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## GETTING TO THE CORE OF THE CORE

This marks the first year where all traditional undergraduate students have been a part of the new Core Curriculum. Reviews have been good, and Core Director **Molly Kretchmar-Hendricks** is now partnering with three recently appointed Core Fellows: Biology's **Brook Swanson** to concentrate on First-Year Seminar (FYS), Philosophy's **Erik Schmidt** to focus on Core Integration Seminar (CIS), and Philosophy's **Ellen Maccarone** to help integrate mission within the Core.

"When we designed the new core, we envisioned the FYS and CIS as 'bookends' of a robust Core experience for students. Faculty members have embraced these courses with enthusiasm, crafting interesting and engaging courses in each area," says Kretchmar-Hendricks. "Now that we have moved through much of the course development, Brook and Erik will work with FYS and CIS colleagues on ongoing faculty and course development and assessment. Ellen will collaborate with both Brook and Erik, as well as with the Mission and Ministry office, to develop and curate resources to support mission-related teaching and learning in both the FYS and CIS."

Swanson's approach includes three major initiatives:

1. Develop a workshop to encourage and support more cross-disciplinary collaboration, including efforts to involve staff and community members;
2. Promote 'intense engagement' by bringing in outside experts to speak to FYS instructors about truly challenging students to step outside their normal comfort zones, asking the teachers to do the same;



**Adding dimension to the curriculum are Core Fellows Erik Schmidt, Ellen Maccarone and Brook Swanson.**

3. Develop a deeper integration of FYS across academic and student life, leveraging the rich experiences and expertise we have on this campus.

Schmidt also proposes three major tenets to his work with the CIS:

1. Appoint a subset of current CIS instructors to meet each fall to review assessment materials and identify improvements that could be made, both in academic presentation and in student experience;
2. Stage a spring retreat for current instructors to

talk about what went well and what could be improved in developing new courses;

3. Develop the online resources and question-and-answer sessions each semester for the benefit of faculty who might teach a future section of CIS.

Maccarone says, "I want to collect and provide resources – both material and communal – for those teaching in the Core who desire to know more and use more of our Jesuit heritage in their teaching." That includes a spring workshop focused on building mission-related outcomes for their courses.

## Christmas and Holiday Cheer at Gonzaga

### Crosby House

Dec. 7, 1-4 p.m., Crosby House

Free cookies and hot cider. The house is decorated for Christmas.

The Advocates for Bing Crosby invite the campus community to drop in.

### Advent Mass and Photos with Santa and Spike

Dec. 8, 10 a.m., Mass, University Chapel;  
11:15 a.m.-1 p.m. Santa and Spike pictures by Gonzaga's two-story tree, Hemmingson Rotunda, cookies, cocoa and coffee

### 51st ROTC Christmas Party

Dec. 12, 2-5 p.m., College Hall 045

Goodies: meatballs, wings, snack tracks, deserts, Gluhwein and Egg Nog (adult and unleaded)

Military Science's chance to say "Thank You" to the greater University community for everything they do to support ROTC cadets.

### President's Christmas Party

Dec. 13, Davenport Grand Hotel

6-8 p.m. – Social Dinner Buffett, holiday photos, raffle prizes, donations collected for Giving Back Packs

8-10 p.m. – DJ & dancing, those not dancing are invited to stay and mingle

# PROFOUND IMPACT: A Professor's Gift to his Students

We all have people in our lives who continue to inspire us long after our initial connection.

For Associate Provost **Jolanta Weber**, that inspiration comes from her former professor, Counseling Psychology's **Paul Hastings**.

"Ultimately, Paul helped me think about how to be a good colleague, professional, friend and family member," Weber says. "Seldom does a day pass without feeling his words and lessons guiding me in my work."

She left her native Poland with her family in eighth grade, immigrating to the U.S., and landing in Spokane. After four years at Gonzaga Prep, she enrolled at Gonzaga U. She was hired, full time, as a data entry coordinator in Admission during her sophomore year, and completed her undergraduate degree in psychology and Spanish in four years.

Enter Associate Professor Hastings, who has taught in the Counseling Psychology master's program here for 40 years.

"He was a great teacher. I felt like we always knew why we were learning something, why it was important enough to be our focus for the day. We didn't memorize things; when he taught it just made sense by contexts he provided or the guiding questions he asked," Weber says. "I can speak from my own experience as Paul's student that the content faculty teach matters, that our students should know why this content is important, how to remember it and make sense of it, and how to grow from it decades later."

Weber entered the master's program a little uneasy. English was her second language, and "I was surrounded by very intelligent people." But Hastings made her, and the other students, feel comfortable and confident that they each had a valuable place in his class.



