

## BRIDGE BUILDER

### Bertagnolli Assumes Two-Year Term as Interim Provost

**Mia Bertagnolli** ('88) was Gonzaga born and raised. She sees herself as a bridge, connecting people to things we do so well here . . . our mission, culture, community.

She also plays a major role in helping new leaders to better understand our past so that we can move forward as a university.

"Change can be hard. It's scary. It can create anxiety," says Gonzaga's new interim provost. "But out of change often comes positive initiatives."

Bertagnolli recognizes the challenge the university faces in replacing key leaders, which has been frequent in recent times. "It has worn away our community's confidence that new leaders will stay and raises our anxiety as a community," Bertagnolli reasons.

But it also creates opportunities, she says.



*Mia Bertagnolli (Ph.D. '93), whose best leadership skill might be her passion to listen to others, is co-director of a National Science Foundation grant to empower women in the STEM disciplines. (Photo by Matt Replier)*

#### WHAT COLLEAGUES SAY

*"Mia's role will be critical as the university navigates the next few years. We are in a period of change and her talents, experience, personality and persona will be of great value and comfort to us. She is the perfect person for these times. She knows and loves this place, and she is highly committed to its success. Furthermore, she is unflappable, and we will surely need her calmness and coolness as we move forward."*

– **Ken Anderson**, Dean, School of Business Administration

*She values people and relationships, and she understands the importance of inclusion in decision making, in the development of ideas and initiatives, and in the daily work of the university. She brings a positivity and light into the spaces she occupies. In my view, she is an exceptional community builder and team player."*

– **Kent Porterfield**, Vice Provost for Student Affairs

"We have so many initiatives underway that have great momentum," she says, naming the Institute for Informatics and Applied Technology as one of them. "But we need to focus our attention on working collaboratively and listening to each other as we address our collective priorities rather than trying to do too many things at one time. We have tried to go at a pace that has been impressive, but challenging, and it will be important to take the time to gather feedback and garner buy-in for initiatives like this to be successful.

"It is important for people to be heard and know that things are going to be OK," she emphasizes.

Her 31 years employed by Gonzaga in increasingly higher levels of leadership, coupled with her four-year undergraduate experience here, make her a stable force through shifting times. She served her first term as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences under **Marc Manganaro** in 2009-10, six years (2011-2017) as chair of the biology department, and interim associate

dean of CAS in 2017-18, and again in 2019-20 when the College was led by an interim dean.

Musical chairs continued June 2020-May 2022 during the tumultuous COVID years as Bertagnolli served as director of the Center for Teaching and Advising, an opportunity for her to expand the center's offerings beyond just academic teaching and advising, as well as her leadership experience.

"I have always had a passion for, and a commitment to, supporting faculty in all their capacities and career trajectories, including scholarship, engagement with our community, helping them with early, mid and end of career decisions," says Bertagnolli. "My professional goals have changed throughout my career so I know how important it is to help other faculty members understand their own development paths to reach new goals they have set."

As CTA director she worked with partners across campus to assist with mentoring and collaborating on workshops to help faculty not

# The Spirit of Spirit: Dale Goodwin

This issue of *Spirit* is the last produced by Dale Goodwin after he started this work of heart 25 years ago. Already 18 years into his career at Gonzaga at the time, he knew the pulse of this campus community, and knew that low morale among employees needed prompt and loving treatment. And thus *Spirit* was born as a means to bolster transparent communication and to share stories of the people who make this University what it is.

*Spirit*: A Newsletter for Faculty and Staff launched with the 1999 fall semester, with news about a new faculty handbook, the addition of blue-light security phones on campus, and announcements of Staff Assembly executives. Photos showed the Gonzaga runners in the Bloomsday Corporate Cup (a few of them are still among us) and Kay Nakamaye (chemistry) commuting to work on his bike.

While the campus and the way we communicate have morphed in myriad ways in the last quarter-century, little about *Spirit* has. The columns remain the same – Noteworthy, Around Campus, Focus On – and the spotlight on the everyday heroes among us. In that way, *Spirit* has become an archive of Gonzaga’s personnel history, recognizing long tenures, showcasing new leaders, making University news personal.

For 25 years, Dale has been the spirit of *Spirit*. Not just an editor or newsletter creator, more than a conduit of information. And while he officially steps away from an office where bookshelves feature binders of every issue of this project, this is not the last time you will see his byline. Rest assured, so long as Dale can type or dictate a story, you will see his work, here in *Spirit* and in other Gonzaga publications.

Please join me in offering a heartfelt

## THANK YOU

to Dale for all he has done over an incredible 43-year career at Gonzaga.

- Kate Vanskike  
Marketing & Communications



Dale is ending his 43-year career, but will remain a noticeable part of the Gonzaga community.

## DARE TO BE BORED

It’s OK to be bored, maybe it’s even good.

Phone down. Eyes up. Ears free. Heart open. I entered the retreat space to receive whatever might be there for me hoping to find God in the midst. In our opening reflection, I said, I wanted to make room for God to do something new. What that statement would take is the courage to be bored. Settling into silence is a dance, because I want to be quiet, but I lack the patience to find value in boredom. Every second, every minute, every hour counts inside. I’m no longer certain whether it’s me or society that keeps the score. So, I attempted to be gentle with my frantic mind desiring to finish books at a record pace. After completing my first read, I resolved to be bored for three hours on the first full day of silence. Resisting the urge to walk, jog, practice yoga, read, pray, or journal, I dared to be with me, with God. It was not revelatory. It was a sort of coming home to myself, to know I’m someone without doing anything, I still exist and breathe and perhaps, sometimes that’s enough, perhaps, sometimes, it’s all I need and God wants me to believe that. I am after all, a human being. Without all the fanfare, I am still someone deeply loved and known in every fiber of my being without even saying one word.

