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GONZAGA FACULTY AND STAFF NEWSLETTER

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Brook Swanson, biology, and **Suzanne Ostersmith**, dance, are an unlikely pair. But together they are teaching the Art and Science of Dance as a first-year seminar in the new Core Curriculum, and their effort has been nothing short of amazing, says **Molly Kretchmar-Hendricks**, Core director.

“Their collaboration is great, and their students are receiving the advantage of both academic perspectives throughout the course,” Kretchmar-Hendricks says.

“Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the course, we find every student has an entry point into the material,” says Ostersmith. “The energy and excitement in the studio from the students for the subject matter is palpable. Our final assignment requires students to work in groups to communicate their science research through choreography. We have found this so effective, that I have created a touring performance/presentation with dancers and Brook presenting his research on bio diversity. It will be touring to regional universities this spring.”

Political scientist **Blaine Garvin**, who has taught at Gonzaga for 46 years, admits to being a little trepid when he signed up to teach a first-year seminar, *Governing Our Shared Lives Wisely*, because teaching literature, science and other subjects were not familiar to him. But the experience has been transformative for Garvin and his teaching, as well as for his students.

“At the spring faculty conference I spoke to colleagues about the first class. With all due respect to Myth and Reason in 1973, I said, this was the best, most satisfying teaching I’ve done

THE CORE Reengaging faculty and students



With one year under its belt, the Core is performing quite nicely, Kretchmar-Hendricks says

at Gonzaga. Good things come to those who stick around and rouse themselves to take part in new adventures,” Garvin says.

And there are so many more examples. Check out these first-year seminar course titles, every one of them inviting: *iStudent-Technology meets Humanity*; *Freaks, Geeks and Outsiders*; *Life on Mars*; *Jesuit Education-A Fire Kindling Other Fires*.

All of these are examples of the Core working for Gonzaga students, and giving them the breadth of study to propel them to future success.

“The Core to me is as important as a student’s major area of study,” Kretchmar-Hendricks says. “This new Core is intentionally designed as a four-year program, to enhance and enrich what students are learning in their majors. It is all brought together in the Core integration seminar during their senior years.

“Employers tell us that the ability to bring together students’ developing expertise in their majors with the dispositions, values and skills developed through the core – reading, writing and thinking creatively – is what really stands out in our students. They have a good grasp of ethics and social justice issues, which is so much a part of what we are all about. These are important values we’re educating around,” she says.

Kretchmar-Hendricks admits there remains some further development of the new Core. Some colleagues are finding they need time to more fully develop their new classes. The Center for Teaching and Advising offers a course design institute which has led faculty members to reimagine their teaching, not only in creating first-year seminars, but in ways that impact courses they’ve been teaching for years.

CHRISTMAS CHEER CERTAINLY INCLUDES A PARTY, OR THREE



Foley Library Christmas Party

Dec. 13, 2-4 p.m., Rare Book Room

Hors d’oeuvres and punch served
Gift basket raffle tickets \$1 each or a donation of a food item – donations to benefit 2nd Harvest Food Bank and Meals on Wheels

ROTC Staff/Faculty Christmas Party – ‘Come Celebrate...That’s an Order!’

Dec. 14, 2-5 p.m., College Hall 045

Enjoy the company of friends and co-workers while sipping a cup of eggnog (leaded or unleaded) or a warm glass of Gluhwein, and snacking on an assortment of hors d’oeuvres and treats

President’s Christmas Party

hosted by President **Thayne** and **Julie McCulloh**

Dec. 15, The Davenport Grand Hotel, Grand Ballroom

6:30-9 p.m. – Drinks and hors d’oeuvres, festive holiday photos and raffle

9-11 p.m. – Dancing and merriment, those not wishing to dance are invited to stay, mingle and enjoy dessert

RSVP by Dec. 8 to presidentrsvp@gonzaga.edu or ext. 6103

Reserve a room and make a night of it. Call 509.458.3330 and mention the Gonzaga President’s Group to make your reservation; rooms are \$99 plus tax.

New lab, three new program offerings keep Rosauer hopping

If we have learned anything about Dean **Vinny Alfonso** in his first four years leading the School of Education at Gonzaga, it's that he's always on the move, attending conferences and workshops, brainstorming new delivery methods, and initiating new programs to serve best the needs of the education community, including his students here on campus.

