

GONZAGA



TITLE IX
Equity in Athletics

DANCING WITH LIFE
Mexican Masks on Exhibit

JOURNEYING IN MISSION
Pilgrimage to Italy



ON THE COVER:

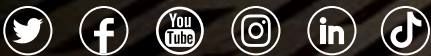
Dancing with Life: Mexican Masks, on exhibit at the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture, represents the research of Professor Pavel Shlossberg. See story, p. 6.

Photo by Zack Berlat ('11)

THIS PAGE:

Cattedrale di Santa Maria del Fiore
("Florence Cathedral")

Photo by Rajah Bose



Online: gonzaga.edu/magazine



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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. gonzaga.edu/editor

LETTERS

Readers respond to the Fall/Winter 2022 issue.



WEALTH & JUSTICE

(“To Be Continued” by Political Science Professor Blaine Garvin)

Great story. I love seeing Professor Garvin still teaching. He taught me a lot.

Scott O'Halloran ('92)
Tacoma, Wash.

Testimony to the value of a Jesuit education: In 1967, a brother and I needed financing for a farming venture near Paterson, Wash. Banks, SBA, FHA and credit unions all rejected our proposals on the basis we had very little collateral and no contracts. We had nothing to really lose, so we signed leases on the land and contracts with a local processor for potatoes and peas. Of course, we thought this would bring the needed capital to start, but that also failed.

Our last resort was to approach wealthy individuals in our community for a share. That worked with a director for Boise Cascade named Jim Bronson, a Yale graduate and leader in the local Masons. He provided start-up capital on the basis that we incorporate, and for his share he would take 6% interest. In year three, we had the capital to pay off his input, at which time I asked him why he helped us. He said that he did his homework and found that we both had Gonzaga degrees. He added that he could feel our passion and went on to explain that although he was not Catholic, he had a very high respect for Jesuit education where ethics were a required course.

God bless Jim Bronson, the philanthropist.

Dick Prior ('65)
Yakima, Wash.

THEN & NOW: CAMPUS CHANGES

Thanks for the historical journey of the changes to the GU campus. I clearly remember my days at DeSmet hanging out with the basketball players who were required to house there, plus classes in the Ad Building, doing my on-air shift at KAGU 88.7 FM, eating at the COG, or heading over to the Martin Centre for a workout.

These days, I produce films and videos with my company, DreamPost Productions. Recently, I worked on a film related to an addition to the Georgia Tech campus, as well as a historical video on a well-known architect for many of the buildings that occupy downtown Atlanta. So I really appreciate the growth and change when it comes to new construction and technology.

Jack Winch ('91)
Atlanta

MULTICULTURAL CONNECTIONS

As a woman of color and first-generation college student, UMEC was a center of connection and community for me. From participating in the BRIDGE program, working all four years through the work-study program, and leading the Multicultural Honor Society, there were endless learning and leadership opportunities.

This center also fostered a sense of belonging and pride in my identity on Gonzaga's campus. The foundations of equity in action, the skills and mindset which I carry with me today, I learned from the student and staff community at UMEC. I will forever be grateful for my time and experiences there and look forward to how this center and its important work continue to grow over the years.

Lauren Treacy ('11)
Seattle

Lauren, thanks for responding to our prompt. We're happy to share more about the impact of UMEC in this issue. See "The Building of Belonging" on p. 14.

SALUTE TO ROTC GRADS

First let me say, I thoroughly enjoy reading the Gonzaga Magazine; it keeps me up to date on many of the changes and what is going on at my alma mater.

I have often wondered if you could include something about the ROTC program. As the cadet colonel of the corps in 1963-64 and a 22-year career officer in the U.S. Army, I reflect on my time at Gonzaga where I earned not only a degree in electrical engineering but was also commissioned a second lieutenant subsequently retiring as a lieutenant colonel after a very rewarding career.

There are many of us out here who received our commissions through the ROTC program, and I am sure that a periodic update of what is happening in this area would be of extreme interest. Post-military endeavors would also present an interesting way of tying Jesuit education and military service to what we do after our time of service.

Robert Rivers ('65)
Midlothian, Va.

Robert - great idea! Last fall, we published a collection of such stories on our website, but agree that many magazine readers would enjoy seeing them here. Look for those to appear in the summer issue as we recognize ROTC's 70th anniversary. You can also find them at gonzaga.edu/veterans.



Seeking Sunshine

It's that time of year when many Spokane residents want to fly south in search of sunshine. I tend to find myself daydreaming of years past when work required that I travel to Phoenix for company meetings in February. (Shown above, my accommodations during one such trip.)

Many in the Zag family will trek to Vegas in March for the WCC tourney and will, no doubt, benefit from the extra vitamin D along with the fun of being together for basketball.

While blue skies and palm trees sound blissful, I'm grateful for the sunshine that comes my way (and yours, too) through the incredible feats, amazing people and inspiring moments shared in the Gonzaga community. In December, we published a heartwarming piece about current junior Thomas Gonzalez who decorates the hospital rooms of pediatric patients enduring long-term stays. That came on the heels of a whole package Dale Goodwin put together to honor alums who are veterans. One of the most-read stories on our website in 2022 was about the return of the remains of a grad who lost his life in war 55 years ago, and the closure that provided for his family. Our story team takes great pride in sharing these bright moments with you.

This issue of Gonzaga Magazine features the tenacity of women in athletics and the changes they've experienced in the last 50

years since Title IX formally addressed discrimination in sports. It also celebrates the anniversary of the Unity Multicultural Education Center, which, born of strife, made the way for many opportunities to grow in diversity and inclusion. You'll also see how alumni young and old are using their skills for the good of people who live with disabilities or neurodivergent realities.

So, while I wouldn't pass up another complimentary stay at the Sanctuary at Camelback Mountain (a fond memory from those Phoenix trips), I am renewed instead by the touching memories of alumni reflecting on the impact of Father Tony Lehmann, S.J. (see Mystery Zag for some of those). I remain grateful every day for the incredible people who create the Gonzaga community and inspire the next generation of Jesuit-educated world changers.

Yours while dreaming of sunny days here in Spokane,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate".

Kate Vanskike ('22 M.A.)
Editor

P.S. Drop me a line anytime. gonzaga.edu/editor

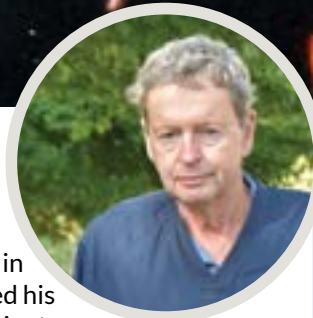
Extraterrestrial Insights

For Professor of Physics Erik Aver's research into the amount of helium produced in the minutes after the Big Bang, he knew he needed other scientists to collaborate with, and students to analyze data. But first and foremost, he needed the ability to observe roughly 40 galaxies and the stars that formed in those galaxies millions upon millions of years ago.

Enter the large binocular telescope, the second-largest optical telescope for astronomy in North America, located on Mount Graham in southern Arizona. A grant totaling nearly \$800,000 from the National Science Foundation allows Aver and his colleagues at the University of Minnesota and Ohio State University to gather data across many nights from the telescope to observe those 40 galaxies and see their differences.



NASA courtesy photo



Back to Earth

Tim Hatcher served four years as a student groundskeeper at Gonzaga before graduating in 1981 with a degree in political science. He tried his hand at politics, serving as an aide in the Washington state Legislature for three months, but "couldn't get out of there fast enough," he says, trading his tie and briefcase for a pair of jeans, T-shirt and a rake, joining the Gonzaga grounds crew full time in May 1982.

The affable and hardworking Hatcher was promoted to irrigation specialist in 1990, lead groundskeeper in 1994 and supervisor in 2004. He retired Dec. 30 after 45 years. During that span, Gonzaga grounds just kept looking better, and last fall the campus was named one of the country's 56 most beautiful by Condé Nast Traveler magazine, which Hatcher credits to his crew.

Happy retirement, Tim!

Unbracketed

"Unbracketed: Big-Time College Basketball Done the Right Way" chronicles four smaller NCAA Division I institutions – Gonzaga, Villanova, Loyola-Chicago and Davidson – which turned Cinderella runs in the NCAA tournament into a seemingly permanent invitation to the Big Dance.



Each institution had established a reputation for academic credibility. But once their basketball teams became marquee names in the tournament, their institutions' stock rose.

The book's authors – Graham Honaker, executive director of principal gifts at Butler University, and Jerry Logan, assistant dean of faculty affairs at Brown University School of Public Health – capture the allure of these four basketball programs, which built their success to last the test of time.

At Gonzaga, Mike Roth, Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., Dan Monson and Mark Few developed the men's basketball program from the inside, a characteristic of each of the four profiled institutions.

In GU's 23 years of NCAA tournament participation, enrollment has grown from 4,400 to 7,300 and the endowment has quadrupled. The University is now ranked among the Top 100 academic institutions in the country.

To tell of basketball's influence on that growth, "Unbracketed" authors interviewed a number of individuals outside athletics, leaders from academic areas, advancement, marketing, enrollment and more, including NCAA faculty representative Peggy Sue Lorz and Bulldog Band director David Fague.

Basketball became a catalyst for work to be done in admission, fundraising and marketing, but it is not the substance, the authors note. The substance remains the people within the community, and their dedication to the schools' mission day to day and year to year.



ROTC Champs

Last fall, Gonzaga's ROTC Bulldog Battalion competed in the elements against peers from across the West in the Ranger Challenge. GU cadets won by a single point over Washington State, after a series of tasks, including a combat fitness test and a 15-mile march carrying 35-pound rucksacks in snow and rain.

"They focused, hustled, took care of one another, thought through complex problems and found sound and creative solutions, were gritty, excellent sportswomen and men, and displayed what we expect in future U.S. Army officers who will soon lead soldiers in the world's best army," said Alan Westfield, senior military science instructor at Gonzaga.

Members of the team were Ethan Baker, Katie Bruce, Daisy Deane, Ty Emmons, Konrad Gerhardt, Michael McCallum, Alek Miller, David Miller, Will Nagel, McCall Penna and Mason Walker.

Connections Grow with Gonzaga Family Haven

The Gonzaga Family Haven, which opened in fall 2021, is providing a number of opportunities for GU students to connect with the families residing at the housing complex. Students in the School of Nursing and Human Physiology hosted a health fair offering COVID-19 and flu vaccines, plus sports physicals to young athletes. After-school activities include tutoring, sports and games. The University has received \$576,000 in federal funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to enhance a variety of support opportunities, including youth enrichment programs, financial literacy and legal resources for adults, health and wellness, leadership development and more. In November, Washington Sen. Maria Cantwell visited the Haven to learn more about the impact of the funds.

» Find these and other gems. gonzaga.edu/news

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

gonzaga.edu/events

Lectures

Caring for Our Common Home, in This World and with This Climate:
Cardinal Michael Czerny, S.J. ('68)
March 9 | Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center

Building Resilient Infrastructure in the Face of a Changing Climate:
Kevin Kunz
March 20 | Hemmingson Auditorium

The Legacy of Matthew Shepherd:
Judy Shepherd
March 22 | Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center

The Political and Ethical Dimensions of the Renewable Energy Transition:
Griffin Thompson
April 3 | Hemmingson Auditorium

GSBA Presidential Speaker:
Davis Smith, Cotopaxi founder
April 13 | Hemmingson Auditorium

7th International Conference on Hate Studies: The Challenges of Hate in the 21st Century
April 20-22 | Spokane Community College

Performing Arts
Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center

Jazz Program Concert: March 2
Student Choreography Concerts:
April 14-15

Spring Dance Concert: April 28-29


Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra with Pascal Rogé and Barbara Binet:
May 1

Special Events

Zags Give Day | March 9
24-hour giving impact challenge
See back cover for details.

Diversity Monologues | March 28
Annual student event with the Unity Multicultural Education Center.

ACADEMIC ENDEAVORS



PASCUAL SALVAJ
NICISCO PCHATARO

STORY BY KATE VANSKIKE ('22 M.A.)
PHOTOS BY ZACK BERLAT ('11)

DANCING WITH LIFE: MEXICAN MASKS

Pavel Shlossberg, associate professor of graduate communications and leadership in Gonzaga's School of Leadership Studies, led the curation of a unique exhibition at Spokane's Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (MAC). Here, we learn a bit about the reasons and efforts behind this work.

Your first book on this topic was "Crafting Identity: Transnational Indian Arts and the Politics of Race in Central Mexico." What spurred your personal and professional interest in this work?

It was the sense that art, creativity, performance, the work of cultural expression is central to understanding, to intercultural communication and inclusion. Engaging with this art form was a terrific, grounded way to get at how local cultural expression (and its depiction beyond the community) can support and (all too often) undercut collective and mutual sensemaking and understanding both within one community and across groups.

What were the critical components of how this research might manifest over time?

Initially, the key question was whether practitioners and folks in the community would recognize themselves and their art/creativity within the account, considering that I am an outsider. Does my account have fidelity, does it ring true to the community actors and performers? Does it do justice to them? Then those questions extended to interrogating, critiquing and displacing some of the received and dominant ways that museums, catalogs and commercial sources have depicted and discussed Mexican (Indigenous and mestizo) "danzas" and masks and their artists and performers. My alternative account seeks to counter the stereotypes and reductive tropes that routinely muffle, exoticize and inflict symbolic and other forms of violence on the community.

(continued)





What fostered the vision for a public exhibit?