### Abide in Love: Ignatius Silent Retreat | Bozarth Retreat Center

*Quiet the noise and rest from the busyness at a three-day silent retreat. Enjoy time for personal reflection, beautiful grounds and delicious meals. “Abide in Love” is grounded in the Catholic, Christian tradition. This retreat is open to persons from any religious/spiritual background who desire an experience shaped by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. If you are curious about what this experience will be like or whether this retreat is for you, contact Lauren at [hackman-brooks@gonzaga.edu](mailto:hackman-brooks@gonzaga.edu).*

When the waters of my mind stilled and all the movement and inertia of my energy came to a halt after those three hours of boredom, I started a new book with a new focus, attention and rhythm. I became aware of the Spirit moving me toward praying with Jesus through imaginative prayer in the gospel of Mark the next day, which reinvigorated my prayer and quality time with Jesus.

Lastly, I stumbled upon one of the resource books provided by Mission Engagement on the retreat titled, *The Way to Love* by Anthony De Mello, S.J. The foreword by another Jesuit said this book would change you and I did not buy that one bit. Then, I devoured every page until 10:30 p.m. as the last one up in Bozarth Mansion. I couldn’t tear my eyes away. I felt

confronted about the unhealthy attachments I have to people in my life. Because I am overly dependent on them, it is difficult to love them freely. It was a huge realization for me and even in reading the words I felt lighter. So I read the book a second time and I knew I would walk away from the retreat continuing to explore what love truly is and it only made me more drawn to Jesus. I think he was on to something in the way he loved without expecting much in return. As I return to my time on retreat, I recognize the switch that occurred when I endeavored to be bored for three hours and how my prayer and silence was significant afterward and continues to bear fruit in my life.

Peace,  
- Candace Williams  
University Ministry



Participants extinguish candles during Healing Service on retreat.

# HERNANDEZ A PILLAR OF LIGHT DESCENDING FROM HIS MOTHER

Rudolf Fitness Center Director **Jose Hernandez** grew up in significant poverty in Caracas, Venezuela, a city of more than 7 million people. His dad was not very present in his family's life, and passed away when Jose was 15.

His mother was the family's rock, working most of her life as a school custodian, trying her best to make ends meet for her nine children.

Jose might have been his mom's favorite. He worked shifts with her cleaning toilets at a local college. His first three brothers were not good students. Mom would tell Jose as he was cleaning toilets, "This is why you need to go to school," and she constantly urged him to go beyond what she had accomplished, which in Jose's eyes, was most significant.

Jose didn't realize he and his family lived in poverty – sometimes only eating five meals a week. "Sometimes we just didn't eat, period," Jose says. After his dad passed, Jose would help his mom decide which meals the family would eat each week.

Poverty was not just found in the family's meager means for food, Jose's one pair of tattered green pants with holes in the pockets, and housing. He didn't see a dentist until he was 22. That was just before he ventured to the United States on a full-ride scholarship to play basketball at Jacksonville College, a junior college in Texas. He had a chance to play baseball in the U.S., when he was 16, but the family wouldn't have it.

At Jacksonville, about halfway between Dallas and Houston, "I couldn't believe how much they gave us to eat," Hernandez says, thinking back to his lean offerings at home. He earned an associate degree there, a bachelor's degree in finance from Central Missouri, and a degree in special education and PE in Venezuela while playing professional basketball there.

His playing days concluded, Hernandez returned to the U.S., became assistant men's basketball coach at Community Colleges of Spokane in 1996 and served until 2001 as both coach and physical education instructor.

Imagine Jose talking in his distinctly Venezuelan accent, "We won the community college championship in 2000 and my head got real big with ideas of what we could do the next year. We didn't make the playoffs and the head coach left. I applied, but never had a chance."

In the meantime, Hernandez had begun a master's program in sport and athletic administration at Gonzaga. After the first year of his two-year program he was broke. "I told Dr. **Diane Tunnell** (chair of the program) about my situation and she and Dr. **Jon Sunderland** put me to work as a graduate assistant



*Jose Hernandez has guided the evolution of the Rudolf Fitness Center since its creation in 2003, the last 18 years as director. His mother Nieves (d. 2022) is his inspiration.*

teaching activity classes, and I was able to complete my masters," he says.

But then, "I had a master's, I spoke two languages and I had two small kids, but I could not get a job," Jose recalls. (Side note: Jose proceeded to earn his Ph.D. from Gonzaga in 2012.)

A friend at church was developing a daycare/ afterschool program, and she asked Jose if he could help.

"I told her, 'You tell me what you need and I'll write my own job description,' " which he did.

For one year Hernandez was chief diaper changer. "The kids got so attached to me that every time they pooped their diapers they came to me to change them."

But Jose felt like he was SOL, please excuse this obvious metaphor.

Life has a way of making daffodils out of dandelions. In 2002, when the Rudolf Fitness Center was under construction at Gonzaga, Tunnell and Sunderland were instrumental in Hernandez's hiring as assistant director of Gonzaga's new transformative facility. Two short-tenured directors later, Hernandez became the third director of RFC, a position he has held since 2007.

And no one ever did the job better.

Today, through extensive expansion of

programs, classes and equipment, RFC is a bustling center of physical and mental activity. And it is one of the happiest places on campus.

Dr. Hernandez clearly knows where he came from and appreciates where he is. He emphasizes five things to his permanent and student staff: "Possess humility, empowerment, honesty, humanity and empathy. Understand the human aspect of everyone and everything."

There might not be a kinder, more considerate or benevolent soul on campus. Jose has used his vacation to accompany his wife of 31 years, **Kim**, and Whitworth students on study abroad excursions.

He loves hearing GU students tell others how much they love it at Gonzaga. He wears his emotions on his sleeve.

And he credits his success to his dear mother, who passed away two years ago from cancer.

"Mom would always take responsibility for herself and her family. She was honest, fair, humble and direct," Jose says.

And it is no surprise that you can find those same qualities in Jose in the RFC, often at all times of day and night. A 12-to-14-hour day is nothing when he thinks, "What would mom do?"

# WELCOME JACQUELINE “JACQUIE” VAN HOOMISSEN

## Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Family is at the center of new College of Arts and Sciences Dean **Jacquie Van Hoomissen**'s world. Most of what is important in her life came from her family or the influences it presented to her. She is especially close to her mom. **Spirit** asked our new dean to tell us about herself.