One example is the remodel of the former Rosauer computer lab to a modern Active Learning Center on the ground floor. "He had noticed upon his arrival that the computer lab was outdated, dingy and no longer adequate for current technical needs," notes Education budget director, **Cynthia Smutny**. The new, state-of-the-art learning space provides a place for our bigger community of students – from all academic disciplines – to learn together, collaborate and discuss their academic work. For those who may not have a laptop, there are 25 available for check-out. The day Spirit walked through the Active Learning Center, we talked with students working on an engineering problem, as well as a group putting together a business project in their entrepreneurial class. Use is not confined to Education students alone.

Conceptualized by Shoemith Cox Architects in Seattle, and realized by **Dan Griffith** and **Mac McCandless**, Gonzaga's architectural team, the space was designed to meet increasing demand for a multi-functional environment that can be configured based on student and faculty needs. In other words, the community will define the space rather than being limited by it. Modular furniture provides various seating choices from traditional table-and-chair options to comfortable lounge seating. Four monitors are available along with numerous power sources and increased wireless access.

Three New Academic Offerings

The School of Education will offer three new programs, all going live in fall 2018.

Education Specialist in School Psychology degree (Ed.S.) Designed to prepare graduate candidates to become certified school psychologists in Washington state, this program also aims to prepare candidates who meet criteria as nationally certified school psychologists, for which there's a critical shortage in our state. In support of the new degree program, the SOE will offer a competitive

tuition rate with cutting-edge course design and a collaborative approach, bringing together experts from multiple disciplines in the School.

Doctorate in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.) This program is created to help candidates who are employed at the school district level and looking to enhance their skill in the work of school leadership: leading, directing and supporting the learning process for everyone in the system. The program utilizes a "hybrid" model with summer courses being delivered on campus and fall and spring courses delivered in an online format.

Online Master's Degree in Education (M.Ed.) Identical to the current M.Ed. program offered face-to-face in Canada, the online version provides this degree to individuals globally who may be place-bound by their jobs. Designed for working educators, this degree focuses on linking theory and research to practical issues in teaching leadership using their local districts as the context for study.

AROUND CAMPUS

>> Gonzaga student-athletes are graduating at a rate of 99 percent according to the latest NCAA Graduation Success Rate (GSR) numbers, tied for the highest percentage in the nation with teams like Harvard, Yale and Dartmouth, and easily the highest in the West Coast Conference.

>> The Parent and Family Office received the national Innovative Program Award for its student leader training program, Parent and Family Speak, from the Association for Orientation, Transition and Retention. In addition, Parent and Family Program Director **Amy Swank** was elected president-elect for the Association of Higher Education Parent/Family Program Professionals. Swank has led the GU office since its inception 10 years ago.

>> Gonzaga Will: The Campaign for Our Future, has exceeded its original fundraising goal of \$250 million, with an announced \$286 million raised thus far through the generosity of more than 36,000 donors. In this last year campaign focus will be on meeting the scholarship goal of \$100 million, which is just \$7 million from being realized, and securing \$50 million for construction of the Integrated Science and Engineering building.

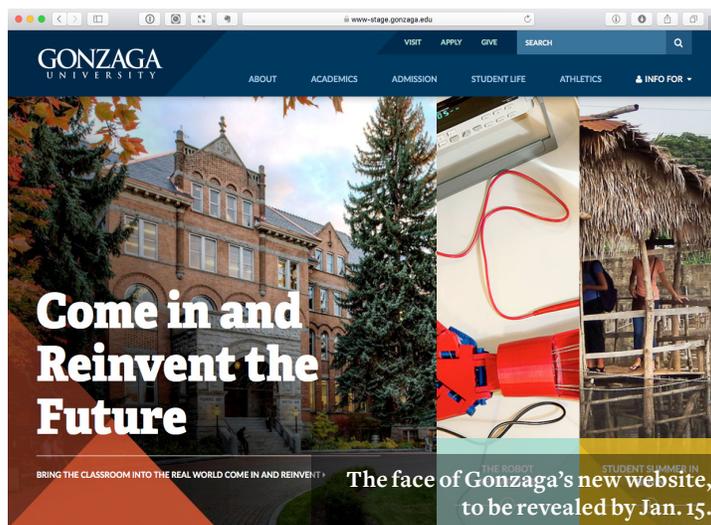
>> With foster parent **Janet Mann**, Psychology Professor **Molly Kretchmar-Hendricks** published a book, "Creating Compassionate Foster Care," which ultimately concludes, "Every child's way of being can open doors to wisdom, compassion and human connection. We need only to listen." The book explores lessons from children and families in crisis. The authors will read from their book, Dec. 7, 7 p.m. at Auntie's.

