President’s Annual Report & Honor Roll of Donors 2017–2018

Georgian Court–Hackensack Meridian Health
School of Nursing Celebrates 10 Years
Dear Alumni, Donors, Students, and Friends:

Happy New Year! The holiday season is behind us, but the activities and accolades of 2018 still give us to plenty to celebrate. That is why this edition of GCU Magazine is packed with examples of good news worth sharing—with you and with those you know.

First, the Georgian Court–Hackensack Meridian Health School of Nursing is celebrating its 10-year anniversary. Our first decade has produced successful health care professionals serving patients from coast to coast, and the program is among the fastest growing at GCU.

In this issue of the magazine, I’d like you to meet two unforgettable alumni. Florence “Riccie” Riccobono Johnson ’45 (pp. 28–29) has worked at CBS for more than six decades and reflects on her time at 60 Minutes, where she’s been employed since 1968. Gemma Brennan ’84, ’93 (pp. 6–9), a longtime teacher, principal, and part-time GCU professor, is sharing her passion in unique ways.

Likewise, our newest honorary degree recipient, His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, shared his passion for court tennis during a September visit to GCU (p. 13). Georgian Court was at its absolute finest as the prince met students, faculty, staff, and coaches, and played several matches in the Casino.

A few weeks later, I was proud to see alumni join in the fun of Reunion and Homecoming Weekend 2018 (p. 24) and happy to accept more than $103,000 in scholarship funds from the Class of 1968 as they honored Mary Arthur Beal, RSM, ’55 (back cover). Graduates also enthusiastically accepted the challenge of increasing alumni giving to 10 percent by 2020.

We are always grateful for your contributions, and our 2017-2018 annual report confirms your ongoing generosity. Most recently, you helped us exceed our one-day Giving Tuesday goal by raising more than $93,000 on November 29 (inside back cover).

I am also pleased to share with you news of our enrollment gains and continued growth. In August, we saw a 21 percent increase in freshmen, and their average GPA and SAT scores are higher than previous years. We also welcomed our largest University Honors Program class to date!

Our GCU@Cumberland social work program is thriving, two new health-focused undergraduate degrees were added this fall (p. 19), and our first doctoral program will launch later this year.

All of this is happening as we begin to implement our Strategic Compass . . . for an Even Better Tomorrow. This new strategic plan will direct our efforts to fulfill our mission for the foreseeable future. I invite you visit georgian.edu/strategic-compass to read it.

With your support, the coming months will bring new opportunities for us to do more of what we do best—providing access to a quality college education and positioning students for lifelong success.

Go Lions!

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.
President, Georgian Court University
P.S. Connect with me on Twitter at @DrJosephMarbach

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Georgian Court University Magazine
is published biannually by the Office of Public Information and University Communications.

phone: 732.987.2291
e-mail: GCUNews@georgian.edu
Amanda Spengler ’15 was only at Georgian Court University’s Nursing Open House because her parents convinced her to go. Ms. Spengler knew she wanted to be a nurse, but she was looking at schools farther from her hometown of Howell Township—perhaps in other parts of New Jersey or even Pennsylvania. But once she met the welcoming faculty and saw all that The Court’s nursing program had to offer, she knew the program was exactly what she was seeking.

“They told us how they worked hand-in-hand with students. They were just so amazing, and they made me feel so welcome,” she says. “Georgian Court went from last choice to first in one Open House. I’ve never regretted the decision.”

This year, the Georgian Court–Hackensack Meridian Health School of Nursing celebrates its 10th year. Including its inaugural 30-person graduating class in 2012, 272 students have received their nursing degrees from the program as of May 2018. This makes nursing the largest major in the GCU School of Arts and Sciences.

**GCU Nursing by the Numbers**
- **30** 2012 graduating class
- **52** 2018 graduating class
- **39** First-time, full-time freshmen
- **56** Full-time transfer students
- **16** Part-time transfer students
Ms. Spengler, now a nurse at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, was part of the program’s fourth graduating class and a recipient of the Johnson & Johnson Discover Nursing Scholarship through the Independent College Fund of New Jersey (ICFNJ). She says the small class sizes and personalized attention she received from faculty made a real difference in her nursing education. While some other universities have hundreds of students, she liked her 30-person cohort. She says she also found professors readily available when she needed them.

“The faculty was so knowledgeable and caring toward each student. They went out of their way to be sure everyone felt comfortable in every subject. They tried their best so no one would get left behind,” she says.

Building a Program—Pronto

When Nursing Program Chair Teri Wurmser, Ph.D., MPH, RN, NEA-BC, thinks back on the program’s beginning, she recalls a frenetic pace at the outset. She and Associate Provost for Academic Programs Michael Gross, Ph.D., created the program in less than a year—no small feat for their team. From the start, the nursing program’s partnership with Hackensack Meridian Health (formerly Meridian Health) was crucial to its success. The medical system provided faculty members and provided advisors and insight to ensure the program would meet a high standard of nursing education.

