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Nursing into Distance Education Before It Was Cool

School boasts second largest enrollment

Imagine the early days when Gonzaga's fledgling nursing program catered to place-bound health care providers in rural areas of the Inland Northwest who wanted to advance their education. Professors would video tape their presentations on VHS and mail it to their students, who viewed the lectures and returned the tapes for the subsequent lesson.

It was 1992 when Gonzaga made its first overture into nursing education.

"St. Ignatius did not ask the people of the world to come to Rome to be with the Jesuits, rather he sent his companions out to the corners of the world," said former nursing Professor **Mary McFarland**. "He encouraged his companions to use the tools of the day to reach the people, which at the time included shoes, horses or donkeys, and boats carrying the companions and letters from St. Ignatius."

Cut back to the beginning of the 21st century, when then-dean of the School of Professional Studies McFarland saw the value in moving to an online platform, allowing faculty to engage with distant students on a daily basis. The nursing faculty quickly worked on course design to utilize available technology – the tools of this century – to move each of the specialty tracks in the graduate program to an online format.

At that time, Gonzaga's undergraduate nursing program participated in a consortium of area nursing programs, for a student's final two years. An outside consultant determined that Gonzaga could support its own four-year program, "and the nation was in dire need of nurses," McFarland said. So in 2006, the bachelor of science in nursing program hatched on campus, and has grown steadily over the past 12 years. Now the School of Nursing and Human Physiology, which was founded in 2013, boasts the second largest enrollment of majors – only shy of business administration – with 382 undergraduates, 491 graduate students, 160 doctor of nursing practice students, and 30 doctor of nurse anesthesia practice students.



Carly Anne Duffy ('12) attends to an infant patient along the Amazon River in South America as a Jesuit Volunteer Corp nurse. She is just one of many who have served others abroad following their Gonzaga nursing educations.

Interim dean of the School **Lin Murphy** gives most of the credit for the rapid advancements made by the nursing program to McFarland. "Mary was the mover and the shaker. Since only a handful of our students were being admitted to the consortium," Murphy said, "Gonzaga had to make a decision to build its own BSN program or drop nursing altogether. Mary basically told the faculty, 'You step up and create a robust curriculum, or we'll find people who will.' Faculty responded, and look what's happened!"

The nursing program's positive impact on the University is topped only by the impact on communities throughout the region. "Because of our nursing practice and master's programs, some communities who would not otherwise have access to primary care have qualified health care providers," says McFarland, who left GU in 2010 to direct the Jesuit Commons, a worldwide endeavor between the Jesuit Refugee Service and mostly U.S. Jesuit universities, to bring higher education to those who live at the margins.

From the beginning, intentional infusion of the Jesuit mission of men and women for others has pervaded. GU nursing students provide Spokane area Catholic schools with their only source of in-school health care. They organize and administer an immunization program at Shaw Middle School

in an economically depressed part of Spokane. GU students are highly sought for practicums by various Northwest health care providers.

Here's just a sampling of the good work being done by our nursing graduates. **Kathleen Shrader** completed a year with Jesuit Volunteer Corp in Oakland as an RN at a community health clinic, and is a nurse with Jesuit Refugee Service in Malawi. **Haleigh Lunas** worked several years as a pediatric nurse, became a nurse practitioner and worked in pediatric ICU at Stanford Hospital. She is back in Spokane, raising her family, pursuing a DNP, working in pediatric care part-time, and serving as an adjunct instructor at Gonzaga. **Lacey Konopaski** is working oncology at St. Joseph Hospital in Denver, and is a trainer preceptor, chemotherapy certified, and a charge nurse. She is working on her palliative care certification and eventually wants to become a nurse practitioner with hospice. Pretty impressive sampling of GU grads helping others.

These success stories are, in part, a credit to benefactors **Tom and Camila Tilford**, whose expectation in establishing the Tilford Center was for critical thinking and innovative technology, within our Jesuit mission, to carry the School forward. Mission (to date) accomplished!

