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Gonzaga Fosters Neighborhood Connections with Opportunity Northeast

Gonzaga's service to its neighbors has been a part of its mission from its founding nearly 135 years ago.

Over the past 25 years, GU has been more intentionally engaging local residents with community-based service and experiential-learning programs. The work started with innovative programs in pockets of the University, but has grown to wider initiatives involving hundreds of students, staff and faculty who catalyze a multiplying effect.

Gonzaga recently announced Opportunity Northeast, a focused initiative built on a vision of the University and the Northeast Spokane neighborhood thriving together. It is an institution-wide commitment to expand outreach that expresses the University's unique identity as an exemplary university rooted in its Jesuit, Catholic, humanistic tradition.

Three focus areas are: Whole Health, Educational Opportunity, and Engaged Campus & Community, coordinated through the Center of Community Engagement (CCE), with support from all areas of the University."

The "Walking School Bus" partnership with the Spokane Regional Health District is one of the more recent examples of Gonzaga and the community collaborating to meet an identified need.

Each weekday during fall and spring, dozens of Gonzaga University students, staff and faculty meet early at three elementary schools to practice the act of accompaniment.

The concept is simple: walk alongside elementary-age children to start their day. Over hour-long routes, the groups pick up kids at their houses, offering them a hug, maybe a donut, and a safe walk to school.

Staff member **Abigail Martin** and faculty member **Joe Johnston** are part of the team that supports Logan Elementary. Martin is a youth programs manager who helps to oversee some of the programs offered by CCE. Johnston offers community engaged learning opportunities to students in sociology courses. He did much of the legwork to bring the Walking School Bus program to GU. Like all participants, they are passionate about giving back to their community.

Logan Elementary principal **Brent Perdue** has seen firsthand the passion behind Gonzaga's efforts over the years and the impact it has on families whose spirits are strong but whose challenges are sometimes daunting.

"They've really wrapped themselves around us," Perdue said recently from his office, noting that the



Programs such as **Campus Kids**, which started nearly 25 years ago, bring neighborhood students onto the Gonzaga campus to interact with our student mentors.

turnover rate of Logan students in a typical year approaches 50 percent.

On most days during a school year, Logan neighbors interact with members of the GU community working in multiple programs. The day may start with a walk to school and sharing breakfast. Some will later return to classrooms as educators-in-training, working alongside alumni such as **Maria Esther Zamora**.

"In doing this work, Gonzaga is really walking the mission," said Zamora, who formerly taught Spanish at Gonzaga before pursuing her master's to teach English Language Learners (ELL) at

Logan. She often has a GU education student in her classroom, who is both teaching and learning from the students.

Each week, after school, a group of Logan students visit GU's campus for the Campus Kids and ZagDance programs. Gonzaga's companionship with the neighborhood culminates weekly with a community meal served in the Logan Elementary cafeteria in partnership with the Campus Kitchens program.

Explore staff and faculty opportunities to participate in Opportunity Northeast at www.gonzaga.edu/one

- Jeff Bunch

19th & Counting: Parade Week 2020

"Women Activists and the Legacy of Progressivism"

Veta Schlimgen, associate professor of history
March 24, 7-8 p.m. | Wolff Auditorium, Jepson Center

Steps from Suffrage to Solidarity: Looking Back and Ahead

A parade reflecting the marches that took place for women's suffrage in the early 1900s, and modern-day movement toward equality for all.

March 25, 12:15 p.m. | Gonzaga Campus, "Bulldog Alley"

"Winning Women's Suffrage: Celebrating Victories, Learning from Mistakes"

Nancy Unger ('78), Ph.D., associate professor of history, Santa Clara University
March 25, - Time and location TBD

"Pageantry of Protest: Making the Look Count"

Lenora Lopez Schindler, lecturer and artist, explains how the suffragists used banners, textiles and fashion as visual forms of protest, and their continued influence

March 26, 7 p.m. | Jundt Auditorium
www.gonzaga.edu/womenvote

AROUND CAMPUS

>> The School of Law and its Center for Civil and Human Rights announced creation of the Lincoln LGBTQ+ Rights Clinic, supported by a significant donation from GU Regent **Joe Lincoln** ('88 electrical engineering). The clinic aims to advance the equal rights and dignity of individuals who identify as LGBTQ+ through education, programming, advocacy, research and legal representation.

>> Providence Medical Research Center recently donated freezers, centrifuges, microscopes and other essential tools to Gonzaga, which are invaluable to undergraduate student research and learning.

>> Students conducting nanoscience research in engineering and the sciences are beneficiaries of a new ultra-modern atomic force microscope as a result of a \$267,000 National Science Foundation grant. Principal grant investigator was engineering's **Harman Khare**, along with science co-investigators **Shannen Cravens**, **Brook Swanson** and **Jeff Watson**.

