

# spirit

GONZAGA FACULTY AND STAFF NEWSLETTER

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## President Praises Faculty, Staff for Sharing Their Care for Our Students

Gonzaga President **Thayne McCulloh** shared a heavy heart as he addressed colleagues at the Spring Faculty Conference, Jan. 14, in the aftermath of news that Jesuit priests on safety plans once lived at the Cardinal Bea House on Astor Street, a retirement center owned and operated by the Jesuits West Province.

“Many people reached out to me during the break with thoughts and reactions to this situation. I want you to know I understand, and although some of it is difficult to hear, I appreciate hearing from you,” McCulloh said.

The Catholic Church continues to face much turmoil. “What does a Catholic university like ours have to teach, to discover and to share with the larger church about exploitation of power, the role and responsibility of privilege, the devastation of betrayal, and the paths to reconciliation?” he asked.

### Reaching Out

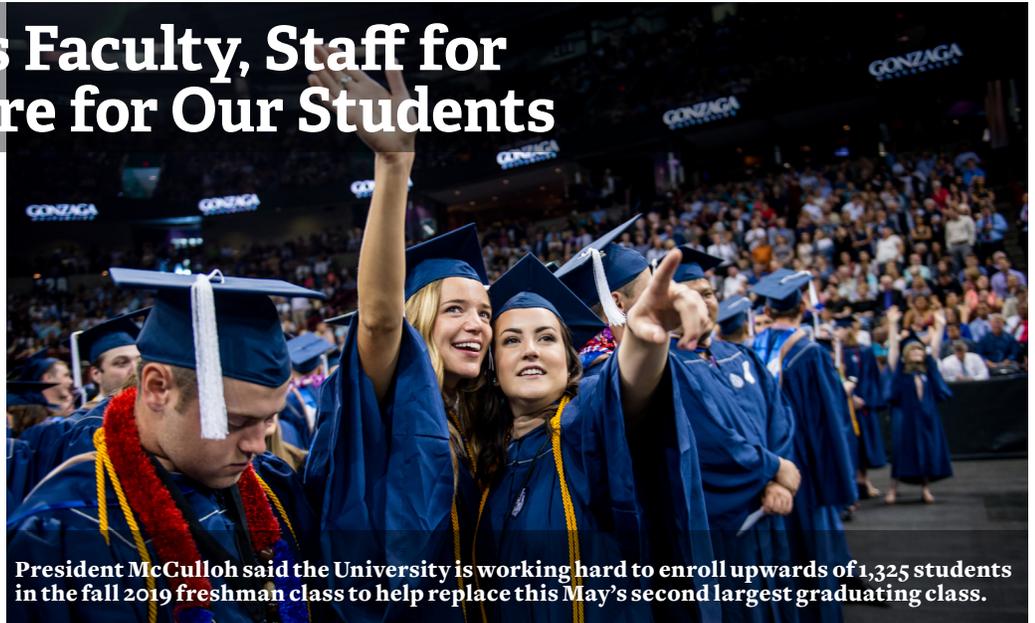
As disappointing and significant as recent revelations around the Catholic Church sex abuse crisis have been, McCulloh emphasized how important it is to meet our students where they are right now. “We have worked hard to create systems for reporting misconduct and to provide support for those who have been mistreated by others, and to properly adjudicate such matters,” the president said.

While recent developments certainly reflect upon the University mission, they do not define it.

“Though the Examen report was fairly complete before Christmas, recent events will be integrated into the report,” McCulloh said, saying there is a place to reflect our history and represent our pain and loss.

“But our fundamental purpose has not changed. Our mission has prepared us for moments like this. Our Mission and Ministry staff are ready to step up in new ways, as are our faculty and staff, as we share responsibility for this mission,” he said.

He thanked **Michelle Wheatley** and Fr. **Pat Lee**, S.J., for leading the discussions that led to the creation of the Examen draft report sent to all members of campus prior to the Christmas break.