The specific collaboration with the MAC is itself quite fortuitous. Gonzaga history faculty member Laurie Arnold is also a board member at the MAC, which has had a collection of 500 Mexican masks inherited from the former Museum of Native American Culture housed on the University campus. It is an extensive collection, but there was hardly any documentation, and what existed was mostly poor or incorrect. To do justice to the masks, it would be necessary to center artists and dancers and their voices and community performances and celebrations. Happily, this vision resonated with the Museum, which arranged a grant that allowed me to undertake my trip to Michoacan where I knew artists, dancers and community masking customs. Documentary work allowed us to mount and exhibit masks within the proper performance and community context, centering artists and community voices in discussing the art form and its meanings.

As a communications and leadership scholar, what did you learn about the process of curating an exhibit?

It takes a village! I am indebted to the work and wise guidance of my colleagues at the MAC, my graduate assistants at Gonzaga and Jundt Art Museum staff. I feel honored to have worked with some ethical and mindful communicators and leaders who have not taken the easiest route but have been willing to tell a more meaningful and complex story that takes more effort, intentionality and time to tell.

» Dancing With Life remains open at the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture through April 16, 2023.

Social Talk

BY AMANDA HARDT ('17)

GONZAGA'S SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST

Social media, for better or worse, has become a large part of everyday life for most people. It's not just for the younger generations trying to keep up with trends, but a place where people of all ages can gather information, engage with others and tell stories.

Having thousands of users across multiple platforms presents social media professionals with a unique challenge of maintaining relevancy to audiences with diverse needs and interests. The good news for me is that the users I engage with all have at least one thing in common: an interest in and/or love for Gonzaga University.

In 2022 we sent out more than 2,000 posts on our social media network, which includes Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and TikTok. That's 2,000 opportunities for Zags to share their stories, connect with old pals and learn something new. Whether it's photos of a tender moment between a mother and daughter on move-in day, a video capturing the successes and



celebrations of Commencement weekend, or a collection of Zag wedding photos, Gonzaga's social media is a special digital gathering place to tell "the good old days" stories for some while simultaneously capturing the moments of what will eventually become "the good old days" stories for others.



Madness

During March Madness – no surprise – there are more eyes on Gonzaga's social media than any other period in the year. In 2022, the biggest highlight came with a challenge from late-night TV host Jimmy Fallon, and a quickly executed, wildly popular video by staff videographer Zack Bagdon ('16), showing off the enthusiastic energy of Gonzaga students.

» **See it** – and other great content ranging from religious reflections to academic conversations and more. youtube.com/GonzagaU

Something for Everyone

Facebook: Boomers* and Gen X-ers* love to show off their kids/grandkids and pets, and discuss the news of the day. We like to give them alumni stories and University updates.

Twitter: Professionals, media and entertainers of all ages share short nuggets of news, updates and funny responses to real-life moments. Here's where we post lots of news and reminders.

Instagram: Millennials* post about daily life, hot brands to follow/places to see, creative hacks and videos about

animals. Gonzaga's channel often features "takeovers" by student groups showing off what they're all about.

LinkedIn: Users here tend to stick to professional endeavors and network with others in their fields. We post alumni career updates, leadership reflections and of course, job openings.

TikTok: If there's a new trend in story-sharing, dance moves, practical jokes or music, Gen Z* will ensure it's spread through TikTok. This is where we engage with prospective students by having a sense of humor.

*Generalizations. We know many people defy the norms!

UNIVERSITY CHAPEL:

Recreating a Sacred Space

BY DALE GOODWIN ('86 M.A.T.)

In an interesting twist of fate, Gonzaga's first Vice President for Mission Bill Watson, S.J., wanted to be an architect but became a priest, while Mac McCandless spent eight years in a seminary to become a priest before deciding on a secular career in architecture.

This combo's career decisions made for an impressive team with just the right credentials to mastermind the badly needed renovation of the University Chapel in 2001.

"Father Watson called me and said, 'We've got to do something with the chapel,'" recalls McCandless, then the University's campus architect. "He said we've got to recapture the soul of this place."

McCandless, slightly stymied by the Jesuit's response, asked what he meant. To which Fr. Watson replied, "You're the architect."

It was a good thing that McCandless had the religious background he did, having attended Notre Dame and acquired a sense of religious style and form. He also had done some restoration work at Notre Dame dormitory chapels and later at St. Aloysius Church.

But Watson was not without his own design sensibilities.

"It influenced what we see in the chapel today," McCandless says.

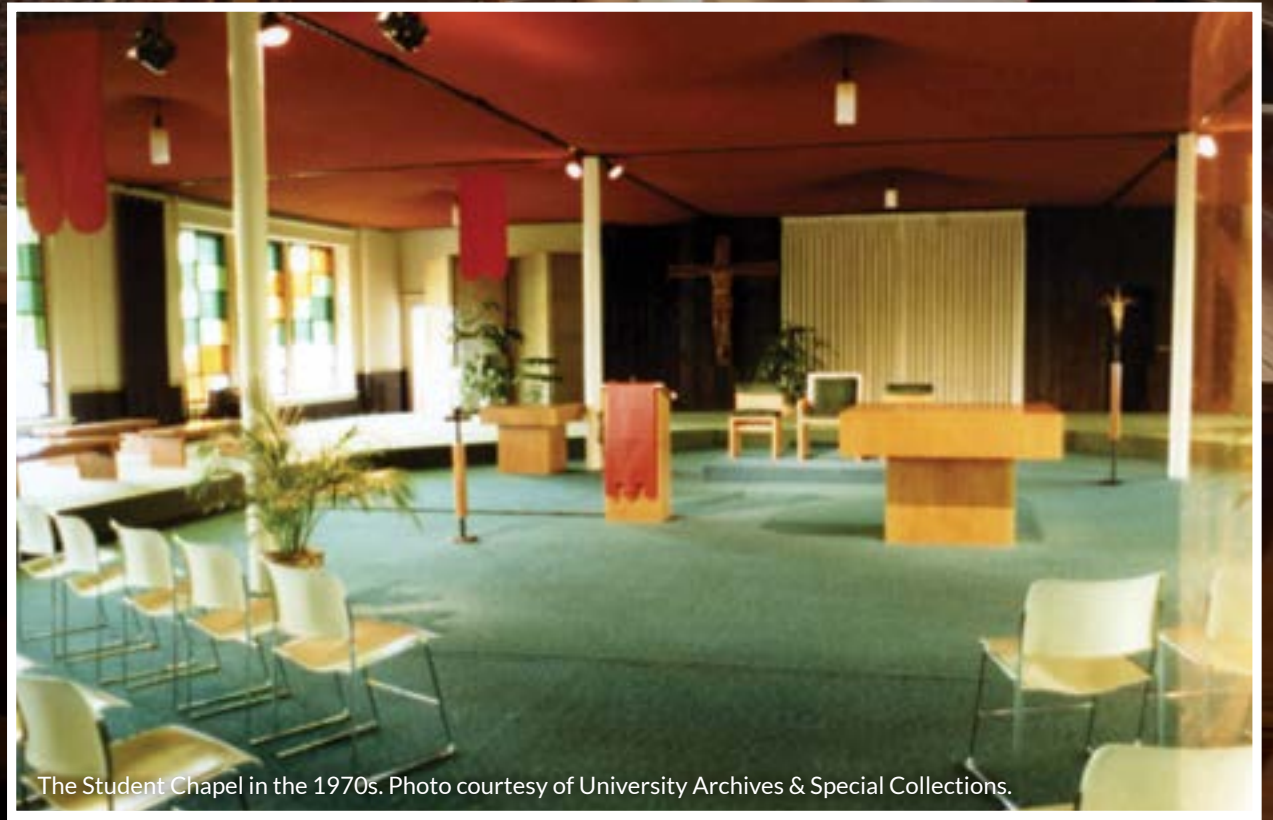
The result of this team's enterprise was nothing less than spectacular.

Burlap and Shag

In 1968, post-Vatican II, the state of the chapel reflected a previous restoration reflective of the current times. During the demolition, the original wood pews, altar and stations of the cross were thrown out the chapel windows via a chute and crashed to the ground three stories below. An orange burlap ceiling hung from rails above thick shag carpet; walls painted dark olive green covered the frescos. Attendees would sit on the floor or on a 10-inch riser around the room's periphery.

When the burlap ceiling was removed in 2001, it revealed handcrafted ornate pressed tin tiles from the original chapel, which were restored. The shag carpet was removed and the original rusty-colored fir floor was sanded and masterfully refinished. A carpet runner placed down the middle aisle led to the new wooden altar, designed by McCandless. Dimmable custom circular light clusters were hung over the center aisle. When lit, the hardware disappears, giving visitors a sense of a starry night.

(continued)



The Student Chapel in the 1970s. Photo courtesy of University Archives & Special Collections.

Despite efforts to restore the frescos and motifs painted by Jesuit Brother Joseph Carignano on the wall behind the altar in 1904 – and painted over in the 1968 post-Vatican II renovation – the artwork could not be saved. McCandless and Fr. Watson chose to adorn that wall with stenciled faux gold-leaf Gothic fleurs d’ lis and crosses in a contrasting high gloss/flat paint pattern. Custom-built stained wood pews replaced plastic chairs with thin metal frames.

Art in Stained Glass

Arguably the most compelling change was the installation of 27 leaded stained-glass windows, each commemorating a saint. They were crafted for The Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Philadelphia in 1925, which was replacing them with energy-efficient plain glass windows. Learning of this, Fr. Watson researched and purchased the windows.

But wait, the windows were only 3-by-7 feet, and the window frames in the University Chapel were 4-by-8. Watson hired a pair of Philadelphia fine artists to re-create additional leaded glasswork around the outside of the original leaded glass to create windows the right size for Gonzaga.

“The way these fine artists were able to extend the windows to perfectly match the artwork on the original pieces was nothing short of incredible,” McCandless says.

The young artists – Emily Reiss, then 24, and Sara Kratzer, then 25 – loaded 28 stained glass windows on a truck and hauled them across the country, then installed 27 of them in the chapel.

So, what happened to the 28th window, which depicts St. Michael the Archangel? It now graces the Kennedy Apartments chapel named for the saint.

Chapel History

The original chapel was built in 1904, part of the east expansion of the Administration Building. It represented traditional Catholic structure with pendant gas lighting, clear windows with lace curtains framed by heavy brocade drapes, and pews with particularly narrow seating so patrons would sit up and pay attention.

Just 12 years after the major renovation in 1967-68, Fred Hayes-Adams, then assistant director of Campus Ministry, said “the folksy décor” had outworn its welcome. Walls were painted off-white, orange and green colored-glass windows were installed and cast-off metal and plastic chairs from the COG were installed.

“The 2001-02 restoration attempted to balance the best of the original chapel with the need to adapt to current liturgical practices,” McCandless says. “Achieving that required a skilled team of diverse tradespeople, fabricators and artisans who pooled their talents and efforts to create this unique space, which was special to many of them.”

In the end, Gonzaga’s Chief Strategy Officer Chuck Murphy, a freshman in 1969, says it is the community that has made this chapel a special place.

“I recall that the daily services were well attended by students who enjoyed the singing with guitar and other instrumentation. Weekend and holiday services were usually standing-room-only affairs because many Spokane alums attended, bringing their families, as well. There was a great sense of community with this mix of current and former students, and our Jesuit Community members did a great job of connecting to both constituencies, making it truly a celebration,” Murphy says.

McCandless adds, “When I stand here today and see how folks feel inside this place, I know it is special.”





The last major renovation of the University Chapel was in 2001, made possible with gifts from Mary and Jack McCann and Emma and Mike Patterson ('69). Many of the 27 leaded stained-glass window panels, purchased from a church in Philadelphia, were dedicated to loved ones by other generous donors. Stations of the cross were recycled from a Franciscan retreat center in Portland, Oregon, and are lit to show the detail in the wood carvings.



The Building of Belonging

Celebrating UMEC's 25th anniversary

BY KATE VANSKIKE ('22 M.A.)
WITH REPORTING BY SYDNEY FLUKER ('23)

A brick home on Gonzaga's campus, Unity House emerged as a refuge, a safe harbor for diverse perspectives and experiences. It also birthed a powerhouse of student activism and potential that became the apex of hope for unity in the campus community.

Now called the Unity Multicultural Education Center (UMEC), the Unity House was born from strife, formed from the urgency felt by students of color at a predominantly white institution. They faced back-to-back-to-back racial threats at GU in 1995, '96 and '97, prompting Father Bernard Coughlin, S.J., then president, to assign several members of campus to develop an action plan. Related decisions led to establishing the Gonzaga Institute for Hate Studies (now the Center for the Study of Hate), a commitment to diversifying the workforce (still underway) and creating a space to gather for students most impacted by biases.

The catalyst was **Bob Bartlett**, an assistant dean of Student Affairs.

“Bob was advocating for this before any critical incident occurred, before it became fashionable to talk about inclusion and belonging. He gave it his heart and soul,” recalls **Raymond Reyes**, who supported Bartlett in developing greater resources for students of color and others who were commonly targets of exclusion.

For both of them – an African American and a Mexican-Native American – the work was “like salmon swimming upstream,” Reyes says. They collected all the synergy they could to “make a difference with difference,” as Reyes puts it. “It was the place students could go and unpack their experiences of racism before we had a bias team to address concerns formally.”

Early on, participation at Unity House was a small percentage of the greater diverse population at Gonzaga. But when Bartlett, Reyes and colleague **Ana Gonzalez** started the BRIDGE program (2005) to offer a specialized pre-orientation for students identifying as Black, Indigenous or People of Color (BIPOC), participation at Unity House blossomed.

So did the conversations. Students came to the house to share the implicit biases they experienced in classrooms and other settings, but also simply to hang out and talk about history and literature and other classes, and unpack what professors had presented.

UMEC, says Reyes, was not a place for students to run away from racism. “No. It was a place to decenter whiteness (before we even knew that phrase), and to reimagine what education could be.”