Amanda Spengler ’15 is a float nurse at Hackensack Meridian Health’s Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, where she’s worked since graduating from the program.
Millstone native Rebecca Wishbow ’12 was a member of the nursing school’s first graduating class and a recipient of the C. R. Bard Foundation Nursing Scholarship through the ICFNJ. She recalls being nervous about being part of a new program—so new, in fact, it had not even received its accreditation.

“But it ended up being the best nursing school experience because they were so hands-on with us,” she says.

She says the relationship with Hackensack Meridian Health was a key component of the program’s strength and gave her an immediate network of contacts in her field.

“While I was in the program, I was a nursing assistant. They helped me set that up. In our clinicals, we were able to make connections with managers and educators. By the time I graduated, it was fairly easy to reach out to people and secure a job,” she says.

Ms. Wishbow now works at Sharp Grossmont Hospital in La Mesa, California, while her husband goes to law school nearby. In Spring 2019, the couple plans to return to New Jersey, but she appreciates the portability of her career choice.

Hackensack Meridian Health Co-CEO John K. Lloyd, who retired at the end of 2018, says he couldn’t be prouder of the partnership between Georgian Court and the health network.

“It’s amazing to think about what’s been accomplished over the past 10 years. When creating this partnership, we set out to help address the nursing shortage in New Jersey and nationwide and improve the health of the communities we serve,” he says. “Considering the hundreds of people who have received their nursing degrees locally through this program, there’s no doubt we have moved the needle. And it’s only going to continue to grow.”

Growing Opportunities for Nurses

Indeed, the program has grown, and not just in the number of students it serves, but also in its offerings. Students have opportunities to participate in international trips and volunteer their nursing skills, gaining hands-on experience in some of the areas that need it most. In January 2019, nursing students traveled to Peru, volunteering in the rural villages outside Cusco where people don’t typically have access to regular health care. In 2018, nursing students took part in a trip and volunteered in a clinic in Ciudad Sandino, Nicaragua.

Georgian Court’s nursing program also offers research opportunities. Efthimia Stefanou ’16, from Oakhurst, compared male endurance athletes—such as marathon runners and cyclists who exercise at least two hours four times per week—to men in the general population to explore health-related quality of life differences between the two groups. Her work discovered a significant decline in testosterone among the athletes. She and her faculty advisor Jo Ann Cummings, Ph.D., RN, PPCNP-C, BCEN, assistant professor of nursing, also wrote and published an article on the research.

“She was a great mentor; she saw potential in me before I saw it in myself,” says Ms. Stefanou.

Dr. Cummings also spearheaded the successful efforts of the GCU Meridian Nursing Honor Society to become an officially recognized chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. After several years of work, Dr. Cummings and student Brigid Joyce were happy to see this accomplishment come to fruition in Spring 2018.

Rebecca “Becca” Wishbow ’12 appreciates being able to take her nursing credentials to California while her husband attends law school.
The goals of the Psi Psi Chapter, according to its foundational documents, are “to fulfill the mission and values of the honor society to give back to build leaders, to give back to the profession, and to give back to the community.” The chapter gives nursing students yet another venue to access career assistance, professional resources, and networking opportunities.

**Meeting Student and Community Needs**

The close collaboration that drove the formative years of the nursing program continues to be its guiding voice, Dr. Gross says. The nursing faculty are involved with leadership and advisory groups, gathering insight from other nursing program leaders. Many work for Hackensack Meridian Health and have firsthand insight into the needs of the community and the changing demands of nursing.

“They are very on top of what’s happening right now in nursing, and how they can position Georgian Court to meet the needs of employers, and also current trends in nursing education,” he says. Dr. Wurmser agrees. Input from the leadership team led to key changes to the program. The program was modified to teach students about quality care practices and their impact on compensation mandated by the Affordable Care Act. The program has also made additions to meet the needs of various community members. In November 2017, the program introduced the RN to B.S.N. program, both at Riverview Medical Center and GCU@Hazlet, making a B.S.N.—the gold standard of the profession—more accessible for working nurses. Students with an associate degree can enter the accelerated B.S.N. program. The

New Seminary, a unique B.S.N. program, was created for Orthodox Jewish women in the Lakewood community.

The partnership with Hackensack Meridian Health also allows student nurses to obtain experience in a variety of settings. Because the health care system manages such a wide range of health care facilities in a variety of disciplines, nursing students can get hands-on experience in many different types of clinical settings and disciplines.

“There’s a lot you can learn from a textbook, but nothing compares to hands-on experience,” says Mr. Lloyd. “Through our strong partnership, we’ve been able to consistently get nursing students into the clinical setting and learning from the best Magnet-certified Hackensack Meridian Health nurses.”