**President McCulloh said the University is working hard to enroll upwards of 1,325 students in the fall 2019 freshman class to help replace this May’s second largest graduating class.**

### Key Values

Within remarks about the hiring of **Deena Gonzalez**, as provost and senior vice president, and related organizational changes, McCulloh noted that it is the academic and mission values that are at the center of our work. “This does not mean other colleagues are less important,” he emphasized. “Every day those individuals, often behind the scenes, are working to ensure students make it to class, navigate challenges of daily life, and manage their anxiety. Other colleagues keep our spaces safe, warm and lit, and make sure our email gets sent and received safely. As students learn the subject matter, they are watching us, listening to us, learning from us about life and relationships and raising children.

“Thanks for bringing *cura personali* to students and co-workers. As we welcome new colleagues, may we continue to work together, to forge a strong, positive shared understanding of our common purpose in support of our optimistic, hopeful, amazing students who place their trust in us every day.”

### Other Notes of Interest

- The recently completed Campaign, which totaled more than \$355 million in gifts and pledges, garnered more than \$100 million for student scholarships, and brought us the Hemmingson Center, which has changed our student experience and given us the opportunity to attract more students in this competitive market.

- The UW School of Medicine-GU Regional Health Partnership is filled with potential opportunities, from student access to internships and collaborative research, to a possible new health sciences facility south of campus.
- U.S. News & World Report has rated Gonzaga No. 1 for Teaching in the western U.S. “That’s a really big deal, and that comes from the impressions and respect of colleagues at other universities,” McCulloh said.
- Graduating the second largest class in school history this spring, 1,336 students, the University is looking to enroll 1,275-1,325 students in the fall 2019 freshman class. This is necessary as GU is reliant on tuition revenue for its budget. Endowment increases have not kept up with the increasing costs to educate a student, McCulloh said.
- Architects have determined we can build the interdisciplinary science and engineering building in two stages, the first costing about \$30 million. Plans will be revealed for phase 1 this spring.

**President McCulloh will deliver his state of the University address at the Staff Assembly Open Meeting, Feb. 13, 9 a.m. in the Hemmingson Ballroom.**

- >>Gonzaga Day is Feb. 9, focused on service and care for others, central to GU's mission. In Spokane, donations of packaged snack items, toiletries, backpacks, socks, metal water bottles and first-aid supplies may be dropped off at Hemmingson, Crosby and Law School on campus, or at any Numerica branch. Spokane's Alumni Chapter will sort food at 2nd Harvest Food Bank, 1-4 p.m., in addition to a game watch. For more info, click [gonzaga.edu/GonzagaDay](http://gonzaga.edu/GonzagaDay).
- >>**Ken Dye**, Notre Dame, presents "Marching to Motown," Feb. 5, 6 p.m., Music Hall 101, as Black History Month music lecturer.
- >>"Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead," a play that addresses topics of violence, sex, drug use, suicide and alcohol consumption, among others, runs Feb. 7-9, 7:30 p.m. in Magnuson Theatre.
- >>**Karma Chavez**, University of Texas, presents "El SIDA Nos Afecta a Todos: AIDS Activism in and for Latinx Immigrant Communities in the Early Years of HIV/AIDS," Feb. 11, 7 p.m., Hemmingson Auditorium.
- >>Spokane Lands Council Executive Director **Mike Petersen** presents "The Making of an Environmentalist," Feb. 19, 6 p.m., Jundt Auditorium, as part of the Environmental Studies Lecture Series.
- >>Notre Dame's **Patrick Deneen** presents the Phi Beta Kappa Faculty Lecture, "Why Liberalism Failed," Feb. 20, 7 p.m., Hemmingson Ballroom.
- >>Theatre and Dance Chair **Kathleen Jeffs** presents "From Spokane to Stratford-upon-Avon and Back Again...Collaboration and The Royal Shakespeare Company," part of the Dean's Research & Creative Activity Forum, Feb. 21, 4:30 p.m., Humanities Building.
- >>Gonzaga men's and women's choirs present "Sacred Music in a Sacred Place," Feb. 24, 3 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral.
- >>The Kreielsheimer Visiting Artist Lecture features **Erika Osborne**, Colorado State, on "Visual Reflections of Nature and Culture," Feb. 28, 5 p.m. Jundt Auditorium.
- >>"From the Upper Room to Pentecost: Toward an Ethic of Racial Mercy," is the Flannery Lecture, presented by **Maureen O'Connell**, La Salle University, Feb. 28, 6 p.m., Cataldo Hall.
- >>The centers for Public Humanities, Civil and Human Rights at Gonzaga Law, and the Office of Diversity & Inclusion offer an evening with **Kimberlé Crenshaw**, Feb. 28, 7 p.m., Hemmingson Ballroom. She is best known for her TEDTalk on identifying race and gender bias, "which can prevent the advancement of equality in America if left unaddressed."
- >>Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra Concert is set March 4, 7:30 p.m. at the Fox Theater.
- >>Works by GU's Art faculty are on display in Jundt Art Museum through May 11.