DEVELOPING A CULTURALLY INFORMED CAMPUS

What the students were asking for, Bartlett and Reyes found, was culturally informed education. And that realization fueled many other projects that would impact virtually every aspect of the university.

In a short time, there would be the first chief diversity officer position and a diversity requirement added to the core curriculum in the College of Arts and Sciences (both in 1998). Soon came bias training through the Intercultural Development Inventory in 2004 and the LGBTQ+ Center in 2005, alongside the BRIDGE program. In 2007, Gonzaga completed its first campus climate assessment to understand how well faculty, staff and students felt supported, and the next year, a mentorship program launched.

“It was a watershed period, those first 10-15 years of UMEC,” Reyes says.

After Bartlett’s departure, UMEC saw a number of leaders during a period of change and evolution. Development continues strong today under the guidance of **Joan Iva Fawcett**, dean for Social Justice Leadership & Community Empowerment. Last summer, she welcomed two new directors – UMEC’s **Jessie Mancilla** and the Lincoln LGBTQ+ Resource Center’s **Jamie Bartlett** (no relation to Bob).

Gonzaga has admitted more diverse classes of students and hired more people of color to carry out the academic and spiritual mission of the University. There is more to do, but the addition of leaders to diversity-related programming is a solid indicator of progress.

(continued)

Raymond Reyes and Rani Chavez ('18) celebrate recognition at the Magis Awards.





Members of the 2015 ActSix cohort gather in front of the original Unity House. They are: Henadz Krukovich ('19), Hawa Elias ('19), Joseph Allen Jerome ('19), Loren Carrillo ('19), Siniva (Areta) Menso ('19), Eloisa Serrano, Kathy Au ('19) and Jennifer Phan ('19).

SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE

"I can't imagine my experience at Gonzaga without thinking about UMEC," says **Rani Chavez** (they/them), a 2018 grad who eventually oversaw the BRIDGE orientation program that they had benefited from personally.

"When I think about my experience overall, so much of it is rooted in that first week when I was a BRIDGE student," Chavez says. "I was introduced to all these topics that weren't really discussed in my high school."

They continue: "One thing my high school didn't necessarily prepare me for was the transition to being underrepresented at a predominantly white institution. I think the support system through BRIDGE was so foundational to making Gonzaga feel like a home."

Liz Perez ('20) also recalls BRIDGE as a first-year student, and the ensuing culture shock during the main orientation where the diversity of the student body was low. "It was a little bit of an adjustment period, so I really relied on UMEC," Perez says. "I knew that I could talk to one of the mentors or staff and faculty and they would understand me in a way that maybe some of my other professors or friends wouldn't."

"UMEC really did shape my experience and became a second home," Perez says. "It was a safe space. It was somewhere I knew I could have fun or even challenge my thinking and other leadership skills and develop those abilities, with the comfort of knowing that my boss is going to assist me where I need growth."

Perez loves what she's seeing UMEC offer for students now: a homier atmosphere with better access on the second floor of Hemmingson Center, the catching up at monthly Soup for the Soul gatherings and the annual Diversity Monologues, a student-run storytelling showcase.

A ROADMAP FOR INCLUSIVITY

This spring, under the direction of **Robin Kelley**, chief diversity officer, Gonzaga will roll out an Inclusive Excellence Strategic Plan, a roadmap to help Gonzaga achieve aspirations to be more inclusive and equitable. Kelley's vision today with the Office of Inclusive Excellence is the actualization of what her predecessor, Reyes, dreamed decades ago, including a strong focus on these priorities:

- *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 and staff to administrative leadership. Also important is reducing the incidence of bias complaints, offering incentives to faculty and staff to pursue

Liz Perez ('20) at a La Raza Latina club event in 2019



My Lien Truong ('20) (far left), Maddy Lagrange ('23) (taking selfie), Raegan Bowyer ('23), Salma Shairulla ('21), Beraca Luboya ('23), Jessica Clay ('23)



related training, and promoting engagement in multicultural activities by all campus communities.

“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 aim to foster the development of our students, preparing them for social justice-driven citizenship and leadership.”

A PLACE OF BELONGING

While the phrase “diversity, equity and inclusion” or “DEI” has become commonplace over the past several years, Kelley has added “belonging” and “justice” to the thread to encompass the fullness of what diversity work seeks to accomplish.

“We want to create a sustainable, inclusive community where all members are welcomed, valued and supported and have a sense of belonging,” Kelley says.

Mancilla, UMEC’s new director, says that sense of belonging for historically marginalized populations is the heart of his work with students. He hopes to foster a stronger connection between UMEC programming and the related work occurring through Mission and Ministry, the Lincoln Center and other campus programs such as Gonzaga Outdoors.

That, he says, will help create a stronger community.

“Making students feel at home here at GU is the focus I’m wanting,” Mancilla says.

Beyond student life activities, he also aims to bolster the support to set up students for success in academics and career pursuits. He envisions study groups for the GRE, MCAT and LSAT exams, for example, and strong connections with the Alumni of Color affinity group to encourage mentorship opportunities.

“It’s a holistic approach,” he adds.

HOPEFUL FUTURE

The work at a predominantly white institution is only successful if it becomes a place of unity – “a learning and generative space where faculty and students collaboratively pursue knowing the similarities and understanding the differences,” Reyes says.

He continues, “The power of UMEC is inclusive belonging where difference is the center of gravity for building a beloved multicultural community. My hope for the next 25 years is for the teaching and learning in the classroom to build upon what began at Unity House as antiracist and inclusive exploration.”

Diversity Monologues – March 28

It’s a “great way to see and highlight students’ talents and their histories and stories in the art they create, whether through poems or spoken word or rap,” says Liz Perez ('20).

Learn about other 25th anniversary celebrations and what’s next for UMEC.

gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare

View the Inclusive Excellence Strategic Plan.

gonzaga.edu/InclusiveExcellencePlan



Unity Multicultural Education Center

GONZAGA
UNIVERSITY



Celebrate UMEC's Anniversary with a Gift!

A \$5,000 crowdfunding project aims to support the Unity Multicultural Education Center's advocacy for underrepresented students and provide experiential learning opportunities for all Zags to create a community that integrates and values multiple perspectives and cultural narratives.

"UMEC has given me a community that has helped me grow as an individual and helped me feel empowered to advocate for myself and others that are a part of the diverse population here at Gonzaga."

—Aaliyah L. '23

Help meet or exceed the \$5,000 goal!

» zagfunding.gonzaga.edu



Buongiorno, Gonzaga

Why does the work we do at Gonzaga matter, and how interconnected are we to the worldwide mission of the Jesuits?



At St. Peter's Square in Rome with Board of Trustees Chair Christy Larsen ('88)

Those two questions were the crux of a pilgrimage to Italy taken last fall by a delegation of the University's Board of Trustees, as the culmination of a mission formation process. Through it, participants sought to more deeply appreciate and affirm our transformative work.

Twenty-four of 30 voting Trustees, two Trustees Emeriti, and 19 spouses/family members, together with several administrators and staff members, took this unprecedented journey at the invitation of Father General Arturo Sosa, superior of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). In Rome, they met with Jesuit leaders and visited some of the historic Jesuit sites, including the restored rooms within which St. Ignatius of Loyola lived and worked, adjacent to the Church of the Gesù, where St. Ignatius and others are entombed.

This experience, which required many months of planning and coordination, was only five days in duration and included the Board's regularly scheduled September meeting to tend to University business between mission formation activities. Significant highlights include several poignant meetings.

Father General Sosa, at the Jesuit headquarters, shared his priorities and desires for Jesuit universities worldwide. He underscored the importance of being courageous, authentic and fully engaged as we live out the mission entrusted to our entire community.

His assistant for North America, Fr. Douglas Marcouiller, S.J., discussed particular ways in which Trustees ought to consider their role and responsibilities in light of the Society's Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs), as well as the Mission Priority Examen process.

The executive director of the Jesuit Refugee Service, Fr. Tom Smolich, S.J. and two colleagues presented their work and its connection to Gonzaga's mission of educating students to lead and serve the world community – which includes the more than 100 million displaced people.

Renowned theologian Nuria Calduch-Benages, Pontifical Gregorian University, spoke about working at the

frontiers of the Church regarding the role of women in the Catholic intellectual endeavor.

A particular highlight was attending a General Audience with Pope Francis. Gonzaga University was formally recognized, and the Holy Father received Board Chair Christy (Mozilo) Larsen ('88) on behalf of the delegation, under the Papal Canopy on the steps in front of St. Peter's Basilica. Christy asked Pope Francis to pray for Gonzaga, and the Pope in turn asked us to pray for him.

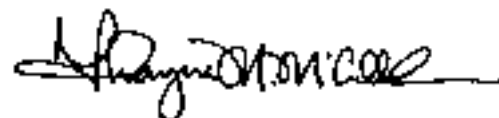
Transitioning to Florence, Trustees met with students, faculty, staff and administrators at the Mozilo Center, home to the Gonzaga in Florence program since 2003. The Board discussed the current geopolitical and economic environment in Europe and its impact on the program in Florence, as well as general university matters.

It is important to share that our Board is invested in maintaining our relationship with the Society of Jesus and the Church, committed to deepening its understanding of what defines a contemporary Catholic, Jesuit and humanistic university, and willing to invest significant time and resources in view of this. In addition to covering their own costs for this trip, Trustees and benefactors covered every expense associated with Jesuit and employee accompaniment, as well.

This summer, Father General Sosa challenged all Jesuit universities worldwide to imagine themselves following the self-described identity of St. Ignatius as pilgrims, "... taking to the road and trusting in the Spirit." In many ways, the transformational experience that we hoped would occur for our Trustees is similar to the transformational experience we seek for our students, as well as ourselves.

I invite you to explore in the pages ahead what our Trustees have said about this meaningful journey.

Sincerely,



Thayne M. McCulloh, D.Phil.
President

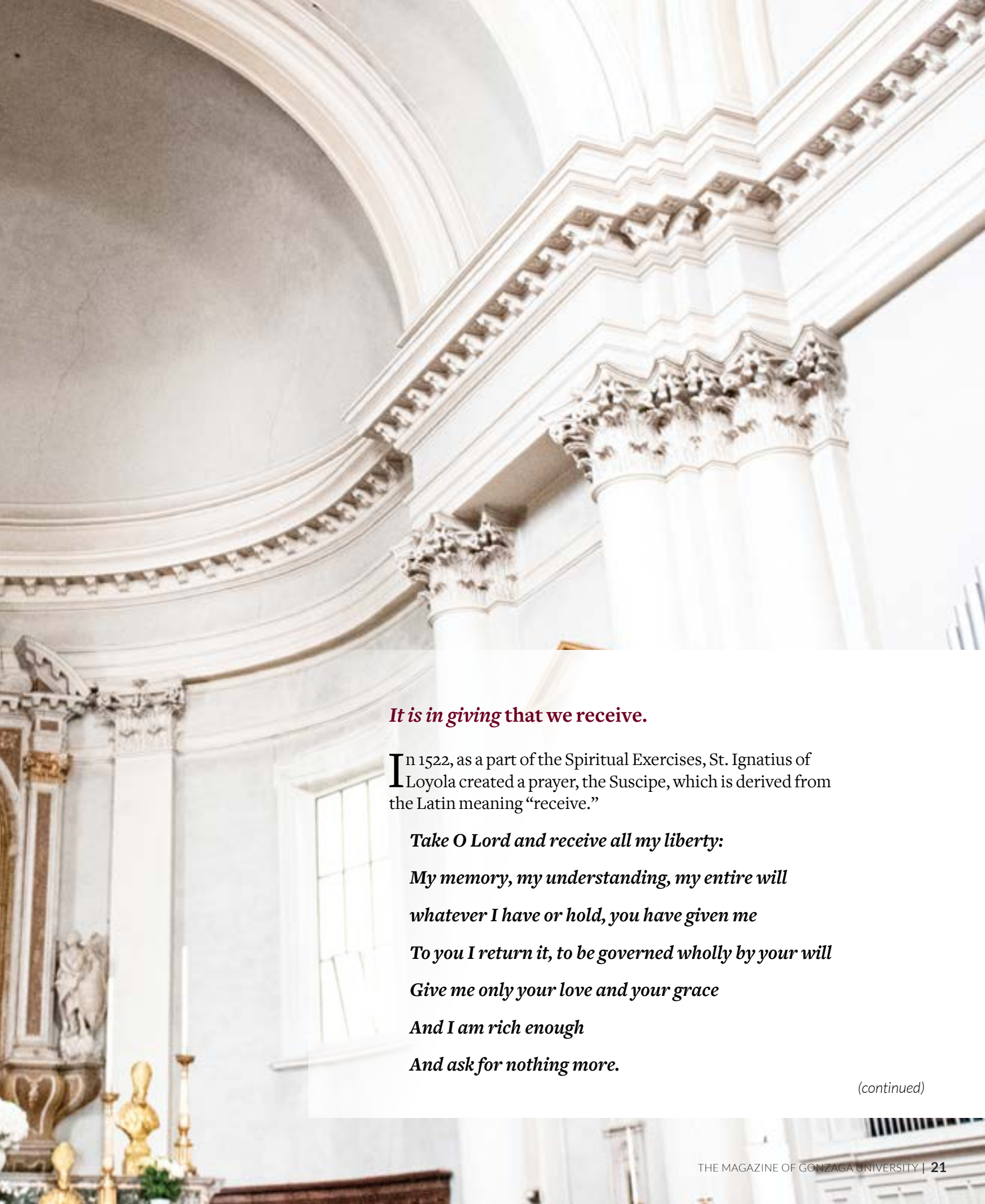
Journeying in Mission

Gonzaga Trustees strengthen
tie to Jesuits through pilgrimage

BY SARAH SCHWERING ('04, '07 M.B.A.)