Get ready: New year, new website – and intranet!

Perhaps it's only fitting that at a time of renewal and rebirth, Gonzaga will debut two new websites in January that aim to better serve our internal and external audiences. The launch of these sites will mark a major milestone in the University's digital evolution. And you can bet they will continue to grow over time in content and capabilities.

Here are the most important things you need to know:

- The websites will launch after the new year and be live in time for the start of the spring semester.
- Our new public website, **www.gonzaga.edu**, is geared toward prospective students, their families and other external constituents. Think of it as Gonzaga's front door to the world.
- myGU (**my.gonzaga.edu**), the new intranet site, is for current students, faculty and staff. It provides easy access to the tools and information you need to most, with a home page you can personalize for one-click access to favorite internal applications and pages. Single-sign on (SSO) will be enabled for some applications, meaning once you launch them from myGU, you won't have to log in to them separately. More apps will be SSO-enabled over time.



- Both sites feature fresh, modern designs and work across desktop computers and mobile phones.

For more information about the projects:

- Visit **www.gonzaga.edu/webredesign**. Here you'll find overviews of the sites, frequently asked questions and helpful videos.
- Attend an information session on Wednesday, Dec 6 from 12-1 p.m. in the Hemmingson Auditorium. RSVP at **www.gonzaga.edu/webinfosession** (choose Marketing & Communications under Training Type when you login).
- Contact **Kurt Heimbigner**, senior director of Integrated Marketing & Web Communications, with questions.

NOTEWORTHY

New Hires

Taylor Jordan, clerical compliance & behavioral intervention team coordinator, Campus Public Safety & Security; **Vincent Velonza**, web specialist, Arts & Sciences; **William May**, custodian, Plant; **Matthew Baker**, program coordinator, Student Involvement & Leadership; **Matthew Cragwick**, custodian, Plant; **Eric Smith**, custodian, Plant; **Brian Adamson**, IT technician I, ITS; **Lauren Dodd**, program coordinator, First Year Experience Programs; **Katherine Eisenbarth**, record management, Admission; **Duran Paasch**, program assistant, Counselor Education; **Elizabeth McIntyre**, record management, Admission; **Monica Frank**, record management, Admission

New Positions/Promotions

Allison Peterson, events coordinator/communications specialist, President's Office; **Taylor Case**, custodial shift lead, Plant; **Eugene Kravchuk**, custodial specialist, Plant; **Audra Henkins**, custodian lead, Plant; **Ashley Seick**, business manager, Student Involvement & Leadership; **Matthew Lyons**, admission counselor, Admission; **Sarah Potter**, administrative assistant II/budget administrator, President's Office

Goodbyes

William McCormick, institutional research data analyst, Institutional Research & Assessment; **Kay Bachman**, director, IT Project Management Office, ITS; **Arlen Fletcher**, director information security & compliance, ITS; **Johnny Swan**, custodian, Plant; **Patrick Ronay**, senior admission counselor, Admission; **Heather Brotherton**, network technician, ITS; **Kevin Geist**, custodian lead, Plant

Anniversaries

25 **Katie Burrow**, campus reservationist/project coordinator, GUEST

20 **Sheron Ruffner**, office coordinator, Security

15 **Greg Stapleton**, electrician, Plant

10 **Toni Boggan**, academic director CEDE, Engineering; **Shane Hatcher**, leadership gift officer, University Advancement; **Karen O'Shaughnessey**, program assistant II, WIN Foley

5 **Rhonda Corbin**, payroll administrator, Payroll; **Kirk Wood-Gaines**, assistant vice president, Human Resources; **Rachel Young**, academic ops specialist, Nursing

Cradle Call

Ginger Grey, senior lecturer, English, and husband Ezra, adopted a boy, Rook Joon-Ho Grey.

FOCUS ON...

COOKIE McFADDEN



The Cookie Monster can't stop McFadden from sharing her cookies with students during finals.

It was last Christmas that Foley Circulation Assistant and Reserves Specialist **Molly McFadden** unearthed the Cookie Monster puppet that had brightened her youth back home in Alaska on those long winter days with only a glimmer of daylight. It had followed mom and pop from Molly's childhood home in Alaska to Spokane. Her work-study students and a few colleagues who work with Molly in the library have enjoyed playing with Cookie Monster over this past year. But this isn't a story about a Cookie Monster . . . it's about Cookie McFadden.