AROUND CAMPUS

>>Gonzaga Day 2018 is Feb. 3, and the focus is on connections and what it means to be a Zag. In celebration, wear your best Zag gear to work Feb. 2 and send a photo of you and/or your team to gonzagaday@gonzaga.edu to be entered in a Gonzaga Day spirit drawing. The team/department that shows the most Zag spirit wins a pizza party (sponsored by community partners). To learn more about Gonzaga Day, visit www.gonzagaday.com.

>>Forbes Magazine Editor **Steve Forbes** will address The Value of America's Free Market in a Feb. 7 talk, 7 p.m. in Hemmingson Ballroom.

>>Nigerian author **Chris Abani** will read from his published works and discuss his experiences as a multi-genre, multicultural author as part of the Visiting Writers Series, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., Hemmingson Ballroom. Also, Abani will visit English classes Feb. 11 and work with students.

>>Update: Former GU President Fr. **Robert Spitzer, S.J.**, is blind but continues to operate the Magis and Spitzer Centers and is often seen on EWTN TV. He was accepted by the University of Iowa Stephen Wynn Institute for Vision Research, has given his own stem cells which the Institute will convert into embryonic photo receptor eyes, and may receive an operation in two years or more. "I could regain 50 percent of my vision or more," he says.

>>The Center for Community Engagement has more than a new name. It recently was designated Expert Partner by MENTOR Washington for its outstanding mentoring efforts, citing Campus Kids, Connections, GAME and Sparks, all programs serving youth in Northeast Spokane.

>>Because so much attention (can you say basketball) focuses on Gonzaga this time of year, it is worth noting the academic accomplishments of our 320 student-athletes. The department's fall GPA of 3.35 is the second highest in school history. Notables include 17 students with 4.0, 13 of 18 teams with 3.0 or better team GPAs, 52 students on the President's List and 97 students on the Dean's List.

>>"Coming Home: A Soldiers' Project" written by Theatre and Dance Department Chair **Kathleen Jeffs** and directed by Assistant Professor **Charles Pepiton**, explores the experiences of a soldier returning from war to study at Gonzaga. Shows in Magnuson Theatre are Feb. 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on Feb. 4 and 11.

>>"Why Studying Popular Culture Matters" is the topic of English Associate Professor **Ann Ciasullo's** talk, Feb. 27, 10:30 a.m., in the Herak Club Room at McCarthy Center, presented by the Gonzaga Guild. A networking social begins at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

DEPARTING MED STUDENTS GIVE GU HIGH MARKS

The first class of University of Washington medical students who launched their medical education studies at Gonzaga in fall 2016 successfully finished the Foundations phase of their curriculum and have advanced to clinical clerkships in preparation to practice medicine.

The 60 physicians-in-training were the first to study under the University of Washington School of Medicine-Gonzaga University Regional Health Partnership.

Now, students customize their learning experiences. Thirty will complete most of their required third year clerkships in Spokane. Others will serve a rural Washington state community as part of UWSOM's nationally recognized rural and underserved training programs. Still others will serve in places throughout the five-state Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho network.

Departing medical students gave high praise to their 15-month Gonzaga experience, as student body president **Justin Thompson**, a former army medic from Bothell, Wash., told the Spokesman-Review: "There's something special about this campus."

Mackenzie Rinaldi, a Spokane native made note of the fine GU faculty who taught basic sciences and shared content expertise. She added that having a dedicated facility like Schoenberg Center was an important feature in fostering class work as a community. Additionally, the students benefited from GU's full-service campus, enjoying intramurals, Gonzaga Outdoors, basketball games and more.



The first class of Regional Health Partnership medical students are moving into clinical clerkships in Spokane and throughout the region.

"I am a clay artist and have been a member of the GU Clay Club since last spring," one medical student wrote. "I attend weekly meetings and drop-in studio hours. It has been a fun way to get to know the GU community and feel a part of it. I also love pottery and this stellar resource has been a therapeutic art form during a time I needed it most!"

