcher. March 7 – Lima, Peru

'73 **John Trechter Jr.**, veteran and scientist. June 17 – Spokane Valley, Wash.

'74 **Cynthia (Wall) Jervis**, mother and Zag fan. May 18 – Roseville, Calif.

'75 **Richard Adamson**, veteran, prosecutor and judge. March 26 – Olympia, Wash.

'75 **Alfred “Art” Bennett**, veteran and prosecution attorney. April 24 – Vancouver, Wash.

'75 **Barbara (McNulty) Wiest**, mental health advocate and volunteer – Wilsonville, Ore.

'76 **Daniel Cooney**, pilot and traveler. July 7 – St. Louis

'76 **Sinclair Taylor**, veteran and community celebrity. April 2 – Spokane Valley, Wash.

'77 **Richard Hollenbeck**, veteran, coach and teacher. March 27 – Bonners Ferry, Idaho

'77 **Daniel Mills**, lifelong learner and veteran. May 30 – Tacoma, Wash.

'77 **Louis Joseph Zib Jr.**, veteran and outdoorsman. Oct. 17 – The Villages, Fla.

'77 **Thomas Grisley**, musician, traveler and lawyer. March 17 – Spokane

'78 **Steven Cavalari**, lover of sports. June 1 – Spokane

'79 **William Trope**, CPA and avid sportsman. May 27 – Newport, Ore.

'80 **John Barrie**, biology teacher. May 23 – Medicine Hat, Alberta

'81 **Gary Watson**, lawyer and supervising attorney. Feb. 4 – Las Vegas, Nev.

'84 **Terrence Duffy**, awarded Army officer. May 10 – Spokane

'85 **Brian Butler**, lawyer, adviser and friend. June 11 – Spokane

'85 **Donald Schoening**, coach and educator. June 24 – Cashmere, Wash.

'85 **Mary (LaBrie) Frederick**, kindergarten teacher and parish member. June 4 – Kent, Wash.

'87 **Richard Kendall**, engineer. Sept. 13 – Oregon

'88 **Michael Starko**, athlete and volunteer coordinator. April 14 – Delta, B.C.

'88 **Jeffrey Terhaar**, businessman with a big heart. June 28 – Portland, Ore.

'89 **Elaine Fotland**, beloved teacher at Central Valley HS (Spokane). May 8 – Spokane

Champion boxer Eli Thomas

Eli Thomas ('52), who won two individual national boxing titles for Gonzaga and was part of the University's only national championship team, in 1950, died March 2 in Saratoga, Calif. His 34-0 record earned him a spot as a charter member of the Gonzaga Athletic Hall of Fame. He and wife, Dorothy, moved to the San Jose area and established the highly successful Eli Thomas Menswear, which still exists 58 years later.

'91 **Joan (Ellis) Lewis**, proud stay-at-home mother and lifelong learner. May 12 – Spokane

'91 **Lester Johnson**, counselor, coach, administrator and professor. April 13 – Spokane

'92, '95 **J.D. Shawna Maloy**, Attorney in general practice and family law. Residence hall staffer, deeply respected and appreciated legal counsel, and devoted friend. May 2022 – Durango, Colo.

'93 **James Thrasher**, veteran, instructor and educator. April 16 – Newnan, Ga.

'95 **Helen Terhijan**, world explorer and family lover. May 13 – Duncan, B.C.

'96 **Kenneth Staggs**, mentor, veteran and friend. Feb. 26 – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

'98 **Melanie (Lowe) Stella**, lawyer and friend to all. April 30.

'99 **Diane (Fraser) McAfee**, longtime teacher and counselor. Kamloops, B.C.

'01 **Christopher Dodd**, lawyer and father. March 5 – Amsterdam, N.Y.

'03 **Manuel Ferreirinha**, educator and adviser. May 1 – Calgary, Alberta

'04 **Christopher Powers**, community leader and sports lover. March 31 – Tualatin, Ore.

'05 **Kellie Nielsen**, attorney and music lover. June 12 – Lehi, Utah

'11 **Kara Barnett**, dedicated ministry leader and day care owner. May – Tonasket, Wash.

'12 **John Cunningham**, lifelong learner. March 22 – Bainbridge Island, Wash.

'13 **Kaelyn Johnson**, National Park Service worker and teacher. May 3 – Provo, Utah

STUDENTS

Kaydee Koch ('23) aspired to be a pediatric physician assistant. May 13 – Wheat Ridge, Colo.

Colton Marcantel ('22), business major and investor. Oct. 18 – Spokane

WEALTH & JUSTICE AT GONZAGA

BY BLAINE GARVIN, PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

I have a morning habit: I'm at the Starbucks in Hemmingson soon after it opens for my quad espresso and pumpkin loaf. I take my treats down by the flickering, glass-enclosed flames in the Morris Hearth Room. I plunk myself in a rocking chair and I ruminate about this and that. I think of Scott and Liz Morris because their gift made this room possible. It's only one gift – there are others.