### Where did you grow up?

I grew up in a tiny little farming community 25 miles west of Portland called Banks, population 500. I lived on a multigenerational farm founded by great grandfather, **Trephan Dierickx** from Aalter, Belgium. He and his brother settled the farm in the early 1900s, primarily as a dairy farm, which my grandfather continued. My father transitioned the operation into strawberries, black raspberries, wheat, barley, corn, grass, alfalfa and clover and said goodbye to the cows and milking every 12 hours. The area was mostly settled by Belgian and Dutch immigrants, who were all Catholic. My great grandfather helped build the local church and school I attended growing up. In 1979 my parents built the house I grew up in. And in 2018 my husband and I built a home next to my parents on the farm for us and future generations to live in.

### What did you enjoy doing as a youngster?

I grew up as a farm-girl, which meant doing whatever needed to be done. I did everything: from Hoe weeds in strawberry fields, move hand-line water irrigation pipes, drive tractors, clean stalls, take care of the barn animals, mow a lot of grass, and help my grandmother who lived next door.

We were engaged in Catholic Youth Organization basketball/volleyball leagues and high school dance team and volleyball, 4-H chapters (pie baking to sewing to dog showing), horse riding clubs and a lot of art over the years.

My real talent was piano. I started playing when I was 4 or 5 and have never stopped.

### How'd you end up here today?

I really wanted to be an architect and attend U of Oregon. But my cousin wanted me to go to the U of Portland with her so I applied and was only able to attend because UP gave



*Van Hoomissen's steady climb in higher education has readied her for this next big step.*

me a full-ride scholarship, work study, and eventually, set me on my current path. But they didn't have an architecture degree and they canceled my second choice, Japanese, the year I got there. So, my mom said, "You should be a doctor," so that's how I became a biology major and entered the world of STEM!

Great experiences in college included an undergraduate research program funded by the Murdock Charitable Trust and Oregon Health and Sciences University, in collaboration with NASA's STS-80 mission. I also spent a year in UP's Salzburg Program as a student and then served as a professor there years later.

### What are your early impressions of the greater Spokane area?

Love it! Enjoying all of the outdoors, people are soooooo friendly, and there is no traffic like PDX! And the airport is amazing ... no lines!

### What do you like to do for fun?

Play piano, gardening, watercolor, ceramics, hike, read, walk, admire architecture, engage in arts.

### If you could meet anyone for the first time, who would it be and why?

The Dalai Lama. I've been learning more about the intersections of different faith traditions and have a good friend who is a practicing Buddhist. I am a practicing Roman Catholic and we have such wonderful dialogues about

### University of Portland Positions 2002-2024

*Associate Dean, Scholarship and Creative Engagement*

*Director, Undergraduate Research*

*Associate Dean, Academic Affairs*

*Biology Professor*

the intersection of these two traditions. I would love to sit with the Dalai Lama and have a dialogue.

### If you could go on a 10-day, all-expense-paid trip anywhere, where would you go, and why?

Somewhere in a beautiful house surrounded by nature and I'd bring all my friends and family and we'd talk, eat, walk, hike, kayak, explore and connect.

### Would you like to share anything about your family?

My husband is a special education teacher and administrator, running alternative education programs for Portland Public Schools. I am amazed at his dedication to supporting children and their families in crisis and have always wanted to be as kind and considerate as he is to others.

## EDUCATION

University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.  
Ph.D. in Exercise Science (neuroscience & psychology), 2002

University of Portland (Oregon)  
B.S. in Biology, *Summa Cum Laude*, 1997

# NEW INTERIM ENGINEERING DEAN SHEPHERD IS *FULL-STEAM AHEAD*

**Jennifer Shepherd** has been a chemist all her adult life, and at Gonzaga since 1998. And she loves teaching and the research work she performs with undergraduate students in her lab.

But she couldn't be more inspired to lead the School of Engineering and Applied Science as its interim dean for the next two years, an appointment made last spring after serving one year as department chair of mechanical engineering at former Dean Karlene Hoo's request.

This writer went to her office for a half-hour interview and 90 minutes later left with five pages of notes about all the ideas she had – many of them derived from engineering faculty she had listened to during her orientation for this new role – to help inspire faculty, elevate their work and build additional alliances with business and industry folks.

"She has drive, tenacity and really digs in," says **Mary Hunt**, administrative assistant for the school. "She cares about what we think and it's important to her that we're moving forward together. She's humble, and admittedly still learning and not afraid to own her errors."

These are just some of the things Shepherd accomplished during her first two months on the job (take a big breath): met with faculty and staff to focus on priorities, challenges and opportunities; began discussions to create more faculty and staff support for improving the student experience; with the SEAS leadership team, created a more defined vision and goals for the school; with staff, held an organizational development retreat with focus on team building; developed new recruiting and promotional materials for the school; organized a Gonzaga research opportunities summit and developed an organizational plan for a new engineering, computer science and math undergraduate research program; made connections with higher ed partners to pursue research funding and collaborations and will pursue the same with Gonzaga's new Institute for Informatics director; and sent out dean updates to SEAS personnel to illuminate school highlights and faculty/staff accomplishments.

This "lightning-in-a-bottle" dean has pooled resources and created two needed staff coordinator positions for maker space and labs, and machinist and project support. She also promoted two tech staff: **Beau Grillo** to manufacturing support manager, and **Wade Croft** to electronics technician. The school is searching for five tenure-track positions this fall, including two biomedical engineering professors – an inaugural chair and a junior faculty position to start the program, as well as professors in mechanical and civil engineering, and computer science.



*Jennifer Shepherd is focused on developing an undergraduate research program for engineering, computer science and math students.*

She just can't contain her excitement for expanding opportunities for faculty, staff and students in engineering and applied sciences.

She appreciates the support she receives and says her greatest joy is feeling the energy and excitement of faculty and staff for a more defined vision in their school.

"She has revamped file sharing in the school and is centralizing it in a Teams site that everyone (faculty and staff) can see," says Associate Dean **Tim Fitzgerald**. "This kind of organizational openness promotes collegiality, free discussion and idea sharing which all lead to better outcomes for our mission. We're breaking down silos. The value to the school is building a shared vision and all working toward those goals."