Paul Hastings

"At one point, Paul came to me and asked if I had considered pursuing a Ph.D. in counseling psychology. That question was life-changing on so many levels. He saw something in me perhaps I didn't see in myself. Through numerous conversations where I had meaningful opportunities to reflect on my academic, professional and personal goals, he inspired me to give it some consideration, apply and ultimately be accepted to one of the most competitive programs in the country," Weber says.

One of the most difficult things she has ever done was telling Hastings that because of where she was in her personal life at the time, she had to decline the acceptance. "I worried I had disappointed him, but he was nothing but very understanding of my making that decision. He wasn't disappointed; in fact, he assisted and guided me through this entire challenging process," Weber says. She eventually earned her Ph.D. from Gonzaga.

"My counseling degree, although I never pursued



Jolanta Weber credits her professor/mentor Hastings for life lessons learned, and applied daily.

the Ph.D. or career in counseling, has allowed me to use the knowledge and skills I gained in that program, and from Paul in particular, in the context of my work as a college administrator," Weber says.

"Paul's talking to me and encouraging me to continue on with my studies (pursuing a Ph.D.) was life changing," she says.

Hastings will retire in May. Weber assists with oversight of academic programs, and serves as registrar.

## AROUND CAMPUS

>> Upcoming Woldson Performing Arts Center programs: Candlelight Christmas Concert by GU choirs and instrumentalists, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., and Dec. 8, 3 p.m.; The Turtle Island Quartet (strings): Winter's Eve, Dec. 14, 2 p.m.; The Night Before Christmas Carol, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m. Tickets and info at [gonzaga.edu/mwpac](http://gonzaga.edu/mwpac).

>> Staff Christmas holiday is Dec. 23-25, and Dec. 30-Jan. 1.

>> Gonzaga was named among the 413 most environmentally responsible colleges worldwide in the 2019 edition of the "Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges."

>> Gonzaga ranked 7th best nationally among large programs for its first-time pass rate (83.2%) on the 2018 Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination, and first among Northwest schools.

## To Foster Mission Values, It's Suggested We All Must Have "Skin in the Game"

One of the University values shared with Gonzaga faculty and staff in a Nov. 21 memo from the president's Cabinet was "a shared responsibility for mission identity and leadership," which grew out of the University's Mission Priority Examen last year.

Fr. **Bob Niehoff**, S.J., provincial assistant for higher education for U.S. Jesuits West, spent time on campus in November talking with groups about mission formation, and how we see that developing at Gonzaga.

He sought, and received, feedback from various constituents. During a meeting with key Mission & Ministry campus collaborators, some central themes emerged:

- Gonzaga has changed dramatically in the last 20 years, with fewer Jesuits to lead our mission effort.
- The campus community needs assistance from the Jesuits to adequately realize how lay people can help carry the mission forward.
- We need to have a campus-wide understanding of those things that distinguish Gonzaga from other Catholic institutions.
- Faculty need assistance in how they can better incorporate mission into their coursework.

Fr. Niehoff greatly appreciated the feedback, and said, "Our Jesuits need instruction on how to be great collaborators and cheerleaders to help them inform our lay partners. That's something we will work on."

**Chris Purviance**, assistant director of Human Resources, said people here use Jesuit pillars like *cura personalis*, *magis* and *discernment*, but may not understand the depth behind each value. "And people are hungry for better understanding," she said. "We need to help faculty and staff to understand it is now our job to carry the Jesuit ideals forward."

Chair of the doctoral leadership program, **Kem Gambrell**, said we have a unique opportunity get ahead of the challenges that the millennial and Gen Z folks have in terms of failure, pressure to be perfect and concern about "getting it right" verses being discerning and patient with the process.

The group brainstormed suggestions to help in our journey to best articulate the mission ideals in our work.

"We need Jesuits to help us understand how we can feel comfortable with difference, to help students understand the journey, and how important that is to each of them. Some of it might be messy, but it is valuable. I love hearing the stories of their journeys. And having role models to share their stories is one way," Gambrell said.

**Tom Chester**, associate vice president for Human Resources, said that Vatican II empowered the People of God to be and lead the Church, "so we need Jesuit models to help form us in the charism of the Society of Jesus so we can authentically continue the Jesuit tradition here at Gonzaga." He suggested offering retreats with a Jesuit, and a leadership class taught by a Jesuit to walk students, staff and faculty through the Jesuit-lay connection, that is so important as we move forward.

Purviance suggested using the Fall and Spring Faculty Conferences and the Staff Assembly Open Meetings to help our employees become better informed about our mission and its incorporation into our work.