**Mission and Ministry Director Luke Lavin shares mission conversation with campus community members.**

## *Following a year of gathering cross-campus input, Mission Examen Core Team sends Gonzaga report to peer review committee*

After reviewing reports from nearly 40 areas/groups, the Mission Examen Core Committee integrated the cumulative feedback and prepared a draft self-study report according to guidelines set by the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU). The committee shared this draft with the Gonzaga community in a memo on Dec. 13, along with a survey link so faculty, staff and students could provide feedback. Primary aspirations identified in the report include expanded mission engagement, continued work on diversity, equity and cultural fluency, and clarifying institutional work values, among others.

As you may be aware, shortly after the draft was released, Gonzaga was included in national news about an investigative report covering past abuse by Jesuits, and that some with credible allegations of abuse of minors once lived in Cardinal Bea House. This experience engendered a variety of responses and questions in the community, including concern about the meaning and future of our Jesuit mission identity.

"Our Core Committee will be working with senior

leadership to acknowledge the significance of this experience in our self-study report," says **Michelle Wheatley**, acting vice president for Mission and Ministry.

Much of the report will remain unchanged, given that it represents and highlights Gonzaga's shared responsibility and contributions to mission across a variety of areas and functions. However, modifications will be included in the Executive Summary, the Process Overview, and the characteristic called "Jesuit Presence."

"This is a really important moment in the life of our University," says Wheatley. "What I encountered in this process was how profoundly

many of us are inspired by Gonzaga's Jesuit heritage. Our Ignatian formation invites us to bring our capacities for education, discernment and love into this very experience. I remain confident that we, as a learning community, can advance our mission through collaboration, empowerment and creativity."

On Jan. 24, Gonzaga's Mission Priority Examen report (a 50-page document covering seven standard categories for all participating schools, plus additional characteristics unique to GU's process) was submitted to a peer review committee. The four members of that team are leaders from Creighton, Fairfield, Le Moyne and Seattle universities, and after reviewing the report, they will visit campus in February.

## **Coming: Priorities**

Administrative leaders have been actively discerning responses to the themes and feedback provided by the community through the Examen process. The next step is to identify mission priorities. Stay tuned for future memos about this stage of the Examen process.

## **Peer Review Team Open Session**

An open session with peer reviewers is scheduled Feb. 25, 2-3:30 p.m. in the Hemmingson Auditorium. Peer reviewers have requested specific time with various groups, as well.

## Four Dean Searches in Home Stretch

Interim Provost/Senior Vice President **Beth Martin** reports all dean searches are on track in the schools of Education, Engineering and Applied Science, Leadership Studies, and Nursing and Human Physiology.

Search consultants Academic Search will soon meet with each search committee to aid in the selection of the semifinalists for their positions. In early February, each search committee member will receive applicant materials for review.

"We plan to select up to 12 qualified candidates for each search," Martin says. "Since we will have up to 48 candidates, we plan to do Zoom interviews with each semifinalist." Those interviews will take

place the week of Feb. 11. Finalists will be invited to campus to meet with the GU community the weeks of Feb. 25 and March 4.

"We are hoping decisions and offers can be made by the second or third week of March," Martin says.

**Deena Gonzalez**, GU's new provost and senior vice president, plans to be available to meet all finalists.

Martin is chairing the searches for Engineering and Applied Science, and Education. **Jolanta Weber**, acting dean of Leadership Studies, is chairing the search for her replacement, and Acting Dean of Nursing and Human Physiology **Lin Murphy** is chairing the search for her school's dean.