Shepherd and her school are proposing a new Center for Materials Research, an outgrowth of plans for a Tech Hub in Spokane. "We started with chemistry and mechanical engineering, brought in civil engineering, environmental

science and biology," she explains. "The idea of this center is to support materials characterization for academic and industry partners. We can house this instrumentation center in Bollier 238, a place our faculty can use for their research, for advanced teaching labs and to support local industry." This plan is in the developmental stage.

Gonzaga recently received a \$1 million National Institute of Science and Technology grant to equip Bollier Center with needed instrumentation. Another \$1.66 million grant will be under Congressional consideration in 2025 for instrumentation in the materials research center.

Also in Shepherd's vision are continued development of new graduate programs in cybersecurity, data science and materials science. Funding is a critical need and faculty will be called upon to work with GU's Sponsored Research office to write grants to help in this effort.

"If you talked to me a year ago, there is no way I would ever have thought I'd be in a position to serve as a dean," Shepherd says. "I have really grown up as part of this Gonzaga community, and my experiences have prepared me for this."

Now she is full-steam ahead and not easing off the throttle. At a place she admittedly loves.

## EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles, Calif.  
Ph.D. in Chemistry, 1998  
M.S. in Chemistry, 1995

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore.  
B.S. in Chemistry, *Summa Cum Laude*,  
1993

# ELECTIONS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE

## Civil Dialogue, Political Communication Part of Collaborative Classes

By Dan Nailen

As students returned to classes this fall, they've done so in what is a uniquely volatile political environment.

The conflict in Gaza that sparked campus protests nationally, including at Gonzaga, continues. The Supreme Court's summertime decisions and ethics scandals sparked outrage in some quarters and rejoicing in others. And since students left for summer, the Republican Party's presidential nominee was convicted of 34 felonies and survived an assassination attempt, while the Democratic Party's planned nominee quit the race and was replaced on the ticket by his vice president.

Faculty across Gonzaga will have classrooms full of students engaging with the thorny questions of the day. Two in particular, **Rebecca Donaway** in communication studies and **Sarah James** in political science, are using election season as an opportunity to explore civil dialogue among students, teach a little history of campaigns and political communication, and collaborate in a unique teaching approach that taps both their expertise.

"Dialogue is different than debate," Donaway says. "Debate is fun and entertaining to watch, but it's about advancing the most sophisticated argument just to win. Debate isn't about understanding another person, debate's not about solving problems, really. They're not doing the same things that dialogue hopes to do, which is just simply to understand folks."

Donaway's course, "Communication and Democracy," will focus on areas including the role of communication in a democracy, campaign ads, the media's influence, social media, and how to encourage open-minded dialogue.

Donaway notes that Americans don't have many good role models for what political discussion could look like when it's done to engage people positively. Mostly we see snarky comments online. "Those things don't help us understand the other side," Donaway



Rebecca Donaway, Communication Studies



Sarah James, Political Science

said. "And if we want to get things done with people who disagree with us, we have to have some idea of where they're coming from, what they value."

James' course, "Campaigns and Voting in U.S. Elections," covers key aspects of elections, from how they work to the various players involved (candidates, lobbyists, political parties, grassroots movements, etc.).

James notes that she teaches often on issues of race, education, inequality and public policy, so her classes "inherently pull on contemporary events."

This class, though, will be happening during an election, and she's going to lean into the idea of having class discuss events as they happen. It's an idea she introduced last semester, a "breaking issues" segment about newsworthy events happening as class unfolded.

James is looking forward to her and Donaway sharing their perspectives to each other's classes.

"She and I have kind of aligned research interests, and also have different expertise,"

James says. "So why not take advantage of that and cross over? This could be an interesting way of leveraging expertise."

### Giving Gen Z Space to Open Up

Both Donaway and James mention leaning into Gonzaga's Jesuit, humanistic mission as encouraging an open exchange of ideas, a place where their students will feel comfortable and safe discussing hot-button issues.

"For students, what we try to get to is: there are safe ways to talk about these things," James says. "You can disagree, and disagreements are not dangerous. Disagreements are not worthy of punishment. You can make mistakes in how you talk about things and recover from that."

"It's kind of cool to accompany them through their first round of voting," Donaway says. "This age is so important, the socialization aspect. Students 18 to 24, it's considered really important in cementing civic behaviors, the idea that 'I'm a person who votes. I show up and turn in my ballot, I read the news,' all those things are really influenced by what happens at this age."

"There's a lot of discourse in the media right now about young people feeling disenchanting," James says. "I totally see that. I think they come in like 'Is it going to be OK?' They genuinely feel an uncertainty about the future, and a lack of familiarity with and fear of discussing the past. My hope is that our classes give them a space to start to tackle some of that."

## Around Campus

- »» GU was selected to host a chapter of the nation's longest and arguably most prestigious honor society, Phi Beta Kappa, resulting in part from expansion of our Honors program, revision of our Core Curriculum and development of advanced academic facilities supporting our arts and science programs. Professors **Kirk Besmer** and **Paul DePalma** played key roles in the years-long application process.
- »» **Michelle Ghrist**, associate professor of math, is the new director of the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry (CURCI), succeeding **Matt Cremeens**.
- »» GU's Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence **Duy Dang** of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) Vietnam teaches undergraduate and graduate classes focusing on data science, information system management and information

system governance during his fall residency.

- »» Zero Emission Vehicle Co-op, or ZEV, was launched in June, providing one electric vehicle rentable for an hourly fee after signing up and becoming a member at <https://zev.coop>. In another project co-sponsored with Avista, more than 20 EV charging stations will be installed on campus for public use this academic year.
- »» Political Science Assistant Professor **Bi Zhao** frames climate change by women and indigenous peoples at a free, public presentation, Sept. 4, 6 p.m. Hemmingson Auditorium.
- »» Spokane artist and alumnus **Ben Joyce** ('00, '01) opens his four-month "Place Collection" exhibit in the Jundt Art Museum Sept. 7. Joyce is crafting a separate piece for his University Collection that he is donating to Gonzaga for placement in the Hemmingson Center,

Oct. 5 of Fall Family Weekend. Prints of this piece will go on sale soon, 20% of his proceeds being donated to the Gonzaga Scholarship Fund.