She moved here when she was 14, which was a particularly snowy winter in Spokane. But it seemed like nothing unusual having grown up in Alaska. She received her undergraduate degrees – English and history – here, and her master's in library science at University of Illinois. She returned to Spokane in 1991 and accepted a job at Gonzaga, some 26 years ago. "I was a little miffed Gonzaga waited until I graduated to build a new library, which we moved into in 1992. Under construction when I arrived, we had to climb a ladder to see what the second floor was going to look like," McFadden remembers.

Around the turn of the century, Foley started hosting a Christmas party in its Rare Book Room. "We all made a batch of cookies for the event, but I was always afraid we'd run out, so I made more. What was left went to our student workers, and it seemed to lift their spirits. Now I make cookies for finals in the spring term, as well," McFadden says.

But not just a batch or two . . . dozens. She makes some gluten free, dairy free, without nuts or eggs. "I want to make sure everyone can enjoy a cookie during finals," Cookie McFadden says.

She now makes about 60 varieties over the course of a year. Asked what her best cookie is, she says it depends on what she's feeling like eating on a given day. "Mint chocolate snaps are pretty good, but sometimes I want chocolate and sometimes oatmeal."

Regardless of the flavor, a Christmas cookie always seems to lift the spirits of her student workers. "And I think that spirit comes from more than just basketball success this time of year," the cookie maiden says with a smile. "I think a good sugar cookie can make a difference."

GAMP CONNECTING PEOPLE FOR 25 YEARS

The Gonzaga Alumni Mentor Program is celebrating 25 years, and going strong. Started in 1992 upon the urging of Regent **Jim Day**, the program has grown from a few dozen mentors to more than 2,800 today to assist students and alumni alike. The program's primary goal is to establish a relationship between the mentee and mentor that facilitates better career decision-making and the development of a network that can result in increased job opportunities. To offer more students and alumni with benefits of mentoring, the program recently moved onto an online platform exclusive to the Gonzaga community.

In addition, GAMP has branched out, offering professional networking across the country, called Treks, which are opportunities for students and alumni to connect with alumni, employers and businesses in key metropolitan areas. Treks include corporate excursions, career fairs and networking socials.

Gonzaga offers career treks in Spokane, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Silicon Valley, Los Angeles, Denver and New York. The program is directed by **Erin Shields**, associate director of alumni and employer engagement.

MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE SEARCHES UNDERWAY

Gonzaga is in a season of significant transition for our senior administration, with searches ongoing or soon to be launched for two vice presidents, two deans and a director of the Woldson Performing Arts Center.

Here is a brief update on those searches.

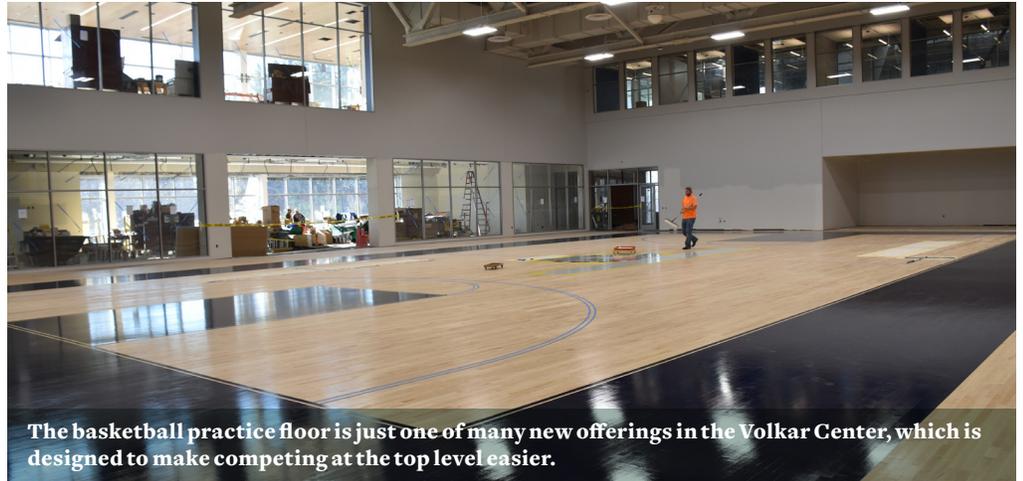
- Provost/Senior Vice President – This position has been approved and a job description is being formulated; meanwhile, **Elisabeth Mermann-Jozwiak** serves as interim academic vice president
- Vice President for Administration – The search is underway for this position, which has essentially been unfilled since the departure of Executive VP Marty Martin in 2015. Meanwhile, Chief of Staff **John Sklut** serves as interim vice president until this position is filled.
- Law School Dean – A job description is posted, and the University is working with consultants from Witt/Kieffer to fill the position. Retiring Dean **Jane Korn** remains in this position until filled.
- Dean, soon-to-be-renamed School of Leadership Studies (currently Professional Studies) – No search this year. Associate Academic Vice President **Jolanta Weber** has agreed to serve an additional year as interim dean "to smooth the transition to the School of Leadership Studies," says Mermann-Jozwiak.
- Director, Woldson Performing Arts Center – This position has been posted with hopes of filling early in 2018.