# NOTEWORTHY

## New Hires

**Silvia Madrid Jaramillo**, lecturer, Math; **Dylan Sweeney**, analyst, Institutional Research; **Rina Clark**, clerk, Mail Services; **Michael Taylor**, clerk, Mail Services; **Mikala Presho**, program asst II, Student Accounts; **Mitchell Andrews**, tech I, ITS; **Lisa Galindo**, admissions specialist, Virtual Campus; **Heather Schmidt**, admissions specialist, Virtual Campus; **Kelley Mercantel**, budget & personnel asst, Provost/Sr. VP; **Lauren Hahn**, services coordinator, Registrar's; **Daniel Meyer**, HR asst, Human Resources; **Olivia Vaclavek**, digital engagement asst, Development; **Jillian LaBelle**, lecturer, Accounting; **Lisa Pratt**, lecturer, Nursing; **Abigail Martin**, youth programs manager, Community Engagement; **Robert Harmon**, services coordinator, Registrar's; **Lisa Clark**, administrative asst III, Law Dean's Office; **Mary Jean Spadafora**, student services specialist, Virtual Campus; **Danci Cleveland**, office assistant, Housing & Residence Life; **Amber Jones**, simulation operations specialist; Nursing

## New Positions/Promotions

**Jenna Parisi**, director, Health Promotion; **Nicola Mannetter**, director, Cura Personalis; **Stephany Schnelle**, counselor, Student Financial Services; **Sandra Vance**, visit coordinator, Admission; **Heather Smith**, lead, Mail Services

## Goodbyes

**Frank Case**, S.J., University vice president; **Pat Lee**, S.J., vice president for Mission & Ministry; **Brian Higginson**, professor, Human Physiology; **Nicole Herrera**, asst director, Civil & Human Rights; **Jennifer Sharp**, asst director, Infrastructure Operations; **Arup Mukherjee**, ELC training instructor, English Language Center; **Sandra Sanchez**, visit coordinator, Admission; **Kelli Gieser**, communications coordinator, Human Resources; **Mary Carter**, admissions ambassador, Law; **Valerie Kitt**, circulation supervisor, Foley; **Mac McCandless**, architect, Plant; **Kirby Davis**, student services specialist, Virtual Campus; **Paige Powers**, benefits & leave specialist, Human Resources; **Virginia Frerichs**, admin asst, Education; **Timka Harchevich**, custodian, Plant; **Gail Hammer**, co-director, Law Clinic

## Anniversaries

- 35** **James Helgeson**, professor, Business
- 15** **Edin Jusic**, custodian supervisor, Plant; **Sergey Didenko**, custodian specialist, Plant; **Darby Harrington**, welcome desk agent, Hemmingson; **Rizah Kahrmanovic**, custodian specialist, Plant; **Lori VanHook**, desktop publications specialist II, Campus Printing
- 10** **Jeffrey Ramirez**, associate professor, Nursing; **Sarah Siegel**, lecturer, Chemistry
- 5** **Patty L Hallinan**, office coordinator, Cura Personalis; **Holly Jones**, advancement communications specialist, University Advancement; **Megan Roland**, custodian, Plant; **Lisa Schwartzenburg**, asst director, Benefits & Safety; **Ashley Seick**, business manager, Student Involvement & Leadership; **Tracy Simmons**, lecturer, Integrated Media

# FOCUS ON... DEENA GONZALEZ

**Deena Gonzalez** was appointed Gonzaga's first permanent provost and senior vice president in January, to assume her position June 1. However, she'll be around campus periodically this spring to work with four committees in search of new deans, and to better acquaint herself with Gonzaga's people. She received her Ph.D. from Cal-Berkeley, and most recently served as Loyola Marymount's associate provost of Academic Affairs. She withstood the scrutiny of the provost search committee, which reviewed more than 100 applications, and came away unanimously recommended for this appointment.

A gifted author, administrator and teacher/scholar, this unpretentious Gonzaga newcomer is eager to get to know her colleagues across campus. *Spirit* asked her to tell you a little bit about herself, the personal side.