Medical students bonded in their commitment to community engagement work, a key part of the GU experience, organizing community-based projects like the Walking School Bus in Logan, the Medical Students for Educational Equity (Med for Ed) program, visiting school classrooms to inspire youth to pursue careers in healthcare, and providing clinical services at the Union Gospel Mission.

"I truly believe we are part of the Zag family," Rinaldi said.

This is the first of a two-part series on the Partnership. In the March Spirit, read about the impact it has had on Gonzaga and the community.

New Works and Facility Changes Afoot

The tall rectangular edifice rising high above the site of the Woldson Performing Arts Center is the stage house, explains **Ken Sammons**, director of Plant and Construction Services. It rises 90 feet above the stage surface, and houses, among other things, a full fly loft, a system of rope lines, blocks (pulleys), counterweights and related devices that enables a stage crew to fly (hoist) quickly, quietly and safely components such as curtains, lights, scenery, stage effects and, sometimes, people.

This is just one of the more visible major facility works and changes underway on campus. But let's finish a brief reflection on some of the features of the Woldson Center, which is due for completion by the end of this year. The main stage floor has a trap room below it, and the orchestra pit has a lift to raise and lower as needed. The main theatre is acoustically tunable and has a state of the art sound system. It includes main floor seating as well as second floor box seating.

Transformation of the former Jesuit House into a new home for the humanities is progressing well.

Renovations include new windows, perimeter wall insulation, ceilings, carpeting, lighting, data, full fire suppression and fire alarm system, and a new heating and ventilation system. New restrooms, a lactation room, and a universal restroom are included. The north wing, former Jesuit House Chapel, contains an alternative learning center and flexible classroom space with tables and chairs. The south wing will be preserved along with its kitchen for event use including dinners, socials, presentation and lounge space. The lower level includes a film viewing room and a seminar/classroom space.

Meanwhile, Robinson Hall's renovations will include new windows, updated restrooms and reconfiguration of office spaces. Improvements to the current main entry also are being explored.

Student Financial Services is the new tenant at Crosby Center, lower level, including Student Accounts, Financial Aid, Student Employment and One-card Services. The lower level also includes a 50-seat classroom and seminar room.

NOTEWORTHY

New Hires

Shelby Wells, marketing & event specialist, Career & Professional Development; **Li Yang**, director, English Language Center; **Scott Carpenter**, IT technician 1, ITS; **Chelsea Tau'a**, information technology trainer, ITS; **Elizabeth Will**, registered nurse, Health Center; **Kevin Carr**, marketing & communication manager, Law; **Joanne Barber**, regional development officer, Advancement; **Jennifer Lott**, counselor, Health & Counseling Services; **Joan Perkins**, ecommerce payment system administrator, Controller's Office; **Sharalyn Williams**, public services librarian, Chastek Library; **Lindsey Floyd**, institutional research data analyst, Institutional Research; **Patricia Anderson**, office assistant, Music; **Amanda Strong**, marketing & public relations assistant, Theatre & Dance; **Bryson Ballenger**, custodian, Plant Services; **Monte Swift**, custodian, Plant Services; **Anna Stiles**, museum registrar & program coordinator, Jundt; **Holly Olmstead**, office assistant, School of Engineering & Applied Science; **Brandon Demute**, custodian, Plant Services; **David Stout**, custodian, Plant Services; **Gregory Parker**, custodian, Plant Services; **Larry Osborn**, custodian, Plant Services; **James Rainbolt**, lecturer-AT, Chemistry; **Barry Pfundt**, lecturer-AT, Clinical Law; **John Correia**, lecturer-IR, Business MIS; **Jennifer Knight**, lecturer-AT, English; **Christina Chacon**, lecturer-AT, Nursing; **Faye Phillips**, lecturer-IR, Nursing; **Kenji Linane-Booey**, admission counselor, Admission