Junior Jacob Adler and sophomore Erin O’Neill learn from Dr. Jo Ann Cummings.
Alumna and Adjunct Professor Gemma Brennan Delivers LESSONS FOR LIFE

By Gail H. Towns

Gemma Brennan, Ed.D., '84, '93 is in her Manchester kitchen, preparing lasagna for the more than 15 people waiting in her living room and dining room.

Tonight, the former principal, longtime GCU adjunct professor, dedicated donor, and beloved volunteer is serving up food for the soul. But it’s not about what is on the menu. Rather, she’s dishing up lessons on life, effective teaching, and what it means to be a good human being.

“When it comes to education, I focus on differentiated instruction,” says Dr. Brennan, now in her 19th year of part-time teaching at Georgian Court. “It comes down to how you go about helping every child learn to be his or her best; how you position them to serve the world.”

“As teachers, ask yourselves this,” she says to the group. “How can you help your student evolve into a citizen who will do good for the next generation?”

For some, this end-of-semester meal is the final time they will be together before they head into the real world. Their instructor, however, wants to make sure they are fully equipped for work.

“Our last class is always memorable for me,” says Dr. Brennan, “and it is a time to get to know them just a little more. GCU is a most remarkable university, and the students gain so much. It is the people of GCU who make it truly a special place with a very human touch.”
Upper-level pre-service teachers gather each semester at the home of Dr. Brennan.

ReStart the Arts, held on April 21, 2018, was a fund-raiser for Ocean Academy run by GCU student volunteers, including Elizabeth “Liz” Weidenhof ’18; Ashley Quinby ’18; Rebecca Scharen, lead organizer; Katherine Stabile ’18; Mindi Makovec ’18; and Jessica Singer ’18 (left to right).
This is classic “Gemma,” as she is called by her Georgian Court students. She leads them in upper-level teacher preparation courses, which they complete just before heading into local classrooms for their internships.

What they learn from her will be remembered as they become teachers. And so will Dr. Brennan’s personal story of resilience and passion for the profession.

“I was 20 years old when I got married, and we had three children by the time I was 26,” she says. “I had two years of college, but stopped to raise my family. I waitressed to support the children’s activities—soccer registration, shoes—and I ran a playgroup three days a week in my basement. That paid my tuition to go back to school at night at Georgian Court.

“However, no one gets a degree alone,” she says, adding that her first husband, Don, was her greatest cheerleader. “The same could be said for our own parents, my children, and my neighborhood friends in Silverton.”

A great sadness for Gemma is that Don provided loving support throughout her career, but sadly did not live to experience the success she has seen in the last 10 years.

After graduating in 1984 at age 35, she landed her first teaching job in Toms River. Her GCU advisor, associate professor emeritus of education Joseph Cino, Ed.D., told her to keep going. A master’s degree (also from GCU) followed in 1993, and later, a doctoral degree from Seton Hall University. She also had ongoing support from mentor Mary Lee Batesko, Ed.D., GCU professor emerita of education, who has been in her life “every year,” she says, since 1984.

Over 30 memorable years in public education, she was a fourth-grade teacher, a school supervisor responsible for elementary science curriculum, and a principal. Now, she shares what she learned along the way.

“In a year, a teacher can easily spend more than 900 hours with students. Many of mine were spent on the playground, interacting with students and having teacher conversations during kickball, on the monkey bars, and while jumping rope,” Dr. Brennan recalls. “I didn’t see it coming—me teaching the teachers—but time has allowed me to have these different experiences.

“My university students look at me and say, ‘You’re a mom, a grandma of nine, you’ve been a waitress, and you know what it’s like to go to school at night to become a teacher.’ What it comes down to is that I am in constant service to our students at GCU,” she says.

As expected, Dr. Brennan covers emerging pedagogy, tried and true classroom techniques, and official theories of education. In addition, she loves bringing her lessons to life—real life.

For example, as an active volunteer with the Toms River Family Health and Support Coalition, she saw an opportunity for GCU students to understand the difficulties some youngsters face.

“I expose them to real people, real resources,” she says. “University students need to know that there are children who are homeless, and they need to hear those children’s voices.”

She invited a local mother, who was homeless at the time, to address the class. The experience was unforgettable.

“Pre-service teachers need to know that when a child walks into the classroom and they haven’t seen them in 12 hours, a lot could have happened,” Dr. Brennan explains. “When a parent loses a job and the family has to move, you have to understand what that means in the life of a child.

“When there isn’t enough food in the house, or when there isn’t paper to do homework, or when there are no pencils in the house,”
she says, “that translates to the classroom."

The same lesson applies when a child’s parent is in jail and doesn’t want to use their last name because they are embarrassed. Or when clothing is an issue, and a family doesn’t have what it takes to get through a New Jersey winter.

“These are things that matter,” says Dr. Brennan. “As a teacher, you have to have a heart for students inside and beyond the classroom.”

Scott Corbett ’00, ’03, who earned undergraduate and graduate degrees at GCU, believes that sense of heart is exactly what makes Dr. Brennan unique—and effective.