Once a year I teach a course on Marxism, a designated “social justice” course. Professor Tom Jeannot in Philosophy teaches his own excellent version of Marxism.

Marx thought that capitalism, his name for the economy that had supplanted feudalism in Europe, was good at producing wealth, not good at all in producing justice. (My word. Marx himself was reluctant to use such a morally laden term.)

Yes, Marx was perhaps capitalism's harshest critic. But not the first to see its evil effects. Adam Smith, who favored the new system, taught Marx a lot. It was Smith, not Marx, who showed how detail labor required in capitalist factories would reduce, not a few men but the majority of people in a rich country like England, to the level of stupid brutes.

That stupid brute remark always makes me think of my summer job at Coors when I was a college student. I operated a box-making machine, a fairly automated thing that only required me to think or act when it jammed. Mostly, I stood there, my mind drifting, my legs aching. At least the pay was good. Coors didn't offer workers starvation wages the way early capitalists did. I felt flush when I cashed my check. But there was no excitement in going back for the swing shift.

Marx, like Smith, also saw the power of capitalism to change the world in good ways. Capitalist production created wealth beyond the imagining of any previous generation. The flood of technical and scientific advances that went hand in hand with new, more efficient ways of producing might well eliminate scarcity and poverty forever – if it were managed right.

In the meantime, capitalists created a world market, dragging “barbarian” nations into civilization, and creating a world in their own image.

But of course, capitalism wasn't managed right. Not if “right” meant “to the benefit of all.” One consequence of capitalist production, a system where one man owned a factory and his many hired hands worked for wages, was to widen the income gap among classes. A few – a might few – prospered like nabobs while most sank into abject poverty.

Our economy is capitalist. It isn't the unregulated capitalism of the mid-19th century, but it is still capitalist. And it still produces income disparities. Despite my decent wages, I didn't end up with Peter Coors' money. (I single Peter out because he's about my age and I remember playing with him at Chris Johnson's house when we were all kids.)

Sometimes our government works to soften income disparities, sometimes not. The tax code since the 1980s has widened the gap, not narrowed it.

I am not prepared to call the workings of even regulated capitalism just. Great disparities of wealth strike me as wrong. I am willing to say so in my Marxism class.

Here's the rub. Lots of professors criticize capitalism, only to be reminded that this is to bite the hand that feeds us.

It costs money to provide a college education. Lots of it. Where does the money come from?



Well, students and/or their parents pay tuition and fees. But that's not nearly enough. There have to be other sources.

Governments and foundations provide some help through grants. But even more comes from gifts. Alumni and other friends donate. A lot of people give a little and that's important. Even more important, a few people give a lot.

No college or university in America, Gonzaga included, can thrive without gifts. Some of this gift income will be spent on building projects, scholarships and other ongoing needs. Some will be put into an endowment for investments.

The jarring truth: Whatever I or anybody else teaches about the inequities of capitalism, Gonzaga survives only because of the accumulations of wealth it makes possible.

Wealth and justice may be at odds. Committed to justice, Gonzaga nevertheless finds itself dependent on wealth. How can this tension be resolved?

This is how.

The people who have money must themselves be imbued with a sense of justice. They cannot be the cold-hearted, money-grubbing capitalists that critics sometimes relish portraying. That Marx so relished. And how are wealthy people to gain this sense of justice? One answer: Be educated at a place like Gonzaga. We come full circle.

You need an example. Let me tell you about Scott Morris who was in several of my classes years ago. Scott was a lovely young man. Bright, enthusiastic, outgoing, funny, caring – characteristics shared by a lot of GU students.

Scott and his classmate Liz were married soon after graduation. Before long they were joined by their first child. Right out of school with a new family – well, finding work was important. Scott took what he could find. What he found was a temporary job with the local power company, wrapping hot water heaters on a conservation project.

Scott impressed the bosses. He was put in charge of a crew. He got hired for other work when the project came to an end. Scott's intelligence, his good sense, his elemental decency – these mattered as he earned one promotion after another. When it was all done, he had become the CEO of Avista. It wasn't his aim in life, but Scott made a lot of money.

So, what did Scott and Liz do with their money? They took care of their family, of course. But they also gave back. Especially to Gonzaga.

Here, Scott is a symbol of how wealth and justice can come together in a capitalist setting.

True enough, Scott was a compassionate and generous person before he ever set foot on our campus. But education here encouraged these qualities. He wasn't taught an ethic of "every man for himself" or "he who dies with the most toys wins." He was taught how to be a good person for others.

Jeannot says that we professors will always be mendicants, or beggars. He's right. But we at Gonzaga are lucky that we hold our hands out to benefactors who understand and want themselves to promote justice.



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