Pictured here: Duomo dei Santi Nazario e Celso is in Castiglione delle Stiviere.
Photo by Zack Berlat



It is in giving that we receive.

In 1522, as a part of the Spiritual Exercises, St. Ignatius of Loyola created a prayer, the Suscipe, which is derived from the Latin meaning “receive.”

Take O Lord and receive all my liberty:

My memory, my understanding, my entire will

whatever I have or hold, you have given me

To you I return it, to be governed wholly by your will

Give me only your love and your grace

And I am rich enough

And ask for nothing more.

(continued)



Trustees, family members and Gonzaga staff at the Jesuit Curia with St. Peter's Square (Rome) in the background.

The following is an account of the giving and receiving at the heart of Gonzaga's governance and leadership, an overview of the profound experiences that occur when people invest themselves in relationship, and in service to the idea of developing a vision for the future rooted in the powerful heritage of the University's Jesuit and Catholic identity.

“Be Bold, Take Risks”

In late September, 24 Trustees and 19 of their spouses, family members and guests, traveled to Italy to walk literally and figuratively in the footsteps of St. Ignatius. This pilgrimage, completely benefactor-funded and several years in development, was the first time Gonzaga's Trustees would journey to meet in Rome with leaders of the Society of Jesus (the

Jesuits). The goal was to understand better and more deeply what is expected of us as a Jesuit university and succeed in achieving our mission as an apostolic work.

For Trustee **Rita Illig Liebelt**, chair of the Mission Integration Committee, the Trustee pilgrimage was fundamental to the Board's formation plan. “What is so important to realize is that this wasn't a trip. It was a pilgrimage. It was about getting to the roots of our Jesuit heritage. Our Catholic faith. To grow, to absorb and to learn together in communion.” Board Chair **Christy Larsen** ('88) saw how it would bring the Board together. “Our Board is a group of diverse individuals with different lived experiences. The pilgrimage offered us the opportunity to share a common experience, in service to our work as a Board.”

During the first three days, the group journeyed through Rome, meeting with some of the most influential leaders in the Jesuit world. They began at the Curia (headquarters) of the Society of Jesus, where they heard from the international director of Jesuit Refugee Service, Fr. Tom Smolich, S.J.; General Counselor and Regional Assistant for the U.S. and Canada Fr. Doug Marcouiller, S.J.; and ultimately the Very Rev. Arturo Sosa, S.J., superior general and ultimate authority in governance of the Jesuits.

Hearing Father General’s message was especially insightful for Trustee **Theresa Dominguez**. “Father General gave us a gift when he said, ‘Don’t be scared or afraid to go forward and be bold.’ He talked about not being still in our discernment, but to be bold, to go forward, sharing the apostolic preferences, which have been set forth, aligning the preferences with our mission identity.”

Trustee, Rector and Superior of GU’s Jesuit Community **Fr. Tom Lamanna**, S.J., agreed that the visit with Father General was one of the most impactful experiences. “Hearing Father General’s call to be bold and animate the mission of the university is fundamental to our need for apostolic discernment,” Lamanna says.

Suscipe

At the Pontifical Gregorian University, attendees heard from Jesuit scholars and leaders. Fr. Hans Zollner, S.J., director of the Institute of Anthropology, Interdisciplinary Studies on Human Dignity and Care, spoke about the study of systemic elements in the Church that have given rise to abuse by clergy, and the work of the Institute in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The group next met with Fr. Jim Grummer, S.J., superior of the Jesuit Community and Fr. Mark Lewis, S.J., rector (president) of the Pontifical Gregorian University, to talk about the work of the “Greg,” which has its roots in the Roman College, founded by St. Ignatius in 1551. The morning concluded with an excellent lecture by Professor Nuria Calduch-Benages, an Old Testament scholar who spoke about women’s research on the role of women in the Bible.

The group also toured the Church of St. Ignatius (where St. Aloysius Gonzaga is buried), il Gesu (the “mother church” of the Jesuits and the burial place of St. Ignatius and many other notable Jesuits), and the restored rooms of St. Ignatius, which included visiting and praying in the room where Ignatius lived and ultimately died.

To Trustee **Larry Simkins**, this was one of the most memorable moments of the entire journey. “During the pandemic, I, along with a handful of trustees and GU staff, did the Spiritual Exercises with **Fr. Tim Clancy**, S.J., which provided context for what we were about to experience. During our tour, we were cramped together in St. Ignatius’ room and our guide was sharing more about Ignatius’ life and how he had died right in that very place. At that moment, she invited someone from our group to share, and out of the back of the group, from the darkness, stepped Fr. Clancy.”

As Fr. Clancy, associate professor of philosophy, recalls: “After a long and prayerful walking tour, we entered the historically small room where St. Ignatius had worked. I shared the prayer Jesuit novices pray every night when we ourselves were tired and ready for bed.”

(continued)



President McCulloh with Father General Arturo Sosa, S.J.

But for Simkins, it was a moment he will never forget. “Fr. Clancy said, ‘I think I have a prayer; I’ll try to remember it,’ and he recited word-for-word St. Ignatius’ prayer, *Suscipe*. It was such a special moment.”

The Spirit at Work

At the Vatican, the Gonzaga constituency was among the pilgrim groups formally announced to the thousands attending the General Audience with Pope Francis. Before the service began, a member of the Swiss Guard and President McCulloh conferred, and it was confirmed that there was one seat reserved on the platform for a representative from Gonzaga. McCulloh immediately turned to Board Chair Christy Larsen and asked her to represent the Board and the institution.

“Meeting Pope Francis was such a privilege,” says Larsen. “His presence, his inner strength and godliness just surrounded him as an aura. As I awaited my invitation to approach, the environment seemed a bit chaotic. Eventually, my opportunity to greet Pope Francis arrived, and everything came into focus. It was an experience of a lifetime and I am thankful for it.”

To Liebelt, the message Pope Francis shared that day could not have been more in line with the purpose of the pilgrimage. “Pope Francis’ message was all about the spirit at work. Prayer calls us to action.”

Andiamo a Firenze!

After arriving in Florence, the group converged at the Palazzo Antinori, which was home to the Gonzaga in Florence program for many years. The next day, the Board met in formal session to learn about the current status of the program, then gathered to celebrate 20 years since the purchase of the current building; the program, its faculty, staff and students; and generosity that made possible the beautiful courtyard that now graces the Mozilo Center.

For Dominguez, the visit to the Florence campus was very special. “Seeing where students are studying abroad at the GU site and learning more about the issues facing Dean Jason Houston and the Florence faculty, will help us learn how we as Trustees can continue to support this program in service to our students.”

While he himself is not a GU alumnus, both of Simkins’ daughters attended Gonzaga, one of them having spent a semester in Florence. “There’s something that makes Gonzaga special, and this journey allowed me to get embedded in the culture of Gonzaga in Florence. The history and the connection with the Florence community was so much deeper than I could have ever imagined.”

We Need to Live It

Gonzaga is one of only a few universities in the U.S. Association of Jesuit Colleges & Universities (AJCU) whose Trustees have made this kind of journey to Rome. And with 24 Trustees in attendance, Gonzaga’s experience has become a model to which other schools are looking for their own leadership formation.

“Our Trustees made a significant investment of time, resources and goodwill,” McCulloh says, “and made manifest their commitment to the Jesuits by journeying, by visiting with Father General, Fr. Marcouiller and the Jesuits working in Rome. They connected with our Jesuit heritage. It was important, formative work that will benefit the University for years to come.”

For Liebelt, the pilgrimage allowed the Board to see their role through a new lens. “As Board members we are called to be open to discernment and prayer, to discover how the Spirit moves us. We must be willing to take risks and that’s sometimes hard to hear. We listen to God working in our lives, directing us, leading us.”

Joe Carvalho, M.D. (’79), joined the Board of Trustees in 2019, and as a newer Trustee recognized



Trustees at the Church of St. Ignatius, in front of the tomb of St. Aloysius Gonzaga

the importance of journeying together to better understand the University's mission. "It was important for me to embrace what Gonzaga stands for as a Catholic, Jesuit university," he says. "As Trustees we need to live it, not just understand it. Seeing firsthand the places that St. Ignatius journeyed and to imagine what he faced when creating the Society of Jesus was a priceless experience."

A Defining Moment

When planning began, it was of utmost importance to McCulloh and members of the Mission Integration Committee that this be a true pilgrimage: a journey that deepens an individual's understanding of

themselves and their personal relationship to God. This pilgrimage was spiritual in focus and mission-driven in purpose: an opportunity to see the heart of the Church and to visit places where St. Ignatius and his companions labored; but also to engage directly with the contemporary Society of Jesus and to grow in an awareness of the call we are receiving today, as a Jesuit work in the world. While just five full days, the impacts of the pilgrimage will continue to be felt for years to come.

Says Larsen, "The goal of the pilgrimage was to move our faith, our work and our relationship with the Catholic Church forward, and we did just that."

(continued)

“We’re a Jesuit university in a time when the number of American Jesuits is declining, and the question continues to be asked: ‘What are we doing to maintain our Jesuit identity?’ Father General shared directly with our Trustees what he wants, what he sees, where there are opportunities. There are important decisions and priorities here,” McCulloh says. “Part of this pilgrimage was not so much in finding answers, but in better understanding the questions our Trustees need to be asking. I’m so grateful for our Trustees’ commitment to this pilgrimage: It is in their hands that the future of this Jesuit work rests.”

To Give is to Receive

The Trustee pilgrimage was about deepening awareness, taking time to absorb and reflect, finding joy in the unexpected, and strengthening bonds – between individuals and institutions alike. And, as with all such pilgrimages, it is hoped that the investment of time and energy yields rich rewards, for each individual and for Gonzaga University’s present and future, as well.

Learn more about the Jesuits’ Universal Apostolic Preferences.

» gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare



The Board enjoys a sunny day at St. Peter's Square.



Christy Larsen with Pope Francis © Vatican Media

Q&A with Board Chair Christy Larsen

When the idea of the Trustee pilgrimage was first discussed, what went through your mind?

Planning the pilgrimage was set in motion under former Trustee Chair Paul Brajcich's leadership. In conjunction with the president, it was his, along with Trustee Emerita Rita Liebelt's vision to bring the Board back to our Jesuit roots. As Trustees, we work to animate Gonzaga's Mission, and understand how to articulate it within our community. This pilgrimage is a step in our efforts to meld the broader and more complex elements of the Jesuit tradition with the work we are doing at Gonzaga. In finalizing the plans, my hope was to bring the Board together with intention, in a shared experience that would serve to strengthen our relationship with our faith and each other.

As board chair, your leadership is fundamental to the success and strategic growth of our institution. How did this trip change, adjust or inspire how you view your role?

The pilgrimage further honed my focus, particularly when we talk about not just who we want to be as a university, but how we want to show up in our community and the greater world. Having the

opportunity to spend time with the leadership of the Jesuits and the Catholic Church renewed my belief that we are on the right path: Our priorities are aligned with our Mission, we have a strong commitment to our Jesuit and Catholic identity, and we believe the Apostolic Preferences are to be prioritized. Father General reinforced that the work is far from done, and encouraged us to be bold in our efforts. I don't have to be told twice to be bold, so I am running with it!

What about this trip was most important, memorable and valuable to you?

As a student, the relationships and bonds built with your friends and fellow students is extraordinary because you're sharing a unique experience. As Board members, we had a similar opportunity; shared long days front-loaded with education, afternoons convening and breaking bread, and evenings in conversation about where Gonzaga is today and its future of great opportunity. We entered this journey as a strong group committed to Gonzaga University; we came home as a strong unit with a great sense of purpose, ready to continue our important work.



Title IX:

37 words & 50 years

Five Decades of Positive Changes for Gonzaga Women's Sports Scene

BY DALE GOODWIN ('86 M.A.T.)

It took just 37 words to change the educational experience for women and girls in the United States. This civil rights legislation, which applies to all schools and educational agencies, sought to break down gender-based barriers, but also to improve prevention and reporting of sex-based harassment and assault.

Title IX is a 1972 amendment to the Civil Rights Act, stating: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

The law covers most K-12 schools, colleges and universities, as well as vocational schools, libraries and museums. It applies to tens of millions of students, as well as educators. It addresses sexual assault and violence on campus, employment discrimination, retaliation and gender bias.

While the scope of its impact is much broader than athletics, we take a look here at what changed for women in sports at Gonzaga specifically.

Alyssa Nguyen ('22) was a member of GU's first WCC team championship in 2021.

In the 1970s, women coaches left their jobs if they became pregnant, remembers Diane Tunnell, retired physical education professor and associate dean of education at Gonzaga. Patty Naigle Martin ('78) remembers that weight-training equipment was not available to women unless it was for the purpose of recovering from injury. Shannon Strahl ('99) and her teammates on the women's soccer team wore men's uniforms because activewear for women's bodies was not readily available.

These are but a few examples of the limitations women in collegiate sports experienced before and after Title IX was enacted, legally requiring gender equity. In this 50th anniversary year of Title IX, we take a look at changes at Gonzaga over those five decades.

Today, the GU women's basketball team flies on charter jets just like the men's team, and their locker room compares with any men's clubhouse in the country. Strahl, the soccer player who wore men's shorts 30 years ago, is now deputy athletic director and chief operating officer, second in charge of Gonzaga athletics. Mike Roth, athletic director (1997-2021) guided these equity upgrades and championed support for women's athletics through the last 25 years.

In the Beginning

In the early years of Title IX, Gonzaga offered women's basketball, volleyball, tennis and cross country – with no athletic scholarships and little funding. Teams traveled to area competitions in personal cars or aged university vans. Men's and women's athletic departments were separate.

Marjorie Anderson was the women's athletic director and was often referred to as "the mother of Gonzaga women's athletics."