“Her connection to people motivates students, faculty, and community leaders,” says Mr. Corbett, principal of Ocean Academy, a small therapeutic charter school in Bayville affiliated with Ocean Mental Health Services.

“She connects to all ages and is open to advancements, new ideas, and unconventional approaches to learning,” he says. “Gemma is never stagnant. She is always on the cutting edge and improving lives.”

She also inspires GCU students outside the classroom, says Robert E. Constant, GCU assistant vice president for development.

“She goes above and beyond, and from an institutional viewpoint, that says to students, ‘We care about you.’ Dr. Brennan’s work—and her husband Tim’s support as well—shows that they are fully invested in GCU students.”

Last year, some of her students volunteered at one of Dr. Brennan’s favorite food banks, which feeds 163 families a month. Others supported classmate Rebecca Scharen ’18, who developed ReStart the Arts, a GCU arts festival for local children with special needs.

The spring event drew dozens of visitors, participants, and proud parents. It was especially important as an outlet for communication and emotional expression, says professor of psychology and former GCU School of Education dean Lynn DeCapua, Ph.D., ’83.

“The traditional outlets are not always effective for many children, particularly those with special needs,” she says. “This event brought the community together and gave back. It provided a forum for children to play music and dance with their parents, which is rewarding.”

But back to dinner at Dr. Brennan’s house, that unforgettable end-of-semester gathering. On this warm, not-quite-summer night, they hear less from their teacher and more from other guests—professionals whom Dr. Brennan has invited for post-dinner presentations.

An instructional technology leader from North Jersey talks about helping teachers do their jobs. A special education teacher unpacks bins brimming with materials she has developed for students with autism.

“I’m sharing resources with them now,” Dr. Brennan says, watching her students lean in to the discussions. “They need to know who and what is out there.

“Part of being a good teacher is finding out what you’re good at and what you aren’t good at doing,” she advises. “I want them to use each other and learn from one another to fill the gaps.”
Faculty

New Faculty at GCU

Stephanie M. Chung, Ph.D., RN, joined the full-time faculty this fall as an assistant professor of nursing. She previously served as an assistant professor to pre-licensure, accelerated, and RN-B.S.N. students at Stockton University. She has also served as a subject matter expert and writer for curriculum development and content for Lippincott, Wolters Kluwer and as an inpatient case manager for Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey. Dr. Chung holds a Ph.D. in Nursing from Kean University.

Colleen Diveny, LCSW, ’11 joined the full-time faculty this fall as a coordinator of field experience and instructor of social work. She previously served as the director of student advocacy and success for the GCU Office of Student Success. There, she established the Coordinated Community Response Team for the EMPOWER program and GCU Cares to promote student well-being and student success. She also served as a GCU lecturer in social work. Ms. Diveny holds a Master of Social Work degree from Fordham University.

Katherine V. Hader, CPA, joined the full-time faculty this fall as a visiting assistant professor of accounting. She most recently served as a full-time lecturer in accounting at Kean University and has over 30 years’ experience of collegiate-level teaching in undergraduate and graduate accounting courses. She also runs her own CPA firm, which specializes in small businesses and individual taxpayers with complex tax issues. Ms. Hader is a CPA and holds an M.B.A. from Monmouth University.

Joan Harvey, D.N.P., RN, CCRN, joined the full-time faculty this fall as a professor in residence. She has served as a lecturer in nursing at Georgian Court since 2010 and previously served as an adjunct clinical professor at Ocean County College. She also serves as a nurse scientist at the Ann May Center for Nursing in Wall. Dr. Harvey holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Cassandra Lo, Ed.D., joined the full-time faculty this fall as an assistant professor of education. She recently served as an adjunct instructor at Montclair State University. Dr. Lo’s research focuses on trauma-informed pedagogy, English language arts teacher education and professional development, personal writing and the college essay, critical witnessing and testimonials of trauma, and multicultural education for social justice and cultural change. She holds an Ed.D. in Reading/Writing/Literacy from the University of Pennsylvania.

Marcia Mazzarotto, Ph.D., joined the full-time faculty this fall as an assistant professor of digital communication. She recently served as an educational consultant in physician development for VCH, a pediatric healthcare network affiliated with the Stanford School of Medicine. Previously, she served as a visiting assistant professor at the SolBridge International School of Business in South Korea. Dr. Mazzarotto holds a Ph.D. in Texts and Technology from the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

Michael Pawlish, Ph.D., joined the full-time faculty this fall as a visiting assistant professor of management. He has served as a lecturer at GCU for graduate courses focused in management, ethics, and corporate governance since 2015. He also served as an adjunct professor at Adelphi University in Garden City, New York, and at Monmouth University for graduate and undergraduate management classes. Dr. Pawlish holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Management from Montclair State University.