Flannery Chair for Catholic Studies **John Sheveland** suggested using deans as mission leaders would help inform the faculty. "When deans speak, faculty listen."

"We're all busy," Gambrell said. "How as an institution can we carve out time from the workday to work on our own formation? The institution has to value individual formation, setting intention and priorities. So the question is if mission formation is really important enough to the institution, then we need to prioritize this, and create space for the individual and collective formation to occur."

"Senior leadership has to have skin in the game, and become lay leaders of their own," and pass it down, Purviance suggested.

Gambrell added, "The church and the Jesuits need partners. (Mission & Ministry Acting Vice President) **Michelle Wheatley** has been a tremendous advocate for Jesuits and the Jesuit ways. She has done an amazing job."

## NOTEWORTHY

### NEW HIRES

**Yemisi Awotoye**, asst professor, Business; **Preeti Gosavi**, Enterprise applications developer III, ITS; **Rebecca Hoyt**, organizational development partner, Human Resources; **Abigail Cruz**, Enterprise web developer II, ITS; **Cherie Christ**, sr. project manager, ITS; **Kimberly Martin**, catalog librarian, Law Library; **Nayeli Sargent**, program asst III, Undergrad Admission; **Daniel Palomba**, web & social media specialist, Education; **Janice Keiser**, international employment specialist, Human Resources; **Melina Palomba**, office asst, Nursing; **Mary Jacobs**, housekeeper, Della Strada

### PROMOTIONS/POSITION CHANGES

**Luke Cairney**, assoc director of recruitment, Graduate Enrollment Mgt; **Dillon Knapton**, custodian lead, Plant; **Laura Miller**, program asst III, Law Library

### GOODBYES

**Cynthia Smutny**, director of budget & graduate operations, Education; **Kathleen Hill**, process manager, Sponsored Research; **Connor Basch**, asst director of video services, Athletics; **Matthew Harrison**, clerk, Mail Services

### ANNIVERSARIES

**40** **Kai Uahinui**, DBA & ERP architect, ITS

**25** **Sherry Wood**, biology lab specialist, Arts & Sciences

**20** **Seiko Katsushima**, senior lecturer, Modern Languages

**15** **John Burke**, professor, Gonzaga-in-Florence

**10** **Lee Edstrom**, groundskeeper, Plant

**5** **Eric Blunt**, custodian, Plant; **Sherri Lynch**, asst director, Leadership, Training & Development; **Carlee Payton**, office asst, Health Center

### CRADLE CALL

**Brandon Demute**, custodian shift lead, Plant, and wife Andrea had a baby boy, Rowan; **Lara Anaya**, lecturer, Psychology, and husband Joel had a baby girl, Elena; **Mark Voorhees**, assistant men's rowing coach & recruiting coordinator, Athletics, and wife Sinead had a baby boy Ronan; **Joan Perkins**, ecommerce & payments system administrator, Controller, and husband Aaron had a baby boy, Simon; **Amanda Long**, marketing & public relations assistant, Theater/Dance & Interdisciplinary Art, and husband Austin had a baby girl, Evelyn

## FOCUS ON . . . PASSION AND PERSPECTIVE

"Hey, that ref has a ponytail," is something **Amy Pistone** has probably heard more than once. She is one of few female college football officials, a back judge in the Missouri Valley Conference. She also officiates women's basketball in the Summit League. This woman definitely knows what traveling is.

But those are sidelights. Pistone's main job is Gonzaga's newest classical civilizations professor, a position she began in August. She becomes GU's second full-time faculty member in her two-person department, and dare say, was a Jeopardy contestant as was her colleague, department Chair **David Oosterhuis**, who couldn't be more delighted.

"Her research is focused on fifth- and fourth Athens while mine covers late Republican and early Imperial Rome," says Oosterhuis. "So, we now have a specialist in Greek and one in Latin, with expertise on the two most critical periods – the ones that produced some of the most influential literature in history."

Another of Pistone's avocations is running. Pistone ran the original Athens Marathon and conquered two Boston Marathons, both in very inclement weather. Now she has her sights set on Spartathlon, the 153-mile run from Athens to Sparta. The plan is to start running at sunrise one day, and end by sunset the next day.

Pistone is excited by an opportunity to use her avocation to enhance her teaching. "I plan to take pictures along the way, and incorporate some of the stories and legends into my classes," she says. She hopes to make this adventure in the next couple of years.

Pistone says her athletic pursuits have had positive impact on her academic life.