New Positions/Promotions

Ashley Seick, business manager, Student Involvement & Leadership; **Paul Meehan**, head men's soccer coach, Athletics; **Joshua Cox**, director of development, Athletics; **Kevin DeLaune**, learning center, web development & distance education specialist, Education; **Bethany Prince**, project coordinator & admin assistant to associate vice president, Advancement; **Megan Hewins**, financial aid counselor, Financial Aid; **Megan McCabe**, assistant professor, Religious Studies; **Luke Lavin**, assistant director, University Ministry; **Steven Bjerken**, information security engineer; **Danielle Parks**, marketing & events coordinator, Nursing; **Shanna Abbott**, budget & personnel officer, School of Engineering & Applied Science; **Amanda Rhodes**, budget & personnel officer, Nursing; **Donald Clayton III**, lecturer-AT, Chemistry; **Samantha Briggs**, program coordinator, First Year Experience; **Ana Chavez**, faculty coordination specialist, Nursing

Goodbyes

Samuel Jennings, custodial specialist, Plant Services; **Shanea Giroux**, assistant to vp for policy, Administration & Planning; **Lance Dickinson**, IT support center technician, ITS; **MariaFernanda Gomez Gonzalez**, admission counselor, Admissions; **Stacie Jones**, marketing & communication specialist, Advancement; **Mary McFarland**, professor, Nursing; **Michael Maher**, associate professor, History; **Amanda Rhodes**, budget & personnel officer, School of Engineering & Applied Science; **Elizabeth Higgins**, marketing, public relations, digital media manager, GUEST; **Ashley Allen**, assistant volleyball coach, Athletics; **Einar Thorarinnsson**, head men's soccer coach, Athletics; **Valerie Shayman**, behavior intervention team coordinator, Campus Public Safety & Security; **Lauren Dodd**, program coordinator, First Year Experience; **Jocelyn Sullivan**, ambassador to admissions, Law School; **Mary Ayers**, office coordinator, Virtual Campus; **Paulette Fowler**, copy operator, Campus Printing

Anniversaries

- 40** **Stephen Balzarini**, associate professor, History
- 35** **Diane Imes**, business manager, Ministry Institute
- 30** **Raymond Reyes**, associate academic vice president & chief diversity officer, Academic Vice President; **Joanne Smieja**, professor, Chemistry
- 25** **Chris Standiford**, deputy athletic director/chief operating officer, Athletics; **Michiko Tra**, enterprise application developer III, ITS; **Yolanda Nelson**, housekeeper, Jesuit Hayden Villa
- 15** **Jose Hernandez**, Fitness Center director, Athletics; **Ivan Kozyan**, groundskeeper, Plant; **Erin Shields**, associate director, Alumni & Employer Engagement; **Mary Water**, library tech III, Foley
- 10** **Katherine Slater**, lecturer-IR, Nursing; **Vicky Daniels**, program coordinator, Law; **Ginger Grey**, senior lecturer-AT, English; **Jennifer Klein**, technical applications coordinator, Foley; **Judy Rogers**, senior director, Planned Giving
- 5** **Michelle Bowie**, library tech III, Foley; **Daniel Griffith**, project architect, Plant; **Larry Hagel**, safety program manager, Human Resources; **Patrick Bech**, staff accountant, Controller's Office; **Ana Chavez**, program coordinator, Nursing; **Nancy Grasso**, accounts payable manager, Controller's Office; **Ryan Hershey**, assistant director, University Advancement; **Maureen McGuire**, general counsel; **John Nelson**, senior staff accountant, Athletics; **Fr. Jim Voiss, S.J.**, assistant vice president, Mission

FOCUS ON... BATTLE AT THE BORDER



Fr. Peter Neeley, S.J. ('71), right, met along the border with GU students. He runs a humanitarian agency that supports migrants who have been deported and are seeking direction in their next steps in life.