>> In the Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center in March: Lúnasa, March 5, 7:30 p.m.; ACDA Northwest dance conference/performance, March 11-14; Arcis Saxophone Quartet, March 17, 7:30 p.m.; Considering Matthew Shepard concert, March 28, 7 p.m., March 29, 2 p.m.; and Wonderheads: Grim & Fischer, April 2, 7:30 p.m.

>> March lectures include: Water Resources in Washington, March 5, 5 p.m., Wolff Auditorium; Hate: Reflections and Action, March 17, 6:30 p.m., Hemmingson Auditorium; U.S.-Mexican Border: Humanitarian Consequences of Shifting Immigration Law and Policy panel discussion, March 19, 4:30 p.m., Barbieri Courtroom; Panel on Tradition and Transformation in Jesuit Higher Education, March 24, 3 p.m., Hemmingson Auditorium; Women Activists and the Legacy of Progressivism, March 24, 7 p.m., Wolff Auditorium; "Memorials Matter," by University of Idaho's Jennifer Ladino, March 25, 7 p.m., site TBD; Holocaust Survivors Speak, March 31, 6:30 p.m., Hemmingson Ballroom.

>> Foley Library and its Rare Reading Room is one of 50 U.S. libraries selected to host "Americans and the Holocaust," a traveling exhibition from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, that examines the motives, pressures and fears that shaped Americans' responses to Nazism, war and genocide in Europe during the 1930s and 1940s. The exhibit runs March 19-April 27.

GU Priorities Energized by Academic Affairs



Deena González is not new to Jesuit higher education, and it shows in her commitment to the mission as she reshapes her division.

One of the most important steps, so far, in fulfilling President **Thayne McCulloh's** academic vision, has been establishing the provost model of university governance.

Imagine a wheel, with Academic Affairs being at the center of the wheel, giving energy to all the spokes and receiving it back from all the parts. That's the way Provost and Senior Vice President **Deena González** sees her division.

"Since I arrived in June, we've tried to establish a scope that understood Academic Affairs, not as autonomous, but in partnership with all the other areas of the University," Provost González says.

"Academic Affairs is the center of what we do here, and we partner with other parts of the University, including Student Affairs, Mission & Ministry, University Advancement, Finance and Campus Safety, to make sure we're caring for every student."

The academic division is considerably more encompassing than it was before the provost model was introduced, but González and her predecessor **Beth Martin** have reshaped the division, not by adding personnel but by reorganizing the people and positions within their division.

"Under this model, the understanding is that at a university, academics and academic success drives everything, generates the energy we need to do our jobs, change lives, ultimately, to educate students for a better world," González says.

For example, Student Affairs has been incorporated into the division of Provost and Senior Vice President, and a search is underway for a permanent vice provost to oversee that area.

"Student affairs today is not what we knew it to be 20, 30 years ago," González says. "Back then, it included residential life, dining, counseling and health services. Today it's far more complex, with student conduct, career and professional

development, academic counseling, community engagement, cura personalis, enrollment management, to name a few."

Meanwhile, González outlined in a Feb. 14 memo to our community a process to create a strategic plan for Academic Affairs that will guide Gonzaga into the next decade.

With the help of **Sharon McDade**, a facilitator with extensive experience in strategic planning and leadership consulting, the Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Group has begun its work to pull together priorities from the academic community that will shape the plan as it progresses to a final draft by fall, and implementation by next winter. This comes just prior to the end of the University's comprehensive strategic plan in 2021, and González expects the academic strategic plan will inform the next University strategic document. Co-chairing the AASPG are Vice Provost for Academic Affairs **Jolanta Weber**, Business Dean **Ken Anderson**, and Associate Professor/Chair **Cindy Stavrianos**, Women's & Gender Studies.

González sees great advantages for Gonzaga, which is uniquely placed in the Inland Northwest, where a Catholic, Jesuit, humanistic education is important to the region and the world. "It pulls together a lot of threads that run through the history of the Pacific Northwest, and how this region came to being. We have definite links to the Native American communities here, and long-term relationships. Our faculty members think this is important, both environmentally and culturally. This makes us different from other institutions in the area. Discussions of mission and values is ongoing. It permeates our curriculum and our faculty's work, what they publish and in how our students talk about their classes and what they've learned. This is important to the significance of Gonzaga," González says.