GU's mother of women's athletics, Marjorie Anderson

Tunnell remembers teaching in high schools in the 1970s when there were separate men's and women's gyms, and the paths to each seldom crossed. "At the college level, some institutions maintained separate athletic administrators for men's and women's sports well into the 1990s."

Jon Sunderland, retired physical education professor and former dean of GU's School of Education, saw Title IX as perhaps the most significant door-opener for women to become teachers and coaches in high schools and colleges.

Sunderland and Anderson, who also directed physical education, developed a master's degree in physical education that focused on training women to be athletic administrators. A large percentage of their early students were female student-athletes.

"As women's sports grew, many women got into coaching. But as the women's games became more lucrative, men saw opportunity and began applying for women's coaching jobs. Perhaps one downside of Title IX," Sunderland says.

(continued)

When women's intercollegiate sports came on the scene in the 1960s at GU, the basketball uniforms were quite stylish.



Tunnell admits to challenges for women in sports roles.

“Women were not inclined to manage their families and a coaching career,” she says. “They left their coaching jobs once they got pregnant.”

Today, women’s basketball coach **Lisa Fortier** (’06) shatters that glass ceiling. She is raising three children with husband and assistant coach Craig Fortier, winning West Coast Conference championships and routinely advancing to the NCAA tournament.

Title IX impacted the composition of auxiliary staff as well. Athletic trainers and conditioning coaches were once predominantly male, and women’s teams did not receive the same level of service. Now women trainers represent an equitable gender mix, with women serving both male and female student-athletes.

And Gonzaga athletic administration is doing its best to accommodate everyone’s needs.

“It is important to retain our young, talented staff,” says **Heather Gores** (’03 M.A.), associate athletic director for internal operations. “We want to provide resources to assist them in doing their jobs well.

“The proportion of female coaches has been declining nationwide due to a variety of factors, but largely due to barriers with work-family conflicts. We would like to help change the narrative around this and support our new mothers/parents and show that they can be successful in their job and parenthood.”

First Signs of Positive Changes

Two basketball players, among others, made their share of headlines during their time as Zags in the late 1970s, playing under the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW).

Patty Naigle Martin (’78) was the team’s leading scorer, and at 6 feet tall could attack the rim.

“Looking back at my experience and what it is now providing for women in sports, the impact of Title IX is quite noticeable,” she says. “Athletic scholarships, strength training and media attention were quite limited during our time. Weight-training equipment was not available to us unless we were recovering from injury.”



Coach Fortier inspires others who wish to balance a successful coaching career with raising a family.

While Naigle Martin was making a good share of the baskets, guard and Gonzaga Regent **Sharon (McDonald) Cade** ('76) was feeding her the ball. Cade recalls practicing and playing on the second floor behind the main-court bleachers in Kennedy Pavilion during her first year. Games drew maybe 20 family members and friends. By their junior year in 1975-76 players had practice jerseys, use of the training room and a pair of Converse shoes. Games moved to Kennedy's main court. GU offered its first two female athletic scholarships in 1975. In Cade's senior year, the women's basketball team finished the regular season 14-0, flew for the first time to a postseason tournament, in Boise, and qualified for the regional tournament in Seattle, she recalls.

The Middle Years, 1985- 99

In the early 1980s, Gonzaga women's athletics competed in NAIA small-college competition. **Maria Stack** ('86) earned the Frances Pomeroy Naismith Award in 1985, recognizing the top women's basketball player in the country under 5-foot-8.

Women's athletics became an NCAA Division I independent in 1986 and a full-fledged member of the West Coast Athletic Conference in 1987. Coach **Mike Petersen** and his women's basketball team won the first WCC title that year. **Julie Holt** replaced Petersen two years later and had four losing seasons before posting a 21-10 record in 1993-94, for which she was named WCC Coach of the Year.



Julie Holt brought grit to her role as women's basketball coach, earning WCC Coach of the Year honors.

"When I think of those who have made the most positive impact on women's equity in sports, Julie Holt comes to mind," says Gonzaga Athletic Director **Chris Standiford**. "The example she set for student-athletes and the strength in which she carried herself was a model for our student-athletes to emulate."

In 1990 the women's volleyball team earned its first appearance in the NCAA postseason tournament with WCC Player of the Year **Lisa (Petticord) Phillips** ('92), senior all-conference setter **Erica Cordy** ('91) and freshman sensation **Kelley (Cunningham) Spink** ('93) leading the way. Meanwhile, women's cross country captured its first WCC title in 1995, and women's rowing, which was founded as a club activity, in 1991 became an NCAA Division I-recognized sport at Gonzaga. It didn't take the Zags long to win the first of 20 West Coast Conference championships in 25 years, dominating the league. And travel for all these teams had stepped up by the '90s, from cars and vans to buses and planes.

A boathouse was erected along the Spokane River near Felts Field, which the men's and women's teams share. Women's rowing has made seven NCAA tournament appearances in the last nine years.

"How you grow the experience of our student-athletes through the eyes of gender equity is always a part of our conversation," Standiford says.

(continued)

Tammy Tibbles (1984-88) was the first of three Zags to eclipse 2,000 points in her career and is a member of the Inland Northwest Sports Hall of Fame.

Kelley (Cunningham) Spink ('93) was a major contributor to Gonzaga's selection to play in the 1990 NCAA volleyball tournament.

Did you know? When Title IX was enacted in 1972, women earned 7% of all law degrees in the U.S. and 9% of all medical degrees. Today, women earn almost half of all law and medical degrees granted.

2000-present

No doubt men's basketball's advancement to the Elite Eight in 1999 boosted all athletic programs at Gonzaga, men's and women's.

"Before that, and since that run, our women's programs have been a constant evolution," says Strahl, who has served Gonzaga Athletics for 24 years. "We used to have part-time coaches in nearly every sport. Now we are fully staffed in most sports. And while we still have room to grow, we offer more athletic scholarships than ever before, particularly in our female programs.

"Having three female head coaches and many assistant coaches, and nearly half of the athletic department's senior administrators being women, we see many of our female student-athletes aspiring to get into the profession," Strahl says. "It's also important to me for my own sons to see women in key roles. They can see I am deputy athletic director because I am capable, not because I am a woman. We strive for equity, not because of a law, but because it is important to us."

Jordan Thompson ('21) was part of the rise in women's soccer, receiving national attention late last decade.

Sophie Whittle ('19) ranked No. 1 in the nation during her senior year.

» Find testimonials by basketball alumna Jennifer Mountain ('91) and volleyball alumna Jennifer Kubista ('97). gonzaga.edu/magazine

A circular inset photograph of a female athlete, Shelby Mills, running on a track. She is wearing a red and black athletic singlet with "GONZAGA" and the number "25" visible. Her hair is tied back, and she has a focused expression.

Shelby Mills (2013-16) was the first Zag to compete in the NCAA outdoor track and field championships in 2016.

Growth for All

New facilities in the last 20 years have given women and men a chance to compete at a higher level.

At the McCarthy Athletic Center, women's basketball has sold out 38 games since the 6,000-seat building opened in 2004. The Stevens Center for tennis and golf has elevated both women's and men's programs, as has a new soccer field built in 2007. In 2021, women's and men's rowing teams received a boost through the addition of the Johnson Family Boathouse on Silver Lake.

"Facilities are critical in helping our coaches recruit student-athletes to come to Gonzaga," says Strahl.

When **Kelly Graves** became women's basketball coach in 2000, he revitalized the program, resulting in 12 winning seasons in 14 years, including seven trips to the NCAA tournament and a Regional Final appearance (2011) with now-WNBA star **Courtney Vandersloot** ('11). Assistant Coach Lisa Fortier replaced Graves in 2015 and has led the Zags to seven 20-win seasons and six NCAA tournament appearances in her eight years at the reins, including a Regional Semifinal appearance in the 2015 NCAA tournament.

Fortier sees opportunities for women as the biggest benefit Title IX has provided.

"Title IX has changed the face of athletics for girls and women entirely," Fortier says. "It used to be that opportunities were only in sports that were 'appropriate' for women. But thankfully, people have realized that all sports are appropriate for women."


"At Gonzaga, we are treated very well," Fortier says. "I am treated as someone who can add value to the athletic department and the University, and I'm grateful for that."

Women's tennis Coach **Natalie Pluskota-Hamberg** cites the construction of the Stevens Center in 2013 for lifting her program to national recognition.

"We went from two scholarships to eight and added a full-time assistant. Athletic administration is doing everything it can to make our program competitive. And we receive great support from the men's tennis team and Coach **DJ Gurule**," she notes.

The Volkar Center for Athletic Achievement, completed in 2018, has been a recognizable source of support for GU's 350 student-athletes on and off the court, with academic and life skills support staff at the ready.

It is only through shining a light on the thousands of moments that have come from Title IX that we can see the monumental change this historic legislation has brought about.

A photograph of two women, Courtney Vandersloot and Lisa Fortier, standing together and holding up a light blue and yellow Gonzaga University basketball jersey. Courtney Vandersloot is on the left, and Lisa Fortier is on the right. Both are smiling.

Courtney Vandersloot, left ('11), was picked in the 2011 WNBA draft and helped her Chicago Sky team win a WNBA title in 2021.



Leo ('59) and Rose Finnegan with son Tim, in front of a trailer full of Soap Box Derby-style cars for "gravity" races for people with physical and mental challenges. The nonprofit LEO has used these events for fundraising races, including in Liberty Lake, outside Spokane.

Addressing **Abilities**

Alums focus on serving those with cognitive or physical disabilities

BY TOM MILLER ('72)

Inspired by Gonzaga's Jesuit roots, developing graduates with a service orientation is a well-known, time-honored aspiration of the University. Here we offer glimpses of three Zags who embody that orientation – and they graduated more than 50 years apart.

Housing Solutions

Six mothers of children with developmental challenges saw the need for the youngsters to have permanent housing as they grew past school age. They founded a nonprofit organization to pursue their dream. Nearly 35 years later, **Leo Finnegan**, a 1959 Gonzaga University engineering graduate, is president of Life Enrichment Options (LEO), and the group just opened its fifth adult family home in the Issaquah, Washington, area. Finnegan's wife, Rose, who died three years ago, was one of the co-founders, concerned about the future for their son, Tim, the middle child of five.

"You could say that Tim led Rose and me to this work," says Finnegan, age 85.

Of the Finnegan's other children, three graduated from Gonzaga: Shawn, engineering, '86 (M.B.A., '88); Patty, biology and special education, '87; and Mike, biology, '91.

Patty Finnegan, who earned a doctorate in Education Psychology and Lifespan Development, leads the Washington State Dual Language Initiative for the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

"Our parents modeled the Catholic tradition of working for social justice when we were young," Patty says. "They continued with even more gusto through their retirement years. Servant leadership has simply been their way of life and their work has blessed many families."

LEO develops adult family homes, encourages recreation and employment opportunities, and offers community education. It pursues its goals the hard way, says Finnegan, retired director of power plant engineering and construction for Puget Sound Energy.

"It is very difficult for a nonprofit organization to develop adult family homes," he said, adding that many grants have restrictive requirements and do not guarantee that the residents can remain in their community. The alternative: grassroots fundraising such as bake sales and yard sales.

"LEO chose the latter," Finnegan said. "LEO does not start a new home until we have the funds for it to be debt-free. This is a unique model, but assures that the residents will be secure there for life. It took 15 years to raise the money to buy the first piece of property."

LEO also has sharpened and expanded its outreach. It has sponsored speakers to inform those with developmental disabilities, parents, caregivers and educators how to seek creative solutions to problems they face – housing options, positive interactions with law enforcement officers, healthy lifestyles and technology as a tool for independent living.

"Through their vision and leadership, my mom and dad have inspired the Issaquah community to support the developmentally disabled," said their son Mike, science teacher and head baseball coach at Seattle's Bishop Blanchet High School.

His brother Shawn credits their dad for the crescendo of momentum bringing new life to their mom's initial dream.

"His efforts in providing organizational leadership, community outreach and fundraising have set LEO up for a bright future."

(continued)

ENTREPRENEURIAL *Energy*

Kody Lukens: Scratching the Itch

Even before he became a freshly minted Gonzaga University graduate, Kody Lukens ('22) was focused on improving life for adults with ADHD and autism. He's launching Stimagz to manufacture sets of small magnetic cylinders designed to suit the stimulatory ("stim") needs of his target group.

Lukens' interest is personal. "I was disappointed with the stim toys available online and believed something better could be made that would more adequately suit my needs and the needs of others," he says.

So Stimagz – from "stimulation" and "magnets" – was born and he's worked tirelessly the past year to refine the design and prepare them for manufacturing.

A huge boost for his dream came when he won \$10,000 in the 2022 Northwest Entrepreneur Competition in April, hosted by the Spokane University District and North Idaho College.

"I don't think my heart has ever beat faster than when they were announcing the competition rankings," says Lukens, who graduated in three years thanks to a Running Start program that enabled him to earn an associate's degree in high school.

Now Lukens is using his business administration degree, with concentrations in both entrepreneurship and innovation and management information systems, with help from CPAs, patent attorneys, designers, manufacturers and advisers.

As for the product itself, it's difficult to articulate and describe the type of distress experienced when an ADHD or autistic person can't meet their self-stimulatory needs, Lukens says, but he offered an analogy.

"Imagine you have an itchy spot on your back that you just can't quite reach and due to the nature of something that is itchy, it's physically distressing," he says. "It is also emotionally distressing as you struggle to scratch it but nothing quite works and your frustration and discomfort build.

"But then you find the perfectly sized back scratcher that lets you scratch that itch and find relief. That's what Stimagz are to me. They're the perfect tool to help me scratch that self-stimulatory itch that ADHD gives me. They're always the first thing I pick up in the morning and the last thing I set down at night," the Sammamish, Washington, native explains. "They truly just feel like an extension of myself."