**Favorite book:** Really, this one is so difficult because I have 10 favorites easily: *The Wind and the Willows* and *Heidi*, from childhood, for example; *Pride and Prejudice* and *Exodus*, from my pre-teen and teenage years. In college, *1984* and *The Jungle* plus *Bless Me, Última*, or *The Godfather* (although I thought the movies, I and II, were far better!). In graduate



**Provost/Senior Vice President  
Deena Gonzalez**

school, anything by Toni Morrison and Louise Erdrich. More recently, I enjoyed Ruth Bader Ginsburg's *Notorious RBG* and Sonia Sotomayor's *My Beloved World*. I am headed toward *Becoming* next on the list. Finally, on a holiday, I will read anything by Patricia Cornwall, Marcia Muller and Sue Grafton.

**Favorite movie:** Easy, "The Godfather," but hard to say whether I or II.

**Hobbies:** HGTV, open houses, gardening, baking, and open road driving.

**Favorite activities:** Walking (forests and meadows), camping and going to the movies.

**Draw to the Pacific Northwest:** Its beauty, friendly people, high regard for education.

## Faculty workshops focus on diversity, inclusion

Faculty returned to campus in January with a renewed focus on diversity and inclusion.

The College of Arts & Sciences held the first in a series of planned interactive workshops to develop faculty expertise with inclusive pedagogical practices, with guest speaker **Mary James**, dean for Institutional Diversity at Reed College.

James described current research on barriers to successful student learning and evidence-based pedagogical practices to overcome those barriers. Nearly all students experienced these to some degree. But for students from groups historically underrepresented or marginalized in higher education, these can be particularly debilitating.

The second CAS-hosted conversation, for its faculty and staff, featured **Eric Davis**, sociology faculty member at Bellevue Community

College. He spoke on "Diversity Beyond the Demographics."

"There is no end game in diversity," said Davis, who was trained in a Jesuit pedagogical environment at Seattle University. He said efforts need to be focused on making students feel welcome in classrooms and on campus during their time at the university.

The workshops, attended by more than 250, were hosted in collaboration with the Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Steering Committee. The events are part of broader efforts to help the campus community be more aware and more educated about diversity and inclusion issues.

"The University and college have been investing in a campus climate that is hospitable to all," said Dean **Elisabeth Mermann-Jozwiak**, College of Arts and Sciences.

## Reaching Out

The Office of Health Promotion, under Student Development, has branched off from the Center for Cura Personalis. OHP raises awareness of campus-wide health initiatives and advances positive, holistic practices and reduces high-risk behaviors. The CCP continues to reach out to, and assist, students of concern with consultation and education. **Nicola Mannetter** is director of CCP, and **Jenna Parisi** is director of OHP.



## MAKING WAVES WITH WOLDSON PROPERTY ON SEATTLE'S WATERFRONT

Miss **Myrtle Woldson** had a long affinity for Gonzaga, dating back several decades. When she was contemplating what she might do with her fortune, she told President **Thayne McCulloh** that she owned a parking lot. "In a recession you might not think a parking lot would do very well. But then someone built a giant Ferris wheel next to my parking lot and it's full all the time."

That parking lot on the waterfront in downtown Seattle, and two other Seattle parking facilities, were part of Miss Woldson's \$55 million gift to the University when she died in 2014, at age 104.

In plans recently unveiled, Gonzaga is working on an agreement with AMLI Residential to lease one of the parking properties, which occupies one city block, to the Chicago-based firm to build and operate a 17-story apartment complex. The agreement would provide GU an annual ground lease payment, generating funds far more significant than annual parking income, says **Chuck Murphy**, Gonzaga's chief strategy officer. The lease is pending final execution. When the long-term lease ends the building reverts to Gonzaga. This project is adjacent to the Watermark parking garage, another of Woldson's gifts to Gonzaga.

"Miss Woldson was clear: She wanted her gift and income from her properties to benefit the students. She wanted Gonzaga to construct the Woldson Performing Arts Center on campus to

showcase student talents in the arts (due to open in April), with remaining resources funding merit scholarships for students who would not otherwise be able to experience a Gonzaga education," Murphy says.