Gary Schmidt joined the full-time faculty this fall as an associate librarian for information systems and emerging technologies. He recently served as the associate university librarian and director of public services at Fairleigh Dickinson University’s Florham campus. He also served as the interim director of library services at Ocean County College. He has a Master of Library and Information Science degree from Rutgers University and is completing an M.A. in Liberal Studies and Digital Humanities at Thomas Edison State University.

Jill Sluka joined the full-time faculty this fall as a visiting assistant professor in graphic design and multimedia. She has served as a GCU lecturer in graphic design and multimedia since 2016. She also recently served as an adjunct professor at Passaic County Community College and Monmouth University, and as a senior adjunct professor at Cumberland County College. She holds an M.F.A. in Fine Arts: Book Arts/Printmaking from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Steven Vaughan joined the full-time faculty this fall as a visiting guest artist in dance. He has served as a GCU lecturer in dance since 2014. Mr. Vaughan was a company member for Parsons Dance in New York City, the S.L.J. Arts Initiative, and Brian Sanders’ JUNK and a soloist for the Brandywine Ballet Theater. Both a choreographer and a dancer, Mr. Vaughan received the Houston Metropolitan Dance Company Emerging Choreographer Award in 2014. He holds an M.F.A. in Dance from Hollins University.

Kristin Park Wedlock joined the full-time faculty this fall as a visiting instructor of writing. She has served as a GCU lecturer in English since 2017. Ms. Wedlock recently served as an adjunct faculty member in the FYE Gateway Writing Workshop and a writing consultant for the Bryant Scholars and Honors Capstone Program at Bryant University in Rhode Island. She holds an M.F.A. in Writing and Poetics, with a Prose Concentration, from Naropa University. Additionally, she is co-founder of Precipice Collective, a nonprofit press.
Faculty and Staff Recognized for Service

On March 15, 2018, at the Faculty and Staff Appreciation and Service Award Ceremony, 44 faculty and staff members celebrated service milestones. The event also celebrated the retirement of three faculty members: William Bishop, Cheryl Resnick-Cortes, D.S.W., and Benedict Trigani, Ph.D., all of whom received emeriti status at Commencement 2018.

Bill Bishop, assistant professor of geography, retired after 37 years of teaching at Georgian Court University. He served as department chair for 17 of those years. He taught a wide variety of courses, including those in history, geography, and political science. He served on many committees over the years and was the faculty advisor for GCU’s chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honor society. He received a GCU faculty advising merit award and was one of the first faculty to teach online. Mr. Bishop has been a wonderful colleague and friend to all of us at GCU.

Dr. Cheryl Resnick-Cortes, professor of social work, began teaching at Georgian Court University as an adjunct and became a full-time faculty member in 1994. She had served as chair of the Department of Social Work, in which she taught a wide variety of courses, since 2005. Her areas of expertise include gerontology, trauma, and medical social work care. She served on many committees and saw the social work program through several successful accreditation renewals. In 2013, Dr. Resnick-Cortes received the Virginia Graham ’31 Award for Teaching Excellence. She is a deeply generous person and known for her ethos of care in social work.

Dr. Benedict J. Trigani inspired educators in the School of Education for 41 years. As a certified school psychologist and child psychology expert, Dr. Trigani served in numerous school districts throughout New Jersey, assisting students with special needs to gain access to an appropriate education. As a practicing psychologist, he assisted both youth and adults with anxiety, depression, learning disabilities, ADHD, traumatic brain injury, and autism. In addition to service on committees including Rank and Tenure, Faculty Searches, and Scholarship and Financial Aid, over the years Dr. Trigani provided pro-bono counseling to numerous individuals in need, when called upon by the Sisters of Mercy. Throughout his years of service, Dr. Trigani demonstrated unwavering support of and a firm commitment to Georgian Court, the Sisters of Mercy, and our mission.

Faculty in the Spotlight

Faculty Focus 2018 shares the many accomplishments of the GCU faculty—including research, books and articles, exhibits, professional service, and conference presentations. Faculty highlighted in this year’s publication are:

Claire B. Gallagher, Ed.D., professor of education, recipient of the 2018 Virginia Graham ’31 Award for Teaching Excellence, whose research focuses on the importance of student-centered learning and classroom design and their impact on learning.

Theresa J. Brown, Ph.D., BCBA-D, professor of psychology, who helps bring attention to work–life balance and the specific challenges parents of children with disabilities face.

Anna King, Ph.D., associate professor of criminal justice and chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, Anthropology, Sociology, and Human Rights, whose research delves into the psychology of punitiveness, including views of the marginalized on punishment, as well as punitive measures toward female offenders.

Johann M. Vento, Ph.D., professor of theology/religious studies and interim chair of the Department of Religious Studies, Theology, and Philosophy, whose work tackles the difficult issue of bystander intervention in situations of sexual violence, which is a continuation of a theme in her research and writing.