Kody Lukens ('22)

He's excited about what's ahead but paused to look back.

"I absolutely would not be where I am today without the support of Dr. Todd Finkle and the rest of the wonderful GU entrepreneurship and innovation program community," he says. "Having access to our board of advisers, which is filled to the brim with successful GU alums, is truly an incredible resource whose value cannot be understated."

"Kody is a hardcore entrepreneur," Finkle says. "He started his first business at 15 and has that rare 'hunger and drive' that entrepreneurs innately have that can't be taught."

"I'm incredibly excited to bring this same feeling of peace and focus to other ADHD/autistic people around the world," Lukens says, "so they, too, can experience what I do and stim with pride."

Since this story first appeared at gonzaga.edu, Stimagz launched with a Kickstarter campaign that topped \$85,000.

» Learn more at stimagz.com.

Katrina Wagner: Easing Travel for Those with Disabilities

She describes it as “merely an inkling of a concept that I have always had in the back of my head.” But, encouraged to submit a video to the Northwest Entrepreneur Competition, she won a third-place prize of \$1,000.

Katrina Wagner ('22), who has a physical disability and has struggled with traveling, pitched TravALL: a travel agency that pairs tourists with trips that include fully accessible itineraries for individuals who use any type of physical aid or need additional services.

An accounting major with minors in entrepreneurial leadership and Spanish, she says her reaction to being a winner was “a mix of appreciation and excitement for the future.”

TravALL's website contains both an inventory of trips to major cities with flights, excursions and hotel accommodations that a customer can shop, and a service that organizes accessible, customizable plans. The tourist, Wagner explains, creates an

online profile that captures their capabilities and necessary accommodations, where they are planning to go, and their desired activities.

“I am looking to continue to develop my business idea through research and networking while seeking other opportunities to compete more,” she says. “Winning third place ignited a sense of possibility, a desire for improvement, and an ‘I can do this’ attitude that I want to channel when stepping into entrepreneurship.”

Originally from the farming community of Enumclaw, Washington, Wagner's parents moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, at the start of her freshman year at Gonzaga. She credits the support of her family, GU's Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership Program community and Ryan Arnold, the professor in her strategic thinking class who encouraged her to submit a video.

“I couldn't have won without them!”

Katrina Wagner ('22)



About the Hogan Program

GU's undergraduate entrepreneurship program is ranked No. 21 by U.S. News and World Report.

“It has a 63-member national advisory/mentor board that is a ‘gold mine’ for our students,” says Todd Finkle, Pigott Professor of Entrepreneurship at Gonzaga. “The volunteer board provides critical information and direction for our students. It also assists the program with innovations in the curriculum, field trips, internships and job placements.”

» **Learn more** about these endeavors and about the Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership Program.
gonzaga.edu/ReadersCare



Who's this Zag?

“The only cure for anything that scares you is practice,” says this longtime noontime basketballer and rock climber, who retired as professor emeritus in 2007 after a 37-year career here. He never wanted his subject to be daunting to his students, who often referred to him as one of their most student-centered professors, with a big heart and brilliant sense of humor.

He asked questions to open minds, but seldom gave his students the answers. Instead, he'd coach students through the problems to come up with solutions. Twice named Faculty of the Year, he was Gonzaga's first Dr. Scholl Distinguished Scientist Chair.

» **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.



Our Mystery Zag from Fall/Winter 2022 . . .

Father Tony Lehmann, S.J.

Alumni Chaplain

Father Tony Lehmann was as original and genuine as anyone you'd ever meet. He'd find good in every soul he met. He served Gonzaga from 1969 until he passed in 2002, as dean of students at Gonzaga in Florence for 13 years, then as alumni and basketball chaplain for 20 years. He traveled the world to spread good cheer and share the Lord with others, officiating hundreds of weddings, baptisms and funerals. Classy, and a classic, for sure.

Reader Responses

I would visit him in his office on the second floor of the Crosby Alumni House when I returned from Florence and swap stories with him. Our friendship lasted until his passing. I stole his “to be continued” and use it often when parting from friends and family.
— *Casey Delaney ('94)*
Glencoe, Missouri

Father Tony was a wonderful and kind soul. Made everyone feel like they were special.
— *Kathleen Brunner ('84)*
Long Beach, California

Fr. Tony! Practice random acts of kindness.
— *Lisa Colombini Hyke ('93)*
Tacoma, Washington

When I was at Gonzaga in Florence (1980-81), Father Tony was our dean of students. He also translated for us when we had doctor's appointments, gave us over-the-counter medications when we needed them, and lent us money. Sometimes he shared with us some of the Chartreuse liqueur the Carthusians made, which he called “monk's medicine.” In the spring of

1981, I got a letter from my Aunt Mary, a cloistered Carmelite nun, who asked if I would visit her friend St. Teresa at a monastery outside Florence. I showed Tony the letter, and he took me and another student to the monastery. It turned out that my aunt's friend was St. Teresa Margaret of the Sacred Heart, who died in 1770 at the age of 22. Her incorrupt body was in the chapel of the monastery. I will always be grateful to Father Tony for taking that special trip with me.

— *Tom Quinn ('82)*
Spokane

Father Tony Lehmann. We loved Father Tony! In any number of ways, he would let you know you were loved and appreciated! And his quiet, gentle demeanor was an incredible comforting and stabilizing force in our dorm. Tony even shared his beloved Chartreuse with us after our small group Bible study one time! Truly, he was the Lord's ambassador wherever he went!

— *Ron Ciraulo ('86)*
Maple Valley, Washington

Father Tony! What an incredible man. Besides being a staple at the end of the bench for the men's basketball team, even through all those lean years, Father Tony was a priest and reverend to all. He was particularly special to my family, as he baptized my nephew and niece. Conversation with him was always easy and genuine. He always made time for anyone who requested it. He is greatly missed and will never be forgotten. To be continued ...

— *Carly Gannon ('97)*
Spokane

Fr. Tony Lehmann, my retreat counselor from 1975. Very nice man. Made friends with people on a daily basis! A great ambassador for Gonzaga. Rest in peace.

— *Frank Petrino ('76)*
Tacoma, Washington

The Zag in question is Father Tony Lehmann. I first met him my senior year after spending my junior year in Florence. He was in Spokane that year and we had many conversations about everything under the sun. Since he had connected with GU through the GIF program, we had a lot of fun discussing Italy. One of my favorite memories was my 1993 trip to Florence with my dad and other Trustees, Fr. Tony, and Fr. Coughlin and his family. The Fields and Coughlin families, along with Fr. Tony, shared an amazing 10 days together. He was well-known for being calm and peaceful, but things got a bit heated between Fr. Tony and a ticketing agent at the train station over a messy ticketing process. He took control of the situation and won the day by getting our tickets in the process! I know other GIF alumni can relate to those frustrations. I miss him and he will always live in our family's memories.

— *Erica Fields ('76)*
Louisville, Kentucky

That is Father Tony Lehmann! Best priest, friend and comforter ever! My son's was the first baptism performed by Padre (1975 in St. Al's). We loved him. I feel sorrow for the young Gonzagans who missed out on the deep affection and light he brought to so many.

— *Colleen Keenan ('75)*
Portland, Oregon

Little did I know that when I met Tony at the Jesuit Novitiate in Sheridan, Oregon, while visiting my brother, that he would be an integral part of my life for the next 20+ years. He said Mass at my parents' home in Tacoma, we traveled throughout Europe sipping Sambuca, he married Tim and me, and baptized our firstborn. Fr. Tony was always smiling, very welcoming, and never forgot a face or name. My entire family (five of the seven siblings attended Gonzaga) loved Tony and misses him and the way he represented the entire Jesuit community.

— *Janet (Reha) Dowling ('78)*
Sun City West, Arizona

"Fr. Tony was a member of our family." When asked to speak at a memorial service for Fr. Tony Lehmann, we were two of many speakers who began with these words to try to describe how much Fr. Tony meant to our families. We spent two weekends a year, over a dozen years, leading a group of 35-plus GU couples on the Gonzaga Bozarth Marriage Prep weekends. Although it was a Spokane Diocesan Marriage Prep program, Fr. Tony managed to bring this program to GU students. He invited the diocesan teams, which Hans and I led, to hold these weekend retreats exclusively for students. As a former Carthusian monk, he was well-prepared to bring meditative and enriching content to these weekends. Every student and team leader fancied Fr. Tony as their personal spiritual leader and themselves as Fr. Tony's personal friend. Time spent with Fr. Tony was always a personal marriage maintenance program for the team couples, as well. We will always treasure our memories of time with Fr. Tony. And yes, "To be continued."

— *Mallene ('80) and Hans Herzog*
Spokane

This mystery Zag is no mystery! Father Tony was such a staple at GU. We had marriage counseling sessions where we each filled out questionnaires about our compatibility. When Fr. Tony gave it back it was all marked up in red sharpie like a final exam. My fiance says, "I think we failed!" Padre had just made so many comments, down to the smallest detail. I still enjoy reading what he wrote. To know he was a monk who took a vow of silence for so many years is hard to imagine. He was so full of life and joy, always wanting to learn more about you as a person. We miss him, but have so many wonderful memories.

— *Angela (Edmondson) and Jerami McKinlay ('97)*
Oregon City, Oregon

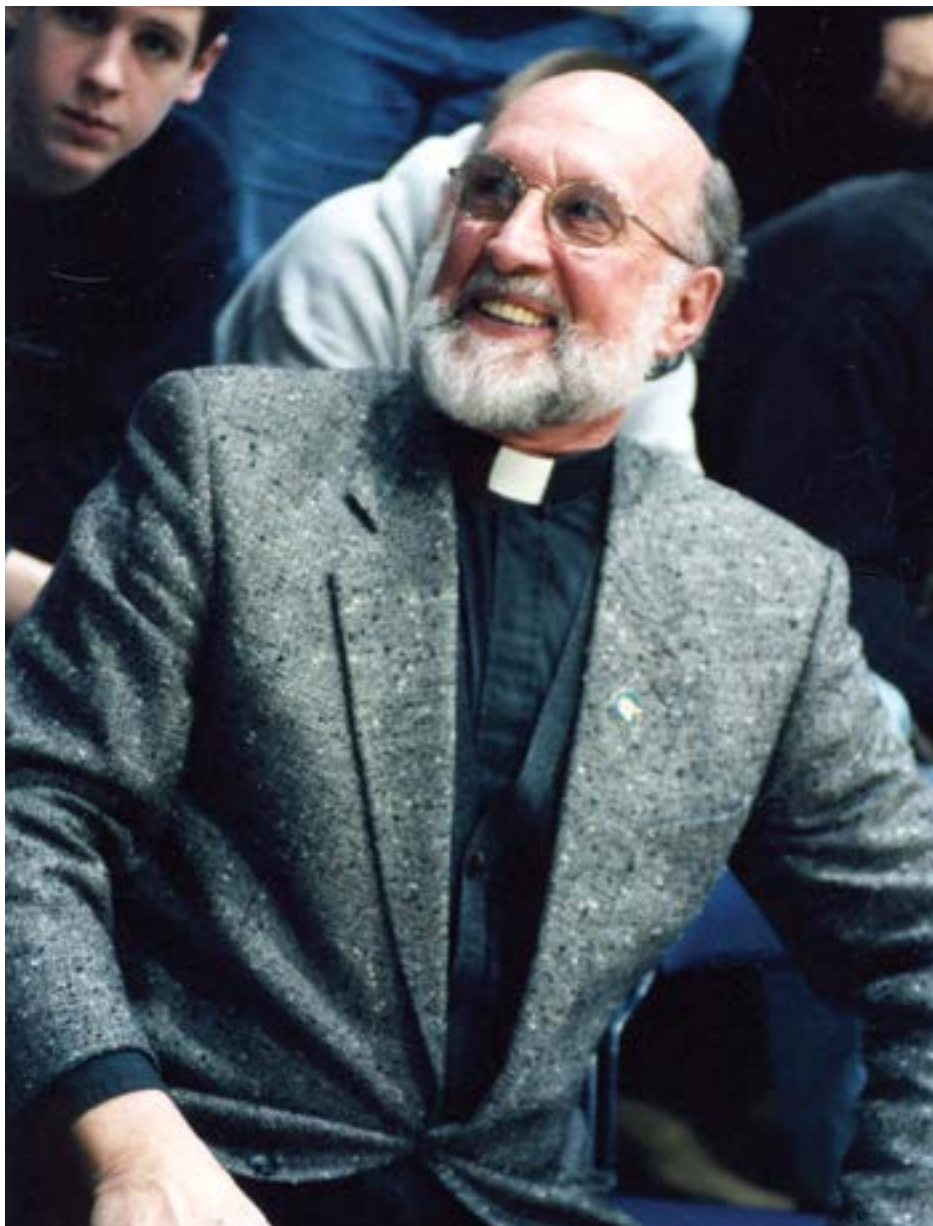
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MYSTERY ZAG

In spring 1986, I was a junior in ROTC. I was coming to terms that being gay was not a “phase.” I had reached the breaking point where something had to give but I was absolutely frightened. These were the days before “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” and being gay in the military could have severe consequences. I could be sent to military prison and forced to work at minimum wage to pay back the ROTC scholarship. I was seeking advice from Father Tony in his office about how to reconcile my sexuality with the military. I met Father Tony when I was in the Knights and he was the chaplain. He was a man of deep integrity, immense joy in life, and a hearty guffaw of a laugh.