*To reiterate, Gonzaga is not going into land development enterprise, nor planning to acquire other Seattle properties. The lease of this land to AMLI simply allows Gonzaga to receive annual income to benefit its students.*

The new structure, projected to be completed by 2023, will be part of the Seattle Waterfront Project, which starts with the razing of the old Seattle Viaduct, recently replaced by an underground tunnel, to clear that visual barrier between downtown Seattle and the waterfront. The six-month deconstruction process begins this month. The Waterfront Project will be pedestrian-friendly, and provide a new surface street with access to and from downtown, with new parks, walking paths and access to Elliott Bay.

It so happens the third parking structure, a part of the Hill Climb condominiums, is a garage just below Pike Street Market. Plans are developing to create Overlook Walk, a public tiered pathway connecting the waterfront to Pike Place Market and Seattle's urban core. It is at the center of improvements, including Pike Street Market expansion toward the water, terraced plazas to



Artist's rendering of waterfront development site in downtown Seattle.

sit, play and enjoy elevated views of Elliott Bay, a pedestrian bridge to the waterfront, and Seattle Aquarium's new Ocean Pavilion.

This third Woldson lot will provide prime parking for the Aquarium, the Market and Waterfront activities.

"The Ferris wheel is the iconic showpiece on the waterfront right now," Murphy says. "But this beautiful overlook may become the iconic feature that represents the waterfront as we go forward."

## ACADEMIC INTERDISCIPLINARITY

Interdisciplinary collaboration is indispensable to professional life and is essential in fostering innovation, which is why such partnerships have been increasing across the University.

**Elisabeth Mermann-Jozwiak**, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, delivered that message to the Greater Gonzaga Guild in January.

Gonzaga's liberal arts and Jesuit traditions position it to uniquely prepare students for the future by modeling interdisciplinary work and by engaging them in such work. Interdisciplinary collaboration provides a win-win result for students and faculty alike.

Through their research and teaching collaborations, faculty demonstrate the importance of interdisciplinarity. By being directly engaged in interdisciplinary research, at times with cross-disciplinary faculty teams, students are able to discover that relevance for themselves.

CAS and its academic partners are living out the ideal with several collaborations across the University. Mermann-Jozwiak provided examples:

- Art and computer science
- Psychology and philosophy
- Physics, mechanical engineering and bio-chemistry
- Communication and engineering

Such collaborations make Gonzaga students better prepared to conquer real-world challenges after they leave the University.

Mermann-Jozwiak said graduates need to be able to work in teams; that no one discipline can solve big challenges; and that foundations in fields such as the classics aid in the development of problem-solving skills. These principles have been baked into the University Core Curriculum and offerings such as First-Year Seminars.

## STAFF HONORED FOR MAGIS

**Deb Ellis** and **Tomson Spink**, staff members from opposite sides of the campus, literally and figuratively, are both driven by a penchant to serve others and make Gonzaga a better place for all. They were both honored as recipients of the Outstanding Service in Support of Mission Award at the Dec. 10 Open Meeting of the Staff Assembly.



Mission Award winners Deb Ellis, Tomson Spink

Ellis is a selfless adviser and confidante for many students and staff alike, who offers an open mind, a helpful hand and a compassionate heart, her nominator said. As programming manager for UMEC, she exemplifies Magis. After a student's apartment break-in, Deb helped the student find campus resources to replace lost books and computer, and comforted her, as just one example.

As maintenance and grounds manager here, Spink thoughtfully reminds his charges of their responsibility to be good stewards of student tuition dollars,

ensuring careful attention is paid to building and grounds upkeep. "He's an excellent example of leadership in support of the greater good," his nominator said. He's been instrumental in increasing GU's renewable energy opportunities on campus, in response to the Pope's call for such action.

**Erin Tovey**, health educator in the Center for Cura Personalis,

also was honored Dec. 10 with the Staff Innovation Award for her work in researching and creating an online course for new incoming students called Zags in Action. It includes important information about transitioning to campus life. By bringing this program in-house, Erin saved the University more than \$10,000, and offered a better first impression of GU to new students, her nominator said.



Innovation Award winner Erin Tovey