For the last several years, a couple dozen students have left their families early during winter break to travel to the Mexican border to explore more about the U.S. immigration and deportation system. These Justice in January experiences help participants to understand the one part of this controversial social justice topic that all sides can agree on: immigration is complicated.

The group that traveled to Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Mexico connected with the Kino Border Initiative, a non-profit humanitarian agency led by Father **Pete Neeley** ('71), S.J. who hosts a growing number of Jesuit college travelers each year, and exists to help deported migrants adjust to, and make decisions about, their new lives. Students walked along both sides of the infamous wall, met with migrants and witnessed the highly contentious courtroom system of justice known as Operation Streamline. They also took a desert hike in an area commonly traversed by migrants and visited with the county coroner who talked about the many deaths that take place in the Sonoran Desert among those trying to relocate in the U.S.

Another group of students in San Diego met with the American Friends Service Committee to visit the U.S. side of the border wall and learn about

the experiences of local immigrant communities. The Border Patrol took them on a ride-along to learn about various parts of the wall. In Tijuana, students visited with migrants, a group of deported veterans, and a group of mothers of dreamers, and spent a day supporting the work of Esperanza International to provide sustainable and dignified housing. The group ended their trip learning about and helping restore some of the murals that display Chicano culture in Chicano Park.

One of the staff advisers, Joey Sammut, Student Involvement and Leadership, said, "I was struck by how open people have been to share with us about their journeys, that we came up to strangers (at Kino's shelter) and asked to hear their stories and they gave us the good, the bad, the ugly. I was also challenged to consider more what the church is called to do about immigration."

During daily reflections, students from both groups expressed common concerns and goals: To connect the Jesuit mission to this immersion, to share their experiences broadly within the Gonzaga community, to apply what they're learning, and to seek career paths that allow them to put their passions into to action to advocate for change.

Read student reflections on gonzaga.edu. Search *Battle at the Border*.

Oh, to be an Ignatian Leaders Scholar

Imagine 40 outstanding high school seniors from across the country, selected out of more than 400 deserving applicants, descending on Gonzaga's campus for a weekend-long scholarship competition. Each finalist a standout in their school and community, "unrivaled in their leadership, academic accomplishment and commitment to serving others," says **Michael Sass**, assistant director of admission and coordinator of the Ignatian Leaders Scholarship. "Selecting which 20 of these student body presidents, sports captains, and community leaders earn the scholarship is the annual challenge facing the Ignatian Leaders Scholarship Committee, a team of 11 Gonzaga staff and faculty."

To aid in the task of picking the best of the best, the Ignatian Leaders Scholarship (ILS) Competition Weekend engages finalists in a series of leadership sessions, each designed

to observe and instruct different elements of leadership. While each task is designed to challenge students, and eventually determine the awarding of \$24,000 over the next four years, they are also intended to impart lessons and tools of leadership to each of the finalists.

Ranging from applying adaptive leadership theory into a Gonzaga-specific scenario, to learning and practicing consensus building, each session has specific takeaways. But the session which most frequently yields growth amongst the finalists is done at Gonzaga's Bozarth Retreat Center, and is adapted from Assistant Professor **Joe Albert's** *Leadership in Storytelling* course.

The weekend activities requires volunteers. If you wish to assist with the ILS Weekend, please contact **Ivette Godwin** (godwin@gonzaga.edu).

PROVOST SEARCH, BUDGET, FUNDING SCHOLARSHIPS TOP PRIORITIES

At faculty and staff assembly meetings held recently, President **Thayne McCulloh** focused on three prominent topics: the search for a provost and senior vice president, our budget, and issues in higher education more broadly.



STATE of the
UNIVERSITY

Our search committee for the new provost includes faculty, staff and students, partnering with a national search firm. McCulloh noted that, of the 17 Catholic colleges hiring for a provost currently, the interest in Gonzaga's position is very high. He said he's hoping to have candidates on campus in March and make a selection before the start of summer. In the meantime, he will be meeting with school and department leaders for input on opportunities the new provost position may present.