- »» Arizona State Professor **David Orr** presents on the impact of heat, storms and fire on our most vulnerable people in a free public lecture Sept. 16, 5 p.m. in Hemmingson Auditorium.
- »» Gonzaga Dance presents its season-opening performance with **Ishita Mili** and IMGE Dance, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m., Woldson Performing Arts Center. Tickets \$8.
- »» Jazz vocalist **Dee Dee Bridgewater** and pianist **Bill Charlap** perform a range of genres, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m., Woldson Performing Arts Center. Tickets \$42-\$68.
- »» Spokane Candidates Climate Change Forum is Oct. 2, 6 p.m., in Cataldo Hall.

## Work Value Champions Hunt, Engel, Simon Recognized

Engineering's **Mary Hunt**, Foley's **Hannah Engel** and Sustainability's **Jim Simon** have at least two things in common: Their care for Gonzaga, its mission and its people. And they're Work Value Champions nominated last spring in Gonzaga's ongoing effort to enhance institutional visibility of work values portrayed on our campus.

Hunt uses her smile and organized style to ask others to join her in the real work of high-quality service, continuous learning, and a value

system of accountability not "blameability," her nominator says.

Engel has a passion for equity in the workplace and helps keep the department in check by holding herself, her supervisor, colleagues and student employees that she supervises accountable.

Simon leads much of the sustainability work on campus including, but not limited to, waste reduction, transportation and energy conservation, and campus/community education.



May Work Value Champions are Mary Hunt, Hannah Engel and Jim Simon.

## Eight Staff Honored

Semiannual Staff Assembly Awards presented in May recognized the efforts of eight Gonzaga employees for their work making this place better for others.

The Outstanding Service in Support of Mission Award was bestowed upon **Lyss Gorman**, New Student and Family Programs, and **Deborah Harmon**, Graduate Admission Operations. The Innovation Award went to Admission's **Nate Mannerter** and **Steve Keller**, and Financial Aid's **Sarah Everitt**. Spark of Spirit Award recipients were **Nick Wood**, GUEST, **LaRena Rondeau**, Student Involvement, and **Jane Hession**, Business Administration.

Nominators described Mission Award winner Lyss as a role model for living our mission. Her approach to every project starts with two questions: What is the why behind what we're doing? And whose voice is missing from this discussion? Her investment in colleague development is evidenced through her



Mission Award winners Harmon and Gorman



Spirit Award winners Wood, Rondeau and Hession



Innovation Award winners Everitt, Mannerter and Keller

leadership on Student Affairs' professional growth committee and as a participant in the staff formation cohort program. Harmon has been instrumental in streamlining processes for the benefit of students and the wider Gonzaga community, and her work has left a legacy in support of her entire team.

To combat the nationwide FAFSA system fallout last semester, Everitt, Mannerter and Keller led their teams in the innovative creation of a process utilizing Slate ZRM forms to create an "Estimated Financial Aid Offer" prior to FAFSA's awards in June, which accurately projected what each student's award would be.

To know Wood, Rondeau and Hession is to experience that spark they bring to their work, teams, students and beyond GU. Nominators lauded Wood for his can-do attitude, doing whatever it takes to make his facility right for a client, and his humble, detailed approach to his work; Rondeau for ensuring students and staff feel connected and have a sense of belonging on campus; Hession for inspiring optimism and motivation among students and colleagues, and for her countless work projects in the community, reinforcing GU's commitment to social responsibility and inclusivity.

# NOTEWORTHY

## New Hires

**Amanda Mansfield**, *asst director business operations, Athletics*; **Benjamin Schwartz**, *electrician, Plant*; **Cassidy Doohan**, *benefits & leave specialist, Human Resources*; **Cody Johnson**, *security officer, Security*; **Cody Nilsen**, *sr recruiter, Human Resources*; **Conner Lime**, *custodian, Plant*; **Emily Pack**, *executive asst/office manager, General Counsel*; **Cindy Arit**, *clinical placement coordinator, Health Sciences*; **Andrew Newman**, *director of harassment and discrimination prevention & Title IX coordinator, Inclusive Excellence*; **David Sprague**, *custodian, Plant*; **Nathan Bishop**, *security officer, Security*; **Rowan Smith**, *custodian, Plant*; **Titus Gossman**, *custodian, Plant*; **Sierra Pancoast**, *asst director, Housing and Residence Life*; **Chelsea Weiler**, *desktop publishing specialist II, Campus Printing*; **Ian Pecoff**, *custodian, Plant*; **Jazmine Redmon**, *asst women's basketball coach/video coordinator, Athletics*; **Karina Maciel**, *asst director of marketing, Athletics*; **Marla Fallstrom**, *custodian specialist trainer, Plant*; **Allison Vanlandingham**, *academic adviser, Student Academic Success*; **Andrew Corse**, *asst director for living learning communities/ community development, Housing and Residence Life*; **Barbara Gongyin**, *coordinator, native student accompaniment, Tribal Relations*; **Christen Bailey**, *program asst III, Business*; **Colette Yamaoka**, *academic coordinator, Athletics*; **Denise Osahor**, *asst women's basketball coach, Athletics*; **Elizabeth Davis**, *instructional technologist, Instructional Design & Delivery*; **Emily Albert**, *health educator, Student Wellbeing*; **Everett Taylor**, *program coordinator, Law*; **Heidi Clairmont**, *administrative asst II, president*; **Jacob Gendusa**, *director of business operations, Athletics*; **Jarett Wirun**, *instructional technologist, Instructional Design & Delivery*; **Julia Camillucci**, *asst women's rowing coach, Athletics*; **Kimberly Stanfield**, *health educator, Student Wellbeing*; **Kristy Gonder**, *BSN program director, Health Sciences*; **Megan Cycyota**, *asst volleyball coach, Athletics*; **Mykola Pidhirnyi**, *painter, Plant*; **Myles Anders**, *operations and research specialist, Career Center*; **Rachel Maddox**, *benefits & leave specialist, Human Resources*; **Sean Walsh**, *HR specialist, Human Resources*; **William DeKlotz**, *admission counselor, Admission*