"From officiating I've learned how to take a difficult situation in the classroom and turn it into a teachable moment," Pistone says. "I'm getting good at diffusing situations. My general demeanor, posture and body language help me engage in a positive way with my students. I've learned great people skills from my athletic mentors. On the field we're faced with situations where our actions will either escalate the situation, or calm it down. We want to calm it down and create a conversation. That's a great skill to have in the classroom."

She also has used what she's learned in academia to her benefit on the field and court.

"Being interested in the scholarly aspect of things helps me understand rules and the spirit of the rules, especially for football because I didn't play the sport," Pistone says. "I'm going to study these things and learn the language better. Football coaches want me to speak in their dialect and being an academic has really helped me communicate more effectively."

Pistone stands 5-foot-6 and weighs in at 135 pounds.



Division I football officiating is just one of many dimensions of Assistant Professor Amy Pistone.

It can be comical to see her standing between two 300-pound linemen wanting to square off against each other. But it's her communication skills honed on the field and in the classroom that gets her through these tough situations.

Speaking of tough situations, during her first game as a college football official, what seemed like most of the 10,000 fans at Grand Valley State near Grand Rapids, Michigan, booed her call against the home team. "It was the right call," she asserts, "it was my first time out and my partners continued to subtly check on me to make sure I was alright. That camaraderie among my teammates makes this a pretty special community . . . as is Gonzaga."

Pistone is an ardent advocate for women, although she does so more in her actions than with her voice. She's appreciative of the first wave of women who got into college basketball officiating, who are now retiring out, but have opened doors for Pistone and other young women like her. In academia, women of the 1970s pushed to exclude names from abstracts to remove gender bias in the review process. "Women started breaking into the classics fields. I'm the beneficiary of their hard work. I don't have to fight to be taken seriously. Now it's up to me and others to carry the banner for issues like family leave, equality for women of color, giving women a bigger voice," Pistone says.

A "Michigan Live" story in 2017 told about Pistone on her way to the locker room after a game, and running into a little girl whose eyes lit up when they met.

"Her dad said she wanted to give me a high-five because she thought it was cool there was a girl ref there," Pistone said. "Just a cool moment that made me feel really warm."

Now, back to class.

*[Pistone received her bachelor's degree from Cal-Berkeley, and her Ph.D. from Michigan. Before Gonzaga, she served as visiting professor at Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind.]*

## Leadership Pathway: A Joint Venture as part of Regional Health Partnership

Gonzaga's School of Leadership Studies is collaborating with the University of Washington School of Medicine to offer foundational leadership skills training for its medical students to help them realize their potential as leaders in their communities.

The Leadership Pathway was approved by UWSOM's Curriculum Committee as a pilot project. It is designed to grow in the number of

Spokane students participating and in its offering to other regional campuses. Seed money for the program was provided by a grant from the Spokane County Medical Society and backing from the two institutions. The initial cohort this fall was limited to 15 students, and future growth is planned based upon the enthusiastic response from students.

Students learn the foundations of leadership; identifying their personal leadership style, applying

leadership knowledge to improve team dynamics and effectiveness, and refining leadership skills through experiential learning and community engagement. This program will help to ensure that medical graduates are well prepared to be healthcare leaders in a rapidly evolving system. Drs. **Matt Hollon** and **Darin Eckert**, UWSOM-Spokane faculty, and **Rachelle Strawther**, Gonzaga School of Leadership Studies, are overseeing this effort.

## POWERING THE POTENTIAL IN STUDENTS

**Scott Morris** ('80, '89 M.A.) made his career making power for others. And he and wife **Liz** ('80) continue to power the potential of Gonzaga's undergraduate students with a generous gift to the College of Arts and Sciences to sustain the Morris Undergraduate Research Fellowship as part of a larger total commitment to the University. Their gift celebrates the inspired work of Gonzaga's faculty, staff, students, alumni and community, and reinforces the University's commitment to undergraduate research.

This fellowship was established in 2017 by the Morrises to support undergraduate research in the humanities, fine arts and social sciences, with faculty mentors through the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry. This fellowship is unique in that it is driven entirely by student interests.

"Liz and I have been so inspired by what we've already seen the Morris Fellows accomplish," Scott Morris shared. "We are honored to further the program through this gift."

For example, **Mitch Davey** ('17), a Music Composition & Pre-Med major, did research on "Dancing in Harmony: A Documentation of the Traditions and Practices of Choral Music in



**Scott and Liz Morris continue giving to help students realize and further their passions.**

Zambia," and **Analee Scott** ('18), Sociology, studied "Investigating Multilingual Theory and Practice in Spokane Public Schools."

"We are so grateful for the opportunity to help ignite these passions that take students into the next stage," said Liz. The Morrises have already seen the research done by Morris Fellows spark an interest that carries into graduate study and/or alumni volunteer experiences.