VOLKAR IS STATE-OF-THE-ART ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTER; TAKE A STROLL WITH US

Athletic Director **Mike Roth** sees the new Volkar Center for Athletic Achievement enhancing Gonzaga student-athletes' chances of winning in competition, in the classroom and in the community. The state-of-the-art facility was made possible through the generous benefaction of our athletic donor base.

The 51,000-square-foot facility, which will open its doors soon after the first of the year, houses Brown Court, which features the exact dimensions and the same floor markings as the court in McCarthy Athletic Center. It also connects directly to the training room through a door into the existing Martin Centre. A weight room with apparatus particular to men's and women's basketball players sits south of the practice court on the ground level, and a theater-style, tiered film room with high-back leather chairs and a big screen sits off the southwest corner of Brown Court. The Hall of Fame lines both sides of the main entrance off the south side, and one set of stairs ascends directly to the athletic department offices while a cascading stairway in the central atrium now makes foot traffic from north campus to south much easier.

The second floor includes the **Karen Gaffney** Champions Room, a huge space for game day



The basketball practice floor is just one of many new offerings in the Volkar Center, which is designed to make competing at the top level easier.

socials, receptions, meetings and pregame meals for student-athletes. It is surrounded by glass – to the outside on the east, south and west ends, and to Brown Court on the north. Athletic development offices and a conference room are housed along the west end.

The third floor is all about academics. A computer lab, conference room, soft furniture and study tables consume most of the floor. All freshman student-athletes take a course in a

multi-purpose room that introduces them to adjusting to college life as a student-athlete and all that it demands – juggling studying, classes, practices and meetings.

Other improvements include new offices for athletic personnel (many previously officed in cubicles), renovated locker rooms for men's basketball, men's and women's cross country, and new score and video boards for basketball, volleyball, soccer and baseball.

A LOOK BACK AT PRESIDENTS' CHRISTMAS PARTIES

From big shrimp in the old COG to dancing, prizes and merriment that's Grand

Back in the day, the President's Christmas Party was a 90-minute affair. Arrive, dish up a plate of food, sit down and eat with people in your own work group, then find a local lounge where you could continue the party. "There was little to engage the whole group," remembers **Sandy Hank**, a 35-year Gonzaga employee.

It's come a long way, baby!

"I remember big shrimp were made famous at the annual party," says **Angela Ruff**, longtime Gonzaga employee. Those were the days when the Montana Room at the old COG was the site. That room was outgrown, and the party moved to Cataldo Hall.

When **Julia Bjordahl** joined the Office of the President, the party began to outgrow the Martin Centre Fieldhouse and was moved to

the Red Lion Hotel. The set up at the Martin Centre demanded extensive labor to transform it into a party venue. **Martin Bustamante**, Sodexo's catering manager, was the official master of transformation. "One year his theme was Horton-Hears-A-Who; it was fantastic," Ruff recalls.

As the number of employees has increased over the years, it became apparent that the Red Lion could no longer accommodate our group. The Red Lion served as a most cordial partner for three years, "but last year it was tough to mingle because people were shoulder to shoulder," Hank says.

On Dec. 15, the annual President's Christmas Party will be held at the Davenport Grand Hotel. The Grand offers a much larger ballroom and guests can spend the night for the special rate of \$99. Reduced parking rates are also available. "Similar to past years, we will offer an array of delicious hors d'oeuvres, a specialty cocktail and prize drawings" from 6:30-9 p.m., Bjordahl says. "From 9-11 p.m. you have the choice of dancing,

enjoying a dessert social, or a combination of both."

The 2017 event promises to be Grand!