## Position Changes/Promotions

**Bonnie Harper**, *web & admin specialist, Provost*; **Dante Jester**, *program manager climate resilience, Research & Interdisciplinary Initiatives*; **Elizabeth Duke**, *program asst, Plant*; **Karli Honebein**, *program manager climate literacy, Research and Interdisciplinary Initiatives*;

**Rosa Velasco Quevedo**, *admission counselor, Admissions*; **Christopher Macabenta**, *custodial shift supervisor, Plant*; **Louisa Diana**, *director of compliance, Student Financial Services*; **Natalie Gordon**, *instructional technologist, Instructional Design and Delivery*; **Patrick Bech**, *senior endowment accountant & finance business intelligence analyst, Controller*; **Spencer Alexander**, *lead dispatch supervisor, Security*; **Abigail Bergakker**, *assoc athletic director, Athletics*; **Elysa Reichert**, *manager, Auxiliary Services*; **Kerri Danowski**, *asst director, Lifelong Learning*; **Alyssa Hemingway**, *enrollment operations specialist II, Admission*; **Angel Alvarez**, *director, information security, ITS*; **Daniel Marx**, *director, project management, ITS*; **Gregory Salisbury**, *Slate system administrator/new software lead, Admission*; **Kara McGinn**, *application administrator, ITS*; **Kareena Byrd**, *career services manager, Career Center*; **Katherine Brackmann**, *assoc director, Career Center*; **Lacey Smith**, *enrollment operations specialist II, Admission*; **Mia Bertagnolli**, *interim Provost*; **Nathan Bishop**, *security officer, Campus Security*; **Nathan Mannetter**, *director, enrollment management operations, Admission*; **Sequoia Camacho**, *communications officer, Campus Security*; **Mysti Reneau**, *sr grants and research compliance officer, Sponsored Research*

## Goodbyes

**Adam Chenoweth**, *outdoor programs manager, Student Involvement*; **Brooke Frickleton**, *career and externship adviser, Professional Development, Law*; **Christine Byers**, *director of alumni operations, Alumni Relations*; **Robert Barnes**, *custodian, Plant*; **Stephen May**, *instructional technologist, Instructional Design and Delivery*; **Adrian Leiser**, *asst volleyball coach, Athletics*; **Alissa Lucas**, *strategic learning specialist, Student Academic Success*; **Bridget Dagg**, *executive asst/office manager, General Counsel*; **Carrie Holtan**, *elder law paralegal, Law*; **Chandler Rogers**, *lecturer, Philosophy*; **Charles-Anthony Athanasopoulos**, *asst professor, Communication Studies*; **Corinne Sugino**, *asst professor, Communication Studies*; **Dana Jacobson**, *lecturer, Nursing*; **Daniele Bean**, *asst women's basketball coach, Athletics*; **David Peck**, *lecturer, Nursing*; **Enrico Zammarchi**, *asst professor, Modern Languages and Literature*; **Eric Pitman**, *lecturer, Kinesiology and Sport Management*; **Evan Lauteria**, *lecturer, Sociology*; **Haiden Palmer**, *asst women's basketball coach/video coordinator, Athletics*; **Jaishikha Nautika**, *lecturer, Communication Studies*; **James McKenzie**, *sr lecturer, Human Physiology*; **Janeen Steer**, *co-director, University Ministry*; **Janet Zhang-Lea**, *asst professor, Human Physiology*; **Jessica Brooke**, *lecturer, Modern Languages and Literature*; **Joel Stafstrom**,

*lecturer, Biology*; **Joshua Anthony**, *lecturer, English*; **Juandalynn Taylor**, *visiting asst professor, Law*; **Karen Franks-Harding**, *manager, Career Center*; **Katie Brandi**, *lecturer, Sociology*; **Krista Crotty**, *lecturer, Psychology*; **Maria Saladino**, *visiting asst professor, Law*; **Lisa Bradley**, *assoc professor, Law*; **Mary Pat Treuthart**, *professor, Law*; **Matt Cremeens**, *professor, Chemistry*; **Matthew DeGarmo**, *lecturer, Sociology*; **Michele Pajer**, *senior lecturer, English*; **Monica Banyin**, *asst professor, Accounting*; **Monique De Nysschen**, *asst professor, Nursing*; **Nancy Beckham**, *sr lecturer, Nursing*; **Phillip Male**, *production manager, Arts & Sciences*; **Randall Bennett**, *professor, Economics*; **Raymond Reyes**, *AVP for cultural initiatives, President*; **Riley Lindsey**, *annual giving program manager, University Advancement*; **Robert Olsen**, *visiting asst professor, Law*; **Robert Lyons**, *S.J., assoc professor, Integrated Media*; **Ronald Prindle**, *lecturer, Integrated Media*; **Ryan Merckle**, *lecturer, Psychology*; **Sarah Seigel**, *sr lecturer, Chemistry*; **Sarah Kersey**, *lecturer, English*; **Shawn Washington**, *asst chief diversity officer, Inclusive Excellence*; **Steve Pharr**, *painter, Plant*; **Steven Schennum**, *professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering*; **Teresa Beratto**, *asst director, Student Financial Services*; **Theodosia Stavroulaki**, *asst professor, Law*; **Brenna Anderson**, *academic coordinator, Athletics*; **Colleen Kinney**, *sr. admissions operation specialist, Admission*; **Dorothy Veron**, *asst director, Housing & Residence Life*; **Grace Davis-Nicholson**, *external relations/special events manager, Law*; **Kimberly Vore**, *sr. assoc athletic director of business operations, Athletics*; **Kodie Johnson**, *security officer, Security*; **Laurie Powers**, *asst dean of professional development and externships, Law*; **Mary Anderson**, *asst women's rowing coach, Athletics*; **Mike Rorholm**, *business manager, Jesuit Community*; **Nancy Masingale**, *campus printing & mail services manager, Auxiliary Enterprises*; **Nora Macrae-Smith**, *international student adviser, Global Engagement*; **Rhian Thomas**, *asst director, Rudolf Fitness Center*; **Robin Thompson**, *asst director, Rudolf Fitness Center*; **Ronald Owens**, *painter, Plant*; **Sarah Zalutko**, *HR specialist, Human Resources*; **Sydney Rains**, *program coordinator, Student Affairs*; **Todd Coleman**, *lead groundskeeper, Plant*; **Caitlyn Williams**, *asst women's tennis coach, Athletics*; **Catherine Zeisner**, *asst professor educational leadership and administration, Education*; **Elaine Savage**, *communications officer, Security*; **Elizabeth Evans**, *program asst III, Philosophy*; **Grace Edwards**, *admission counselor, Admission*; **Jolein Doughty**, *program coordinator, Law*; **Joseph Brickner**, *security officer, Security*; **Mark Stickelmeyer**, *general*