These two Zags met at GU, nurtured their values

here, and for 32 years, have given back to the University furthering the ideals of respecting individuals' dignity and a commitment to service for others.

Scott, former chair of GU's Board of Trustees, recently retired as president and CEO of Avista Corporation, but remains as board chairman. Liz, chair of the College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board, is a retired speech pathologist. Both remain active in the community.

## Deckert a Product of a True Partnership

**Jake Deckert** sees no problem serving two bosses. He is the first joint hire of the University of Washington School of Medicine and Gonzaga Regional Health Partnership. This fall he is teaching first-year UW medical-student courses in immunology, biochemistry and cellular physiology. Come spring, he'll be a full-time instructor in Gonzaga's Human Physiology program, teaching anatomy, physiology, nutrition and metabolism, and a new upper division course in immunology.



**Jake Deckert**

"This new position is symbolic in that it demonstrates the significant ways the two universities continue to strengthen and evolve our shared work," says **David Thorp**, professor and chair of GU's Human Physiology Department. "It solidifies the Partnership at the ground floor - in the classroom."

Thorp, and several members of Gonzaga's faculty have taught the medical students, but Deckert's position is the first to be developed and recruited jointly.

"I'm excited to be here. I've been teaching for nearly a decade in classrooms and laboratories, and after a year in a lab I am pleased to be interacting with students again," he says. "Teaching is a constant learning process - you never plateau. And here I'm surrounded by like-minded colleagues who are focused on always putting students first."

He holds doctoral and master's degrees in exercise physiology from Kansas. Deckert spent the last year as a post-doctoral fellow with the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research in Manhasset, N.Y., where he studied mechanisms leading to immune dysfunction and inflammation following spinal cord injury.

## HIDDEN TREASURE

Sally Roesch Wagner Pays a Visit

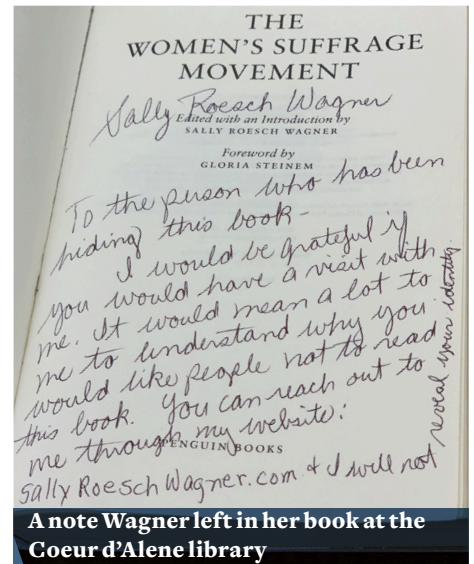
When President **Thayne McCulloh** selected author and women's suffrage expert **Sally Roesch Wagner** to visit campus as part of our 19th & Counting recognition of the movement's centennial, no one could have known the ways our guest would connect with regional and national headlines.

Wagner's address on campus took place just one day after the Coeur d'Alene Library's story of hidden books headlined in the New York Times ("Whodunit in the Library," Nov. 10). Her anthology, "The Women's Suffrage Movement" was one of several books that staff at the library began finding hidden in obscure places, following a statement by an unknown resident that he or she wanted to "keep propaganda out of the hands of young minds."

Considering Wagner's favorite influencer in the suffrage movement - Matilda Joslyn Gage - also had authored a book deemed "dangerous," Wagner felt she was in good company.

Gage is a central part of the story Wagner tells when she speaks with audiences like the one gathered at Gonzaga in November. Gage has historically been in the shadows of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cody Stanton as leaders of the suffrage movement, but it was Gage who sought for equality beyond the confines of gender. She recognized the unique impact of women in Native American tribes long before the European settlers arrived, and also spoke boldly about the treatment of African Americans.

Those themes are strong in Wagner's message, as well. "The reason I have dedicated my life



**A note Wagner left in her book at the Coeur d'Alene library**

to her story and bringing it into the world is that her vision was transformational," Wagner says. "(Gage) said, 'There will be no peace in this country until there is absolute equality for each group - men and women, black and white, native-born and immigrant, rich and poor.'"

"It's a vision worth bringing forth today," Wagner adds. - **Kate Vanskike**

>> Event coordinator **Angela Ruff** arranged to drive Wagner to the Coeur d'Alene Library to offer an additional copy of "The Women's Suffrage Movement" and to leave a note for the person hiding books. Listen in on this informal interview with Wagner on that trip. Find the story at [gonzaga.edu/womenvote](http://gonzaga.edu/womenvote).