For the current fiscal year, our finance department is projecting a \$1-2 million margin. It's a positive position, but not enough of a surplus when considering our budget is \$300 million.

"We have to determine where we believe our greatest priorities lie and where we realistically can rely on income," McCulloh said. "We continue to question what is necessary to be successful, and what things we just can't do. This is always the background of our prioritization and resource allocation."

Something all institutions of higher education are facing is the recent closure of the longstanding Perkins Loan program which eliminated \$1.2 million per year of federal aid that would have been available to our students. McCulloh indicated that supplemental grants and the work-study program have the potential to be eliminated as well. At the state level, legislators are considering the Washington Promise program - a bill that would provide free education at *state* institutions for middle income families.

"This is part of the reason we put so much emphasis on scholarships in the campaign," he said. "We have been working very hard to be, and remain, affordable to higher need students. With the impacts of federal and state legislation on higher education, our ability to remain economically diverse within our student population is a concern. This is why growing our endowment is so important."



President Thayne McCulloh

Miss Myrtle Woldson's \$55 million gift in 2014, was, in part, to support scholarships for students in greatest financial need. Through her gift of downtown Seattle property, Gonzaga is generating a long-term revenue stream, and McCulloh has appointed former Vice President for Finance **Chuck Murphy** as chief strategy officer to manage and grow this opportunity and others to create diverse revenue sources. In the meantime, former Associate Vice President for Finance **Joe Smith** steps in as the University's chief financial officer, replacing Murphy.

WEST COAST CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT ORLEANS ARENA, LAS VEGAS

Women's First-Round and Quarterfinals, Thu, March 1

Noon First Round: No. 8 vs No. 9
2 p.m. First Round: No. 7 vs No. 10
6 p.m. Quarterfinal: No. 3 vs No. 6
8 p.m. Quarterfinal: No. 4 vs No. 5

Women's Quarterfinals/Men's First Round, Fri, March 2

Noon Women's Quarterfinal: No. 1 vs No. 8/9
2 p.m. Women's Quarterfinal: No. 2 vs No. 7/10
6 p.m. Men's First Round: No. 8 vs No. 9
8 p.m. Men's First Round: No. 7 vs No. 10

Men's Quarterfinals, Sat, March 3

1 p.m. No. 3 vs No. 6
3 p.m. No. 4 vs No. 5
7 p.m. No. 1 No. 8/9, ESPN2
9 p.m. No. 2 No. 7/10, ESPN2

Women's and Men's Semifinals, Mon, March 5

Noon Women's Semifinal 1
2 p.m. Women's Semifinal 2
6 p.m. Men's Semifinal 1, ESPN
8 p.m. Men's Semifinal 2, ESPN2

Women's and Men's Championships, Tue March 6

1 p.m. Women's Championship, ESPNU
6 p.m. Men's Championship, ESPN

*Check TheW.tv and BYUtv for game broadcasts other than ESPN.

Alumni activities include:

- Social 1 hour prior to GU women's games, Mardi Gras Bar, Orleans Casino, no host
- March 3: GU men's basketball social, 1.5 hours before tipoff, Mardi Gras Room, \$20 includes snacks, 1 drink ticket
- March 4: Bowling Extravaganza, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Orleans Bowling Center, \$15 includes 2 games, shoes and beverages
- March 4: Golf Outing, Rhodes Ranch Golf Club, 9 a.m. shotgun start, \$100 includes tee time, cart, range balls, box lunch
- March 5 (pending March 3 outcome): Men's basketball pregame social, 1.5 hours before tipoff, Orleans Executive Parking Lot, \$20 at the door
- March 6 (no formal social planned): Zag fans meet up prior to game at Baliwick Bar, Orleans Casino

Text ZagsInVegas to 51555 for event and game updates.

WEST COAST
CONFERENCE