maintenance, Plant; **Megan Rice**, counselor, Student Financial Services; **Nicole Wheir**, asst director, professional development & externships, Law; **SR Ross**, asst director, UMEC; **Sou Lee**, asst professor, Sociology; **William Barton**, program asst III, Music

## RIP

**Patrick Ferro**, professor, Mechanical Engineering; **Sacha Kopp**, former provost

## Anniversaries

**35 David Calhoun**, professor, Philosophy; **Mark Alfino**, professor, Philosophy

**30 Heather Gores**, assoc athletic director, Athletics; **Mary Beth Charleboix**, grad program & collections specialist, Student Accounts; **Dan Gehn**, director, Rowing/Men's Crew; **Kevin Hekmatpanah**, professor, Music; **Molly Kretchmar-Hendricks**, assoc dean, Arts & Sciences

**25 Carie Weeks**, assoc director, Admission; **Ann Price**, budget & personnel officer, Global Engagement; **Robert Gray**, men's golf coach, Athletics; **Michael Pringle**, professor, English; **Tod Marshall**, professor, English; **Theodore Di Maria**, assoc professor, Philosophy; **Sara Ganzerli**, professor, Civil Engineering

**20 Joe Owens**, painter, Plant; **Wendy Thompson**, director, Tribal Relations; **Leif Forrest**, multimedia engineer, TES; **D.J. Gurule**, men's tennis coach, Athletics; **Enes Dautovic**, equipment repair technician, Plant; **Matthew McPherson**, professor, Finance; **David Fague**, senior lecturer, Music; **Erick Stubbins**, general maintenance, Plant; **Stephen Warren**, assoc professor, Chemistry; **Kevin O'Connor**, professor, History; **Robert Donnelly**, professor, History; **John Traynor**, professor, Teacher Education; **Michael Hazel**, professor, Communication and Leadership; **Jon Isacoff**, professor, Environmental Studies; **Lada Kurpis**, professor, Marketing

**15 Fernando Ortiz**, director of psychological services, Health & Counseling; **Samantha Scott**, director, Student Accounts; **Josh Cox**, asst athletic director for development, Athletics; **Debbie Wiseman**, program asst III, Biology & Chemistry; **Annie Voy**, assoc professor, Economics; **Ryan Herzog**, assoc professor, Economics; **Steve Conant**, sr lab & tech specialist, Human Physiology; **Torunn Haaland**, professor, Modern Languages and Literature; **Ann Ostendorf**, professor, History; **Cynthia Stavrianos**, professor, Political Science; **Tailian Chen**, professor, Mechanical Engineering;

**Stacy Taninchev**, assoc dean, Arts & Sciences; **Kristine Hoover**, professor, Organizational Leadership, **Shawn Bowers**, professor, Computer Science

**10 Genevieve Mann Morris**, asst professor, Law; **Sara Clarkson**, accounts payable lead, Controller; **Patricia Nelson**, housekeeper, Jesuit Community; **Wade Croft**, prof tech, HECC; **Jennifer DeDonato**, program asst III, Special Education; **Julia Larsen**, office manager, Community Engagement; **Michelle Wilson**, cheerleading coach, Athletics; **Joseph Hirst**, security officer, Security; **Kevin Kinzer**, grotto caretaker, Mission; **Jim Simon**, director, Sustainability; **Peter Hamlin**, assoc professor, Music; **Mathew Rude**, professor, Art; **Allan Scruggs**, senior lecturer, Chemistry; **Raymond Rast**, assoc professor, History; **Richard Cangelosi**, assoc professor, Math; **Kate Kearney**, assoc professor, Math; **Danielle Layne**, professor, Philosophy; **Tyler Tritten**, assoc professor, Philosophy; **Emily Clark**, professor, Religious Studies; **Charlie Pepiton**, professor, Theater and Dance; **Leslie Stamoollis**, assoc professor, Theater and Dance; **Kem Gambrell**, assoc professor, Leadership Studies; **Kevin Measor**, senior lecturer, Psychology; **Timothy Olsen**, assoc professor, Management Information Systems

**5 Alexa Gaske**, asst director, Admission; **Becky Stockton**, asst director, Admission; **Deena Gonzalez**, sr. university fellow & professor of history, President; **Karlene Hoo**, dean consultant, Engineering; **Matthew Villareal**, creative director, basketball recruiting, Athletics; **Lauren Hackman-Brooks**, director, Mission Formation; **Lindsey Spencer**, transfer admission counselor, Admission; **Yoli Gallardo**, dean, Education; **Luke Parker**, audio supervisor, **Woldson Center**; **McKenzie Hand**, academic adviser II, Academic Advising; **Aaron Lewis**, men's soccer coach, Athletics; **Drew Shimshaw**, asst professor, Law; **Zachary Padilla**, instructional technologist, Instructional Design and Delivery; **Lucas Schwind**, leadership annual gift officer, University Advancement; **Kevin Brown**, lecturer, Religious Studies; **Charlie Monte**, technical director, Theater and Dance; **Bryan Pham, S.J.**, asst professor, Law; **Nicole Gustavsen**, asst professor, Foley Center; **Zeb Klemke**, accounts payable & travel services manager, Controller; **Krista O'Brien**, asst to the athletic director, Athletics; **Nick Carlone**, strength & conditioning coach, Athletics; **Michael Taylor**, strength & conditioning coach, Athletics; **Natalie Pluskota-Hamberg**, women's tennis coach, Athletics; **John Correia**, assoc professor, Management Information Systems; **Honey Newton**,