Father Tony met with the ROTC Commanding Officer to discuss the options for an unnamed gay cadet, one of which was a quiet separation. I was open to a quiet separation, but terrified that the CO would renege on any promises he made. I asked Father Tony to witness my coming out to my CO and to hold the CO to his promise of a quiet separation. The next week, Father Tony and I were ushered into the CO’s office; I confessed that I was the unnamed cadet and wanted to take him up on his offer of a quiet separation. The CO honored his promise and I quietly separated from the military. I have never forgotten Father Tony. He saved me when I thought there was no way out. He was Christ to me in one of my darkest moments. I believe there is an invisible thread connecting Father Tony’s compassion and the life I have now, with a loving husband and two sons. Thank you, Father Tony, for giving me a life I could only dream of and for being an example of how to live Christ in the world.

— *Steven Chapman ('89)*
Mercer Island, Washington



Tony Lehmann was a master at connections and remembering faces and names. A memory of him that sits in a very special place: Each year as the men’s basketball team would come to Portland, he would greet us at the pregame hot dog feed and then take my grade school-aged son with him to sit on the bench at the very end. He did this for three years until the program skyrocketed and generous favors like that were not allowed. Fr. Tony had a way to make each person the center of the universe.

— *Don Clarke ('79)*
Lake Oswego, Oregon

Father Tony Lehmann. We shared many memorable forays throughout Italy. If he had his collar on, doors would open!

— *William Nevius II*
Prospect, Kentucky



**“The Year of the Dog”
premiered in 90
theaters nationwide
in February.**

A Righteous Path

Rob Grabow’s circuitous route to the big screen

BY DAN NAILEN

The path to the silver screen is different for every actor. Some are discovered out of the blue, picked off the street by an agent who sees a certain movie-star quality in a person. Others navigate more arduous paths, putting in years of training and spirit-testing auditions before getting a big break.

Gonzaga grad **Rob Grabow** ('05) falls in the latter group, but he didn't simply work to become an actor – he forged an unlikely path that began when he started his own sporting apparel business out of his Gonzaga dorm. He now finds himself in the roles of director, producer, writer and star of a new independent movie, “The Year of the Dog.”

In between, there were stops in Seattle and New York City, advanced degrees at Columbia University and jobs with CNN and Rolling Stone magazine, not to mention a trip to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro. Oh, and he wrote a couple of books, too. All those seemingly disparate interests and career stops led to this moment when the 41-year-old Grabow is making his feature debut in theaters.

Grabow followed a childhood friend to Gonzaga and fell in love with the place. A finance major who turned an idea for high-quality, low-cost sports uniforms into a business, Grabow still owns Intrepid Apparel, 20+ years later. He had dreams at the time of walking onto the basketball team, but no dreams of seeing himself on movie screens.

“I was too terrified,” Grabow said, “because I kind of knew subconsciously that to do acting well requires the ability to be really vulnerable and that was kind of something I wasn't prepared for yet.”

His company's success allowed him to first earn an international affairs master's degree at Columbia before he decided to put his focus on acting and auditioned successfully for the famed

Actor's Studio Drama School at Pace University in New York. In fact, the woman who approved his audition is the same person who approved Bradley Cooper.

Between making short films and landing small roles in series like the Spokane-shot “Z Nation,” Grabow started formulating the story of “The Year of the Dog.” He plays Matt, a recovering alcoholic in Montana who bonds with an Alaskan husky and starts to train the dog for competitions with help from a new community of supportive friends who see the good in Matt despite his struggles.

“I knew I wanted to make a film that explored connection and that sense of community,” Grabow said. “The last time I felt that in such a strong way was when I was at Gonzaga.”

Grabow had gone on a dog-sled trip with a man battling alcoholism who credited his relationship with one of his dogs as inspiration, and Grabow recalled the importance of dogs to the Indigenous communities he lived in with his single mother in Alaska as a kid.

Grabow brought several of his GU connections into the mix when he made the movie in winter 2021. His co-producer Heather Hanley ('06) works at Intrepid Apparel and worked with him on the “What We Think” book. Joe Newstrom ('04) is an old friend from intramural basketball on campus, as was Ryan Leong ('05), and his friendship with Elliott Golnar ('05) goes back to high school in Livingston, Montana, where Grabow shot the movie. All three old friends helped finance the film.

“I have this dream that if I ever make it really, really, really big, I would love to find a way to appropriately thank Gonzaga because, and this is absolutely true, I cannot imagine an institution being more supportive of its students,” Grabow says. “It just would not have been possible without Gonzaga.”

POSITIVE PURSUITS

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES

'96 **Herb (Stone) James** earned his Doctor of Policy, Planning and Development degree from the Sol Price School of Public Policy in December 2021. His focus was leadership and collaboration as catalysts for regional economic development.

'01, '04 **J.D. Jennifer Porto** is chair of the board of governors of the Washington Athletic Club for the 2022-2023 term.

'06 **Samantha Swift** opened a private practice in mental health therapy for teens and young adults struggling with anxiety and depression. She specializes in cognitive behavioral therapy and behavioral medicine to treat mood disorders. She practices from Seattle.

'06, '09 **Diana (Powell) Ruff** was appointed judge to the Benton and Franklin Counties Superior Court.

'07 **Bonnie Leko-Shapiro** started a new career as manager of marketing and communication at Aging Life Care Association.

'10 **Gregory Long** is an active-duty Air Force officer at the National War College. He is a lieutenant colonel.

'13, '21 **Troy Sims** joined Spokane law firm Piskel Yahne Kovarik, PLLC, as an associate attorney.



▲
'22 **Chris Schnabel** creates video content to boost the fan base of the Hartford Athletic FC team.

▲
'09 **Steven Prohira**, a physicist and assistant professor at the University of Kansas, received a coveted MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" – an \$800,000 prize awarded to 20 to 30 innovators each year as a no-strings-attached recognition of their work. Prohira and his colleagues have developed the Radar Echo Telescope, with the goal of using radio waves to detect neutrino particles of energy higher than has ever been recorded. Stories about his work have taken off across the country.

▲ HOME AWAY FROM HOME

'07 **Kaelin Smith** and husband, Luke, operate an Airbnb property just 15 minutes from Gonzaga's campus. "D Street Retreat" is the ultimate culmination of her business degree and her experience in the hospitality industry, which is where she and Luke met and began dreaming of starting a business together.

HAPPY RETIREMENT

'72 **Frank Koontz** retired in July after serving 32 years as associate director for the Bureau of Education & Research, the largest independent organization in the United States providing professional development for K-12 educators.



GAMER WITH INTEL LANDS IN FORBES WITH TIPS FOR WOMEN IN ESPORTS

Sierra Reid ('15) studied computer engineering, business and entrepreneurship during her time at Gonzaga, and along the way she realized she wasn't particularly interested in coding or technology development. She was more interested in what technology can do for people.

Today, Reid is a product market engineer for eSports at Intel, and in addition to managing two massive eSports tournaments, she creates all manner of programming for the gaming community, from beginning gamers to professionals.

On Nov. 28, Forbes published an interview in which Reid offered tips for women aspiring to work in the gaming industry.

"I tell myself that I can make the community a more inclusive and welcoming space for everyone." Reid said in the interview with author MeiMei Fox. "I love work that is challenging and solves problems, gives back to our community, and has a lasting, sustainable impact."

» Find Sierra's story and others like it. gonzaga.edu/news

IN PRINT

'66 **Robert Roberg** published a book that features 110 full-color paintings and graphics from his "apocadelic revelation" paintings.

'75 **Barbara (Schneider) Anderson** published her first novel, "In the Company of Women," an exploration of the women who supported Jesus in his public ministry.

'04 **Sarah (Flett) Prior** published "Campus Sexual Violence: A State of Institutionalized Sexual Terrorism." She discussed her work at Gonzaga for the Women's and Gender Studies program during Zagapalooza in October 2022.



'07 **Ashley Fontaine** published "Unstuck: Disrupting the Status Quo," which details nonprofits and how they can become unstuck, increase funds, develop leaders and garner influence.

WELLNESS WARRIOR

'12 **Lizzie Braicks-Rinker** gave a TED Talk at the University of Washington on the tenets of her wellness search, Donuts + Down Dog. After rowing for Gonzaga, life outside college required some independent discipline and intentionality to maintain health and wellness.

"I wanted straightforward advice from somebody that I could trust, workouts that wouldn't take me three hours to complete, recipes that weren't just cult-y diets and disguise, and ultimately, a version of wellness that felt sustainable. Since I couldn't find it, I set off to create it myself," her website states.

Today she is a holistic health and fitness coach, empowering women to find their own version of strength and energy. She says she doesn't believe in one-size-fits-all training plans, scarcity diets or militant meditation schedules. Instead, she investigates what works and why, and shares that information through informative blog posts, workout classes, 1:1 coaching, wellness guides and more.

The name Donuts + Down Dog came from Braicks-Rinker's habit of visiting a donut shop after teaching yoga. "I believe strongly that true wellness and lifelong fitness can and should be balanced," she writes.

Best Wishes to all who celebrated nuptials!



'11 Amanda Baumgartner and **Aido Garcia Gonzalez** married in Aido's hometown, Cancun, Mexico.

'13 Allison Wrightson and **'13 Bobby Allen** exchanged vows in Hood River, Ore.

'13 Michael Matre and **'18 Katherine Gibbs** tied the knot in a ceremony officiated by former GU President Father Robert Spitzer, S.J. ('74).

'14 Matt Lyons and **'15 Taylor Jordan** married at the Chateau Rive in Spokane surrounded by Zag students and employees. Both are former Gonzaga staff members: Matt in admissions and Taylor in compliance.

'15 Michelle Kfoury and **'15 Jake Dini** exchanged vows at Solitude Mountain Resort in Utah and danced to Zombie Nation at the reception.

'15 Andrew Marino and **'15 Megan Shambaugh** married in 2020 and celebrated in 2021 with family and friends. The couple met at orientation freshman year and traveled to Gonzaga in Florence together.

'16 Rahmi Nemri and **'21 Brianna McCracken** met each other during the first week of classes in 2013. They dated for eight years and married in spring 2021 followed by a wedding ceremony in 2022. Brianna is a media relations strategist and Rahmi a physician resident.

◀ **'05 David Martinelli** and **Tony Yost** exchanged vows. David is vice president of marketing for Hounds Town USA, a doggy daycare and pet spa headquartered in New York.

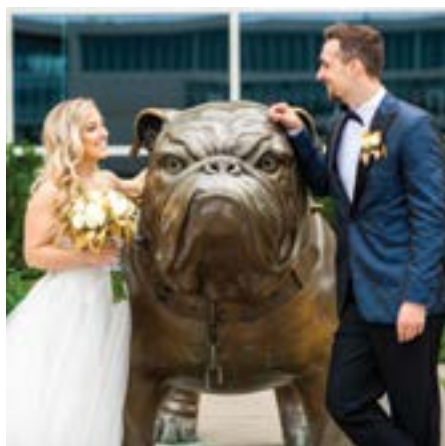
'17, '21 M.A. Natalie Haskell and **'17 Liam Stokes** met during their senior year in a political science class and had their first date at Jack & Dan's. They wed at St. Aloysius Church.

'17 Jenny Hoefel and **'17 Trevor Masterson** said "I do" at The Kelley Farm in Bonney Lake, Wash., during summer 2022. Jenny is a structural engineer and Trevor a civil engineer.

'17 Kayla Sims and **Jonathan Lovett** tied the knot in 2022.

'18 Emily Davidson and **'21 J.D. Chris Ryder** exchanged vows with fellow Zag Tyler Tullis ('10) officiating. Emily works at DH (a marketing agency in Spokane) and Chris is an associate attorney.

'19 Carleen Boschetti and **'19 Ethan Osborne** wed in Dana Point, Calif. Carleen is a mental health therapist and Ethan is a physical therapist.



▲ **'16 Jen Hudson** and **'17 Scott Taylor** say it was love at first sight when they passed each other while one was leaving College Hall and the other was going to class. They dated for five years before marrying in summer 2021.



'91 **Sheila Connolly** and Robert Sidbury wed in Seattle where she works for Amazon Web Services.

'19 **Rachael Kuhn** and '19 **Philip Meyers** married at Elkins Resort, Priest Lake, Idaho. Rachael teaches math in the Cheney (Wash.) School District.

'19 **Danielle Standish** and '19 **Brad Barrett** married at the Seattle Yacht Club. Danielle is an HR specialist for Puget Sound Energy and Brad is a buyer for Seabird Scientific.

'19 **Allison Walter** and '19 **Robert Brajcich** wed in Denver, with more than 30 Zags in attendance. Robert is the son of Paul Brajcich ('79), a member of GU's Board of Trustees.

'20 **Molly Burns** and '20 **Philip Obrinsky** married in Temecula, Calif. Molly is an English teacher and Philip is a student at UCLA Law School.

'20 **Chris Mogg** and '21,'22 **M.Acc. Sarah Ostrander** tied the knot in Tacoma, Wash., with Zags from the men's golf and cheer teams.

'20 **Jacob Siekawitch** and '21 **Caitlin Casey** married at St. Aloysius. They met at Gonzaga, as did Jacob's parents, Suzanne Kozlowski and Richard Siekawitch. Caitlin works at a vision clinic and Jacob is an analyst.