NOTEWORTHY

NEW HIRES

Laura Cupples, lecturer, Philosophy; Satya Chelluboina, CRM developer, ITS; Kristina Pratt, employment specialist, Human Resources; Paris Hochhalter, custodian, Plant; Leslie Burks, administrative secretary II, Military Science; Karianna Freeland, coordinator, Student Services; Amy Barton, administrative asst, Arts & Sciences

PROMOTIONS/POSITION CHANGES

Eric Moss, asst director, infrastructure operations, ITS; Jackie Van Allen, grant and contract officer III, Sponsored Research; Leon Strawn, budget & personnel officer, Education; Scott Wittel, assoc director, Security; Christopher Macabenta, custodial shift lead, Plant; Krystal Bates, assoc director, Student Services; Laurie Hanlon, CRM business analyst, ITS

GOODBYES

Sheryl Humphrey, asst director, GUEST; Peter Rossing, marketing manager, Woldson PAC; Michael Roden, assoc athletic director for student support services; Reanne Lee, visual designer, Marketing & Communications; Barbara Ritter, program asst III, Academic Advising; John Nelson, sr. staff accountant, Athletics; Katie Burrow, reservationist, GUEST

ANNIVERSARIES

25 Marcia Bertholf, asst to the Chief Financial Officer

15 Edward Fitzgerald, custodial shift supervisor, Plant

10 Kurt Heimbigner, sr. director, integrated marketing & web communications, Marketing & Communications; Judy Noll, interlibrary loan asst, Foley

5 Raul Alvarez, web apps & mobile developer II, ITS; Addison Cavanaugh, auxiliary enterprises system analyst, GUEST; Angela Hinz, research coordinator, Chemistry & Biology; Daniel Hurst, HVAC tech, Plant; Shelby Ryan, operations & budget specialist, Alumni Relations

FOCUS ON JACK OF ALL TRADES

Gone are the years of Jesuit abundance on campus. With the decrease in the number of members of the society throughout the world, Jesuits missioned to Gonzaga now take on work somewhat different than they once did.

Fr. Dan Mai, S.J. ('98 M.A. in Christianity and Culture, '99 M.A. in Counseling Psychology) is a great example of this new-look Jesuit; a man of few words and great action, who is constantly finding creative ways to say 'yes' to God's call all over campus.

An immigrant from Vietnam at the age of 12, Fr. Mai spent 30 days on a boat coming to America. In his life since, he has felt overwhelming gratitude that continues to drive him in everything he does.

Along with his duties as a Jesuit specialist in Mission and Ministry, he serves as the minister to the Della Strada Jesuit Community. While serving both our college students and his Jesuit brothers, it's hard to know what each day will bring, but Fr. Mai sees everything as an opportunity to give back.

"I want to be available to people and be a bridge builder," he says. "I love building things, physically, as well as facilitating the relationship between the Jesuit community and the University."

As an example, he spent several weeks in the early fall with a jackhammer in his hands, creating a new garden for the Jesuit community, while helping to create a weekly event for students to gather in Catholic community at *Light Nights*, and scheduling our Gonzaga community priests for their sacramental duties for the year.

Whether it's coming on retreat, driving a Jesuit to the airport, heling his family in Seattle, or serving a late-night meal in the COG before finals, Fr. Mai is a selfless giver of his time and talents. And if he doesn't know how to do something, he's always willing to learn. He says, "A college campus is dynamic and so full of hope and full of faith. It's also very life-giving to see people embody the spirit and the Jesuit tradition."



Fr. Dan Mai served students at Midnight Breakfast

After meeting in February with Fr. Arturo Sosa, S.J., superior general of the Society of Jesus, and other Jesuits, Fr. Mai feels reaffirmed in his mission to be here.

"Where we are as a church right now, we are the 'People's Church.' It is my job to continue the spirit of collaboration with the laity. I do that through listening and through my actions," he says.

Able to walk in and out of cultures very easily, Fr. Mai also finds himself saying 'yes' to serving off campus, as well, travelling around the world to minister to people in remote and indigenous places.

St. Ignatius said, "Love is shown more in deeds than in words," and it's obvious that Fr. Mai has embraced the saint's vision. – Ben Goodwin ('16)

From Navy to Canon Law, Chester Has Found His Home at GU

It can't be easy assuming a role as chief human resources officer at an institution brand new to you, on the opposite side of the country. You don't know the people, policies or practices until you get in, roll up your sleeves and get in the trenches.

But perhaps Tom Chester had a little head start. Now, a little more than a year into his job as associate vice president for Human Resources, Chester had a few advantages coming in.

He grew up in a Catholic family, attended Catholic school, and was highly influenced by his pastor who he describes as a simple, holy and hardworking priest. He went to college seminary at Seton Hall, where he performed apostolic work in a soup kitchen with Mother Theresa's sisters, taught religious education and learned to pray.

He attended North American Seminary in Rome, and the Gregorian University, where his Jesuit connections grew significantly. He was encouraged to do apostolic work, so he joined the U.S. Navy's chaplain candidate program, serving in the Mediterranean during rather tumultuous times just before Desert Storm.