lecturer, Nursing; **Martin Schiavenato**, assoc professor, Nursing; **Trena Redman**, lecturer, Nursing; **Michelle Shaw**, professor, Nursing; **Shauna Ellefson**, lecturer, Nursing; **Jake Deckert**, lecturer, Human Physiology; **Tammy Scholz**, jfvp coordinator, MACC Administration; **Curtis Garner**, professor, Counselor Education; **Cassy Dame-Griff**, instructional technologist, Instructional Design and Delivery; **Wilson Bailey**, asst professor, Chemistry; **Amy Pistone**, assoc professor; **Classical Languages**; **Sarah Powers**, sr lecturer, Math; **Hays Whitlatch**, assoc professor, Math; **Greta Turnbull**, asst professor, Philosophy; **Paul Romanowich**, assoc professor, Psychology; **Itohan Idumwonyi**, asst professor, Religious Studies; **Michelle Rogers**, staff accountant, Controller; **Evan Wells**, asst baseball coach, Athletics; **Mary Jacobs**, housekeeper, Jesuit Community; **Ryan Turcott**, assoc professor, Kinesiology and Sport Management; **Daniel Olivares**, asst professor, Computer Science; **Daniel Dangca**, sr coord for liturgical life, University Ministry; **Laura Diaz Martinez**, assoc professor, Biology; **Corey Knadler**, lecturer, Biology; **Kyle Shimabuku**, assoc professor, Civil Engineering; **Angela Bruns**, assoc professor, Sociology



Raoul Perez, University Advancement, does the heavy lifting for families moving their new students into CM on Move-in Day

## A FINAL WORD

*Spirit* was born out of a need for improved campus communications and a source for reviving campus morale. September 1999 was our first edition. This is our 234th issue. My last.

When we began *Spirit* as a monthly newsletter we created a *Spirit* Advisory Council comprised of staff and faculty from a variety of offices and departments on campus to advise us on story subjects and storied individuals. I ended every meeting with one question: What are your colleagues asking about, concerned over, wanting answers to? We wanted to fill the communications void, bringing our readers updates on major university initiatives, new building projects, issues affecting GU and higher education, program improvements and people working behind the scenes and out front making this place better for all of us.

I hope we have accomplished that to some degree of success. **Sandy Hank** in Campus Printing and **Stephanie Plowman** in Special Collections have served on the *Spirit* Advisory Council since day one, and I am most appreciative for their continued support. Sandy has designed every issue of *Spirit* over the past 25 years, and Stephanie has been a constant resource for facts and figures to complement our stories. Also, I doff my cap to groundskeeper **Matt Bafus**, who served with us from 1999 to 2020, stepping down

only when in-person monthly meetings during COVID were replaced by Zoom. (He wanted nothing to do with computers). But some of his story ideas over the years were among the best we crafted. Thank you to all three of my *Spirit* Hall of Famers. That council necessarily turned over many times during the past 25 years, but each new member contributed greatly to our perspectives, story slates and operational values. Thanks to all of you who served.

When the pandemic hit, we moved to online versions of *Spirit*, which not only made communication possible for those working remotely but saved the university the cost of printing every issue (which you can now do on your own printers, if you wish).

I couldn't end this run without thanking all our employees, both past and present, who have allowed *Spirit* to tell your stories, share your achievements, embrace your tragedies, and warm our hearts. It has been my honor to bring you closer to each other and share the news we might not otherwise learn.



Dale and Sandy Hank, Campus Printing, have been partners on *Spirit* since its inception. Sandy has designed and laid out every issue since 1999.

I'd like to introduce you to *Spirit*'s second-ever editor, **Thea Skokan** ('22), a Gonzaga graduate who will be starting in September, a talented and inventive writer and editor who has deep ties to Gonzaga and a passion for storytelling. Please be receptive to her requests for interviews and information to help carry on the legacy and spirit of this publication. And send her your story ideas at [spirit@gonzaga.edu](mailto:spirit@gonzaga.edu). She'll love hearing from you.

The best is yet to come!

- **Dale Goodwin**, founding editor

## Bertagnolli

Continued from pg. 1

only teach during the pandemic but also to support them in all aspects of their lives.

While still serving as CTA director, she stepped back into the role of interim associate dean of the College to support Dean **Annmarie Caño** in 2022 before accepting her most recent position as vice provost for faculty affairs under Provost **Sacha Kopp** (RIP) in January 2023.

"Every time I accepted the job as interim associate dean was during a time of transition in the College's leadership. I hope my longtime service as a leader at Gonzaga will provide stability and ease anxieties as we anticipate another significant period of transition in key administrative roles," Bertagnolli says.

Again, she has an opportunity to be a bridge builder.

"I see many people across campus who are invested in supporting our people and our mission, always putting our students at the center of what we do. I hope people see me as an example of that, and a bridge to move us



Bertagnolli (right) has always been about "team" in all her major endeavors. Pictured here with her GU Law & Order Bloomsday Corporate Cup team members Shannon Overbay, Vesta Coufal, Lisa Bradley and Jackie Van Allen.

forward to a more hope- and joy-filled place," she continues.

For Bertagnolli, it has never been about titles. "I never imagined one day I'd be provost. I have simply looked at where I can take my passions and interests and apply them in a way that's most helpful."

She has always tried to help people understand the value in their partnerships across university

lines and by doing so, got to meet with people she may not have previously known or worked with. "My interactions have helped me know more about the university. These partnerships are valuable to the university," she says.

"The success of our students depends on all of us, and it is in our team effort that we support them best."