Check out georgian.edu/publications to read Faculty Focus 2018 in its entirety.
GCU Student Raises Thousands of Dollars to Help Children with Disabilities

By Sanford Josephson

GCU junior Amber Rizzi was born extremely premature. She weighed just two pounds, and, the day after her birth, she developed a severe pulmonary hemorrhage along with a massive brain hemorrhage.

“My chance of survival,” she says, “was almost nonexistent, and I was given last rites. Fortunately, and quite miraculously, the course of events inexplicably turned around, and two months later, I was homeward bound to begin my life with my wonderful family.”

However, that wasn’t the end of Amber’s health problems. Those early complications developed into cerebral palsy, and she had to undergo several surgeries and hours of tedious physical therapy. In spite of having to wear leg braces and facing all of these challenges, she describes herself as being a “fairly happy and energetic little girl.” While a third grader, Amber was returning from a vacation with her family when they encountered a mother and son in the airport. The son, Amber recalls, “had a brain injury, too, wore the leg braces I wore and had cerebral palsy.”

A few years later, when Amber’s braces were removed, she was relieved but couldn’t get that boy out of her mind. “I wanted the world to know that people with disabilities are just like everyone else,” she says. “I wanted to change the perception that people have of people with disabilities, letting them know that those with disabilities can do things that everyone else can do, sometimes just needing a little help.”

Amber’s fund-raising activities started when a middle-school classmate needed a social service project for her bat mitzvah. “We decided to do a fund-raiser to help children with disabilities,” she says. “I was searching for an organization and discovered Cerebral Palsy of Middlesex County. Since my diagnosis was CP, we said, ‘Let’s try these people.’ We contacted Lynn Sikorski, who was then principal of the organization’s Lakeview School in Edison.”

Ms. Sikorski, now retired and living in Florida, remembers receiving an e-mail from Amber.

“She and her friend first came to a parents’ association auction and made a presentation. Then, they became involved with a couple of service projects in the preschool,” recalls Ms. Sikorski. “She was so genuine in what she was doing, and she had a good understanding of how difficult things were for our kids.”

“At first, we just started going around the middle school cafeteria with a can for spare change,” says Amber. “That evolved into selling bracelets. My father is a musician; he plays guitar with a band called The Happenings. So, we did a benefit concert and raffled off a signed guitar. We wanted to educate students about what traumatic brain injuries and neurological impairments were.”

Two years later, 15-year-old Amber created the Children’s Voice Foundation (CVF), a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation, which has raised thousands of dollars to help children with disabilities.

CP of Middlesex County is now known as the New Jersey Institute for Disabilities, which serves children and adults with intellectual, developmental, and related disabilities through its school, day programs, and residential services. According to Venus D. Majeski, NJID director of development and community relations, Amber has, through donations made to the CVF, “become a perennial major sponsor of the Lakeview School 5K, and, more recently, Amber was recognized as a supporter of the Aquatic Center at the Lakeview School, a state-of-the-art hydrotherapy center for children with disabilities. Without a doubt, Amber’s enthusiasm and dedication is an inspiration to the entire community.”

Amber originally decided to attend Georgian Court because of the reputation of its School of Education, as she had planned to become a special education teacher. But she changed her major to English with a minor in creative writing and would like to eventually teach at the university level. She’s also part of GCU’s The Learning Connection (TLC), a support program for students with learning disabilities or other conditions that affect academic performance. GCU’s support system, she says, has been very important to her.

“Georgian Court has the atmosphere that best suits my needs, entirely supportive. When you have concerns or questions, you know who to go to, what to say; and you’re not afraid to say it. The people here want me to succeed.”
Royalty Comes to The Court

By Tara M. Strickland

On September 13, Georgian Court University hosted His Royal Highness The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, for a short visit at the university’s historic Lakewood campus. The visit formed part of a two-week national program of engagements in support of The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award USA and included an afternoon of court tennis matches at the iconic GCU court. The visit also supported the U.S. Court Tennis Association (USCTA) and U.S. Court Tennis Preservation Foundation (USCTPF).

Following his own personal The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award journey, HRH embarked on a series of court tennis (also known as real tennis in the United Kingdom) matches, as part of a program of activity to raise awareness and support for the Award in the United States and around the world. His Royal Highness developed a passion for the sport more than 30 years ago, when completing his own Gold Award.

His Royal Highness serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Foundation. The award is comprised of three levels (bronze, silver, and gold) and four sections (voluntary service, skills, physical recreation, and adventurous journey). Participants complete all four sections at each level in order to achieve their award. At the gold level, participants also complete a residential project.

During the visit, GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., granted HRH an honorary Doctor of Public Service degree for his charitable work through the award and other works, acknowledging him as GCU’s newest alumnus. HRH presented GCU with a signed court tennis racket.

Three intense court tennis matches were also viewed by about 100 attendees during the visit. In the first doubles match, HRH played with William “Bill” F. McLaughlin Jr., chairman of the USCTPF; Richard J. Moroscak Jr., member of the USCTPF Board of Directors; and James W. Zug Jr., president of the USCTA. In the second and third matches, HRH played with GCU men’s soccer coach Dino Raso and women’s lacrosse coach Amy Rizzo, and four student-athletes: junior Oliver Madrid and seniors Matthew Slazyk, Randy "RJ" Myles, and Samantha Fernandez.