Tom Chester

After the Navy, he worked in Trenton, New Jersey, parishes where he had grown up, received a degree in Canon Law from Catholic University of America, and worked in the bishop's office, marrying friends and baptizing their kids.

He began to wonder where he needed to be in life, and most of his skills seemed transferrable to human resources work, involving complicated human interactions and dynamics, teaching and training others. He earned a master's in HR management from Rutgers, then made stops at Burlington County College in Pemberton, New Jersey, and at University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, a 90-minute commute each way. "I found myself missing too many chapter books with my daughter."

He worked at Princeton, focusing on HR with one-third of the university, aiding academics, finance-treasury and student development. "It was a big HR department, and I was one of 60 HR professionals there," Chester says. Then he served as chief HR officer at Stockton University in Galloway, N.J.

That's when a friend told him about a job at Gonzaga.

"I thought, 'If this institution lives the values they've written in their recruitment document, then I would be interested – finding God in all things, men and women for others, cura personalis.' So many of

those values have come back to me in a new way working here. Having been a beneficiary of a Jesuit education, this is a way for me to give back."

So, what are Chester's top five priorities for Gonzaga Human Resources moving forward:

1. Fairness: This is a cornerstone of what we strive to ensure. Advocacy for both managers and employees, being transparent, being authentic – say what you mean and mean what you say.
2. Responsiveness: If HR is agile enough to respond to evolving needs of a growing and evolving community, then we'll be successful.
3. Customer Focus: We need to be available to meet with employees and get back to them in a timely manner.
4. Career Development: Help employees to grow in their role and to their full potential, to receive good feedback and professional development. We are working on a University-wide training strategy.
5. Total Rewards: We want to communicate really well to ensure our employees know, understand and take advantage of the robust benefits Gonzaga offers them.

ZAGS GIVE DAY March 3

Zags Give Day is GU's annual 24-hour fundraising blitz to generate additional funding for a variety of University needs. This year faculty, staff, alumni, families and friends are invited to share what they most love about GU while they donate to help unlock up to \$200,000 in additional funding. Who's your favorite Zag? What's your most memorable moment? What's the best Zag tradition? What's one word that sums up GU to you?

Since 2014, Zags Give Day has helped raise more than \$1.15 million to support our work and our students.

Share your memories and make your donation March 3 at gonzaga.edu/zagsgiveday, or scan the bar code.



SCAN ME

Norman Rockwell Original Painting of Crosby A Welcome Addition to Bing Collection



Gonzaga's Crosby collection recently added this original Norman Rockwell painting of Bing, which was commissioned by the California Peach Association for magazine ads featuring the Crooner. Trailside Galleries in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, had held the painting for the past 25 years, and deeded it to Gonzaga after learning of the University's extensive collection of Crosby memorabilia. It will be hung in the Crosby House this spring, Archivist Stephanie Plowman reports.

Bing's portrait is taken from a promotional photograph of a character he played in the 1949 movie "Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," based on the novel of the same name by Mark Twain. Although Norman Rockwell was best known for his 323 *Saturday Evening Post* covers, his work was in demand by companies, such as Jell-O and Mass Mutual, all wanting to use his images of everyday and popular Americans, including Bing.

NCAA Basketball Tournament Locations

Men's

- March 15-17 First Four
Dayton, Ohio
- March 19-22 1st/2nd Round
Albany, Spokane, St. Louis, Tampa, Greensboro, Omaha, Sacramento, Cleveland
- March 26-29 Regionals
Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Houston, New York
- April 4-6 Final Four
Atlanta

Women's

- First and Second rounds: Friday/
Sunday, March 20/22; and Saturday/
Monday, March 21/23, at top-16 seeds
- March 27-30 Regionals
Portland, Dallas, Fort Wayne, Greenville
- April 3-5 Final Four
New Orleans



Anniversarians Honored for Longtime Service

President Thayne McCulloh, on behalf of the University, recognized the following Gonzaga faculty and staff for their many contributions to the University. Front row, Elaine Baiert 30 years, Sydney Chambers 30, Jonne Shiosaki 25, Heather Gores 25, Paul Buller 30, Pat McCormick 25. Back row, Sherry Wood 25, David Kingma 25, Dan Gehn 25, Mary Beth Charleboix 25, Fr. Steve Kuder, S.J., 40, Fr. Bob Lyons, S.J., 40, Kai Uahinui 40, Al Miranne 30, David Calhoun 30. Not pictured: Kevin Hekmatpanah 25, Molly Kretchmar-Hendricks 25, Scott MacGregor 25, Kevin Shelley 25, Mark Alfino 30, Patricia Terry 30, Mary Pat Treauthart 30, Henry Batterman 35, Keith Gauthier 35, Paul Hastings 40.