» See them all online! gonzaga.edu/magazine

Baby Blessings

Congrats to these alumni welcoming new family members



It's double duty for '17 **Kimberly (Tornabene)** and '17 **Kerrick Eagle** with their twins, Caden and Clara

'09 **Crystal Belwood** and Jeremiah Johnson a daughter, Sophia

'10 **Meg (Morris) Knoll** a daughter, Blakely

'10 '19 **Alyssa Harvey** and '10 **Greg Hudson** a son, Asa Robert

'12 **Alex Bobovsky** a daughter, Ava

'12 **Molly Johnston** and '12 **Sean Newton** a daughter, Charlotte (Cece)

'13 **J.D. Aaron Dunham** and Kelly Jo Dunham a daughter, Penelope Colette

'16 **Alicia (Hansen)** and '16 **Christian Jacobs** a daughter, Lottie

'16 **Elisa (Wilson) Heide** and Brandon Heide a son, Samuel

'16 **McKenzie (Hollyoak)** and '16 **Brian Merry** a daughter, Nora

'16 **Natalie (Spisak)** and '16 **Victor Bauer** a daughter, Lucy

'17 **Katie (Freeman)** and '17 **Justin Gwinn** a daughter, Frannie

'18 **Natalie (Hotchkiss)** and '18 **Carson Hollyoak** a son, Wesley

'18 **Tyra (Graney)** and '17 '18 **Trey Hardy** a daughter, Charlotte

God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. – Revelation 21:4

'50 **Frank McCauley**, veteran and an incredible father. Oct. 8 – Olympia, Wash.

'50 **Edward Stasney**, veteran, grandfather and professional musician. Aug. 7 – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

'50 **John Warn**, veteran, traveler and volunteer. Oct. 1 – Spokane

'52 **William Judge**, veteran, volunteer and traveler. Oct. 12 – Malta, Mont.

'52 **S. James Perkins**, veteran, adventurer and Gonzaga basketball fan. Sept. 9 – Cordova, Tenn.

'52 **Arnold Eidam**, veteran and outdoorsman. Oct. 10 – Orofino, Idaho

'53 **Mary Katherine (Pretti) Egan**, pianist, mother and lover of fine arts. Oct. 12 – Bozeman, Mont.

'53 **Elaine Wightman Schoen**, passionate about family, religion and family businesses. Nov. 19 – Spokane

'53 **Maurice Fitzgerald**, distinguished Navy aviator. Dec. 14 – Seattle

'54 **Robert Ferguson**, veteran, author and active Gonzaga donor. Aug. 12 – Richland, Wash.

'54 **Maximus Leone**, engineer and lover of travel, arts and the outdoors. Aug. 5 – Mercer Island, Wash.

'55 **Gerald Mullins**, teacher, counselor and author. June 10 – San Jose, Calif.

'55 **Sally Kirkpatrick Neumann**, mother of seven and volunteer. Sept. 7 – Spokane

'55 **Robert Estey**, lifelong educator, administrator and traveler. July 6 – Spokane

'56 **William Barber**, educator, volunteer and forever Zag. Aug. 31 – Spokane

'56 **William Freitas**, engineer and active community member. Aug. 18 – Seattle

'58 **Mary Elaine Myers**, one of the first women to study accounting at Gonzaga, CPA. Oct. 21 – Spokane.

"She was a lifelong advocate and mentor to other women in the field and represented all we strive for as Zags," notes Andrew Brajcich, associate professor of accounting.

'59 **Herbert McDonald**, veteran, cardiologist and adventurer. Sept. 25 – Bothell, Wash.

'59 **Judith Schutte Corbin**, medical technologist, grandmother and Zag fan. Dec. 2 – Butte, Mont.

'59 **Patrick Sullivan**, lawyer, musician and teacher. Spokane

'59 **Peter Riley**, dentist, friend and grandfather. July 15 – Bellevue, Wash.

'60 **Carroll Dean Jones**, veteran, engineer and ballroom dance appreciator. Spokane

'60 **Guy Pene Ossello**, a highly successful and respected businessman and community member in Butte, Mont. was a master at marketing his furniture and appliance store, one of the largest in Montana, where a handshake was good, but a hug was better. His lasting legacy is his devotion to family. He died Nov. 16 in Butte. Gonzaga is grateful for his leadership role in the renovation of the new Grotto, and his service as a former member of the Board of Regents.

'60 **Max Wiltzius**, veteran and engineer. Oct. 11 – Mathews Lake, Wisc.

'61 **Arthur Sterling**, lifelong learner and lover of travel and food. Nov. 4 – Baton Rouge, La.

'61 (J.D.) **John Haggarty**, lover of travel, Boeing career for 35 years. Aug. 28 – Seattle

'62 **William Cenis**, journalist, father and coach. Nov. 10 – Helena, Mont.

'62 **James Hutton**, lifelong educator, family man and volunteer. Nov. 13 – Spokane

'63 **Dennis Richardson**, respected businessman and community leader. Sept. 16 – Yakima, Wash.

'64 **Don Mauro**, veteran, father and grandfather. Oct. 17.

'64 **John Fattorini Jr.**, lawyer, grandfather and Zag fan. Aug. 22 – Olympia, Wash.

'65 **Lynn Seelye**, lawyer and lover of family and storytelling. Oct. 15 – Bellingham, Wash.

'65 **Thomas Hufty**, lifelong lover of the Zags and Jack and Dan's. July 28 – Spokane

'66 **Margaret Mullen**, leader and family lover. May 21 – Sacramento, Calif.

'66 **Judith Ann Hirning**, Apr. 14 – Seattle

'68 **Jayne Keating**, dance teacher, traveler and loved by all. July 11 – Coupeville, Wash.

'69 **Frederick Hobbs**, father and engineer. Aug. 17 – Spokane

'70 **Mary "Molly" Frazier**, generous mother. Sept. 10 – Spokane

'70 **Larry Winner**, City of Spokane attorney and lover of music. Sept. 17 – Spokane

'70 **Diane Hamm**, traveler, voracious reader and mother. Oct. 6 – Portland, Ore.

'71 **Erwin Jones**, veteran, pharmacist and lawyer. Sept. 18 – Sequim, Wash.

'71 **Gregory Steeves**, teacher and lover of fishing and watching Zags games. Dec. 23, 2021 – Meridian, Idaho

'74 **Robert Allen**, veteran and lover of animals. July 7 – Spokane

'75 **Walker Phelps**, plant controller and outdoors enthusiast. Nov. 12 – Price, Utah

'75 **Garry Bunke**, lawyer, advocate and father. Aug. 22 – Billings, Mont.

'75 **John Murphy**, passionate, tenacious, tireless and ethical lawyer. Nov. 6 – Mount Vernon, Wash.

'75 **Robert Jackson**, lawyer, proud grandfather and volunteer. Vail, Ariz.

'76 **Lawrence Vance**, exceptional lawyer and close friend. Sept. 23 – Spokane

'76 (J.D.) **Eugene Marano**, veteran, public defender and community member. Nov. 1 - Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

'76 **James Corbin**, lawyer, mentor and advocate. July 26 – Billings, Mont.

'78 **Christine Maricich**, business owner and above-and-beyond mother. July 12 – Spokane

'79 **Theresa DeFrancis**, consultant and traveler. Oct. 28 – Hartford, Conn.

'80 (J.D.) **Steven Palmer**, lawyer, veteran and grandfather. Aug. 23 – Richland, Wash.

'80 (J.D.) **William Hyslop**, lawyer and dedicated public servant. Sept. 11 – Spokane

'81 (J.D.) **Michael Kirk**, lawyer and lover of the outdoors. Oct. 18 – Western Washington

'83 **Jack Zinkgraf**, veteran, devoted husband and Zag fan. July 11 – Spokane

'84 **Deanna Phillips**, engineer, volunteer and proud mother. July 12 – Spanaway, Wash.

'85 (J.D.) **Rolando Adame**, attorney, mentor and storyteller. Aug. 2 – Moses Lake, Wash.

'90 **Gerard Hughes**, public servant and teacher. Aug. 9 – Santa Rosa, Calif.

'90 (J.D.) **Thomas Walsh**, oral surgeon, lawyer and lifelong learner. Nov. 5 – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

'91 **Bonnie Walvoord**, lifelong teacher, volunteer and gardener. April 17 – Frederick, Md.

'92 **Daniel Wilson**, Zags season ticket holder and volunteer. Nov. 2 – Spokane

'93 **Douglas Grunert**, teacher, pianist and father. Aug. 4 – Kelowna, B.C.

'94 **Sheila Watkins**, Navy Reserve nurse educator. Sept. 28 – Oak Harbor, Wash.

'95 **Michael Schrank**, lover of nature, adventure and traveling. July 9 – Boise, Idaho

'95 (J.D.) **John Price**, unfailingly kind, adventurous and talented musician. Sept. 7 – Seattle

'96 **Amy Fredeen**, lifelong advocate for Indigenous peoples and accountant. July 28 – Anchorage, Alaska

'01 **Andrea Vandehey**, Boeing engineer, GU crew team member. May 28 – Snohomish, Wash.

'03 **James Harrison**, teacher, devoted father and world traveler. Sept. 14 – Portland, Ore.

'04 **Marla (DaVee) Hudgens**, beloved attorney, friend, coach and mother. Nov. 16 – Phoenix

'05 **Sherry Ann Garst**, lifelong learner and passionate educator. May 26 – Spokane

'06 (J.D.) **John Burke**, attorney, caretaker and best friend. Sept. 2 – Burlington, Wash.

'08 **Daniel Hawkins**, kind and loving friend to many. Sept. 10 – Spokane

'10 **Elizabeth Burkland**, friend to all and lover of animals, especially horses. Nov. 12 – Spokane Valley

'13 **David Hoover**, charismatic and spirited friend. Aug. 27 – Seattle

'15 **David Marifern**, fisherman and lifelong learner. Sept. 25 – Ballard, Wash.

FORMER EMPLOYEES & BOARD MEMBERS

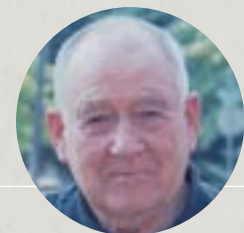
Leon Ford Atkinson, talented musician who taught at GU for eight years. Sept. 1 – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Robert J. Hamacher, media entrepreneur and GU regent. July 2 – Spokane

Catherine "Mike" Hayes, trustee and regent (1975-1983). Aug. 30 – Seattle

Janace Kjolseth, craft lover and Gonzaga Bulldog superfan. Dec. 1 – Spokane

William Randall, veteran and Gonzaga carpenter for 22 years. Oct. 16 – Spokane



'61 **Raymond Kelleher**, Nov. 14 – Spokane

At Gonzaga, Ray proctored engineering exams and helped develop GonzaLab, a unique mobile air-monitoring laboratory, putting to work his Marine Corps experience working on aircraft instruments. He and his lab partners helped safely evacuate and recover miners lost during the horrific Sunshine Mine disaster in Kellogg, Idaho, that claimed 91 lives in 1972. The air quality lab was on display at Expo '74 – the World's Fair held in Spokane; afterward, he was bidding on and winning projects to develop other mobile labs to measure air pollution, water quality, noise levels and more. Companies using his labs included the EPA, Weyerhaeuser, Kaiser Aluminum, Bureau of Mines and Washington Water Power (now Avista). Ray also had the distinction of opening and operating Spokane's first vehicle emission-testing station. With a home on Mission Avenue, he was part of the Gonzaga neighborhood for decades.

TO BE CONTINUED

Taking the Scenic Route

BY ZACK BERLAT ('11)
GONZAGA STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER





"I'm so grateful to be here, doing what I love."

That's how my journal entry from May 24, 2019 starts. I was in Castiglione delle Stiviere, a small town in northern Italy, enjoying a machiatto and a pastry while I wrote. I took this picture that same morning. As I meandered through the cobblestone streets I found this alley, full of texture and that oh-so-delicate Italian morning light. With ingredients like these, it's hard to take a bad photo.

Like so many Gonzaga students, my plan when I enrolled here in 2007 was to study abroad in Florence. It was such a given, in fact, that I hardly thought twice about it. Meanwhile, my first two years at Gonzaga provided opportunities for me to dive deeper into my passion for photography. I started shooting for Student Media and later served as photo editor for the Spires yearbook. I shot assignments for the Marketing & Communications department, too; heck, there's even a 2010 issue of Gonzaga Quarterly sporting one of my photos on the cover.

As the deadline approached to apply for Gonzaga in Florence, I felt more hesitation than excitement about the prospect of leaving. I made the decision to stay in Spokane, spend that money on a new camera, and continue focusing on my work as a photographer. Months later, Nikon in hand, I felt doubt creep in as I saw my friends embark on their study-abroad journey. When they returned with life-changing experiences and stories to tell, the familiar wave of doubt washed over me once again. These feelings endured for the rest of my time as a student. "Had I made a mistake?" I wondered.

Fast-forward to May 2019. I'm now the staff photographer for Marketing and Communications at Gonzaga. That cute Bulletin editor I met in 2010 is my wife and I'm on a flight to Florence with 40 pounds of gear, being paid to spend two weeks documenting the Gonzaga in Florence experience. Following Gonzaga's dance and choir members from Florence to Castiglione delle Stiviere and Mantua and back again was an exhilarating and unforgettable experience.

I ate meals in the pensiones my friends had told me so much about. I walked the same narrow streets and bustling markets they did. I tasted all the espresso and pizza and gelato I thought I passed up when I bought that camera – the camera that put me on my own path to Florence. Nine years after I said no to Florence, I watched the sunset from Piazzale Michaelangelo, filled with gratitude for the journey that took me to this beautiful place.



502 E. Boone Ave., Spokane, WA 99258-0098



ZAGS GIVE day

03.09.23

Give! *All amounts make a big difference.*

Share *with your networks why Gonzaga matters.*

Ask others to join you in giving.

MARCH 9 is ZAGS GIVE DAY!

The Gonzaga community can expect our **10th** Zags Give Day to be more interactive and celebratory than ever before! This one-day giving challenge is important because it:

- Builds the donor family to ensure the future of the University and the value of Gonzaga degrees
- Amplifies ALL impacts through gift matching and fun unlocking challenges so everyone's generosity can go further



Please join this amazing one-day celebration of the Gonzaga community!