“I have been playing court tennis here since my freshman year, and seeing the program excel is awesome,” says Samantha. “Playing court tennis with HRH was an absolutely amazing experience. I am so thankful that I got to be involved in such a wonderful event.”

Georgian Court University’s court tennis court was built in 1899 and is the second-oldest of 11 courts in the United States. It is also the only U.S. court located on a university campus. The USCTPF funded renovations at the GCU court 20 years ago and continues to underwrite a court tennis pro who is on campus two times a week.

“The court tennis court here hasn’t been used to the extent that other courts have been used, so it hasn’t seen the damage or wear and tear that some others have,” said USCTPF chairman Bill McLaughlin. “It’s one of the best-built courts in the world, so it was tremendously helpful for His Royal Highness—the most well-known player in the game—to see it.”

Interested in playing court tennis? E-mail courts@rcop.com to sign up for a lesson.

Visit http://bit.ly/PrinceEdwardVisitsGCU to view more photos from GCU’s royal visit.
Building better experiences for students, strengthening relationships on campus, finding ways to increase enrollment, and continuing GCU’s already strong programs are all priorities for Janice Warner, Ph.D., GCU’s new interim provost.

Appointed to the position by President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., for two years, Dr. Warner previously served as dean of the School of Business and Digital Media, where she was responsible for seven undergraduate majors and the M.B.A. program. She expanded the programs to meet industry demands; converted concentrations in finance, management, and marketing into three new majors; and made global education an enhanced focus of the student experience.

She joined GCU in 2007 as a full-time faculty member and served as dean from January 2012 to June 2018. She earned a Ph.D. in Management and an M.B.A. from Rutgers University and an M.S. and B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University.

During a recent talk in her office, decorated with photos of her family and paintings of the campus by President Emerita Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., ’72, Dr. Warner shared an enthusiastic and positive outlook for the academic year.

Among her top priorities is relationship building across campus, noting that “relationships matter” will be a theme this year.

“Students come to GCU for a credential, but really what’s more important is the relationships they develop while they’re here,” Dr. Warner says. “The president and previous provosts were already trying to encourage students to develop strong advising relationships with faculty, and we want to ramp that up even more. Relationships also matter between faculty and staff, staff and staff, and faculty and faculty. By working together and collaborating, which we already do well, we’re building better experiences for students.”

Another key priority is the strategic enrollment plan. She and Kathleen Boody, interim vice president for enrollment and retention, are co-chairing a large committee of university representatives who will develop a new plan for enrollment.

“We are looking at all the different ways we can increase enrollment—who we can target demographically and new programs we might want to add for undergraduates and graduates. We will also look at extracurricular programs, retention programs, and recruitment strategies.”

Dr. Warner notes that one of the challenges facing the university is the shrinking college-age population in Ocean County and the surrounding counties.

“We still have a lot of work ahead to attract those students to us,” she says. “We are also looking at adult education and trying to do it more intentionally, particularly with our off-site and online programs,
and possibly starting programs for credentials and gaining traction with the Lakewood Industrial Park.”

Another important priority for the interim provost is continuing GCU’s existing strong programs, including undergraduate research, advising fellows, the Center for Teaching and Learning, and global education. “We’ve already built a lot of good programs, and I want to make sure they keep going,” she says.

Dr. Warner hopes to see the university grow, particularly in the area of health care. GCU recently established new health care degrees—the B.S. in Health Sciences and B.A. in Health Profession Studies, the B.A. in Business Administration with a Health Care Administration Concentration, and the M.B.A. with a Healthcare Management Concentration. The university is exploring a postbaccalaureate program for individuals who want to prepare to apply to medical school or other health-related schools.

“We want to focus on growing in this area and expanding our already great reputation in nursing,” says Dr. Warner.

GCU plans to launch a master’s degree in marketing communication innovation in 2019–2020. The university is also working to establish a leadership institute for students, a program initiated by the Office of Student Affairs.

When asked what is special about GCU, Dr. Warner notes how much the faculty and staff are invested in the students.

“I really think that everyone cares about the student experience and the result of it. We may not have a lot of resources, but the time we all devote to the students is what makes it special.”

Prior to GCU, Dr. Warner held a 16-year career in engineering. When the upheaval began in the telecom industry, she decided to return to her first love, education, and returned to graduate school for her doctorate.

“Georgian Court transformed me because I was never part of a small university,” she says. “I came with no real expectations other than to teach. But getting to know the students, seeing them in class after class, and advising them, I realized a school like this really can make a huge impact.”

Dr. Warner says the best advice she received is to be open to opportunities: “You can’t possibly know what there is to do, so look at different places, different opportunities, and see where they’ll lead you. That has certainly served me well. I never expected to be in this position when I came to Georgian Court. It’s something I always pass on to students because they can’t possibly know all of the career opportunities out there. They shouldn’t just focus on one thing.”

The Sisters of Mercy continue to serve as Dr. Warner’s inspiration. “They’re very active and concerned about the world and want to make a difference. I think that’s a great thing for students to see and for a university to be built around.”

Christopher Campisano, Ed.D., is the new dean of the historic GCU School of Education, where he has previously served as a clinical supervisor for new teachers and as a visiting professor.

Before joining GCU in 2017, he directed Princeton University’s teacher preparation program. There, Dr. Campisano also worked with local high schools to make students more competitive for selective colleges, led professional development programs for public and private school teachers, and played a role in the university’s Prison Teaching Initiative.

Prior to Princeton, he coordinated higher education programs in the New Jersey Department of Education’s Office of Professional Standards. He is also a former high school social studies teacher with additional college-level teaching experience at Rutgers University, Hunter College, Trenton State College (now TCNJ), and Honolulu Community College.

Dr. Campisano holds degrees from Trenton State College and Columbia University.

“GCU education graduates, immersed in the Mercy core values, are translating their concern for social justice into action every day, and striving to make the world a better place, one student at a time,” says Dr. Campisano. “My goal for the future is to continue to improve the education we provide our students and make what is already great, extraordinary.”

Cathleen McQuillen, D.P.S., is acting dean of the GCU School of Business and Digital Media. From researching industry standards on pension plan accounting to examining the influence of women on corporate boards, the associate professor of business has a passion for putting her knowledge to work for others. Students benefit from her first-hand experience in subjects like financial accounting and accounting information systems, and from her research in gender and diversity, corporate board composition, and management. She has also examined corporate social responsibility in the area of environmental sustainability.

Dr. McQuillen is an alumnus of Pace University, the College of New Rochelle, and Long Island University.
Leading the Pride. Xena Valenzuela ‘18 was selected as the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference honoree for the 2018 NCAA Woman of the Year Award in August out of 581 nominees. Xena, who graduated with a degree in education this past May, works regularly with PALS Programs, a sleepaway camp for individuals with Down Syndrome, and volunteers with the Special Olympics, where she worked with soccer and basketball athletes. Her service earned her the Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association’s 2018 Division II Community Awareness Award, as well as the 2018 Georgian Court Presidential Award. On the field, Xena was a three-time All-CACC first-team selection, as well as the 2018 CACC Defensive Player of the Year and team Most Valuable Player. Xena also received the Sportsmanship Award at this year’s Reunion and Homecoming Weekend.

Convocation Celebration. On August 30, 2018, GCU’s annual Convocation Ceremony welcomed new students and recognized student and faculty achievements. More than 600 attendees including students, parents, faculty, and administrators listened as Claire B. Gallagher, Ed.D., professor of education and recipient of the 2018 Virginia Graham ’31 Award for Teaching Excellence, delivered the keynote address. She urged students to seek out and take advantage of opportunities that may exist in the spaces between things. Mariah Iapicco ‘13, ’19 encouraged students to seek mentors.

Lions at Work. Six years after Superstorm Sandy, there are still local residents in the rebuilding process. The GCU volleyball squad spent a day in August working with SBP (originally called the St. Bernard Project) providing services that have inched a local family one step closer to moving back into their home. Head Coach Dan Sempkowski and his Lions spackled, put up drywall, and did other minor construction as the team collectively served for 60 hours and saved the family over $2,804, which would have otherwise been spent on contractors to do the work.
GCU Goes Global. The GCU women’s lacrosse squad went international this August as four Lions sported the red, white, and blue on the UK Laxfest Tour, sponsored by American International Sports Teams (AIST). Seniors Nicole Barbella, Samantha Fernandez, Jenna Hoffman, Amber Neumann, as well as incoming freshman Jordan Santana, represented the Lions and the United States during a 10-day tour through Ireland, Scotland, and England. The group competed on four of those days vs. European teams while also taking in the rich history and culture the region has to offer.

Career Outlook. GCU welcomes Ceceilia M. O’Callaghan, who joined us in October as the new director of career services. In addition to being an independent career consultant, Ms. O’Callaghan has served as a career counseling officer for the Rutgers University School of Nursing and as associate dean/director of the Career Center at The College of New Jersey.

Critical Concerns Week 2018: Immigration. Dozens of students, faculty members, staffers, and area residents joined in a robust dialogue about immigration during GCU’s annual Critical Concerns Week, held November 5–9 on campus. The week included several events, including a screening of the thought-provoking dance “Supper, People on the Move,” presentations about refugees’ experiences in America and beyond, as well as advocacy initiatives being led by the Sisters of Mercy. Discussion at the events did not focus on debate or politics, but rather the moral issue of “How should we show mercy?” New GCU Executive Director of Mission Paul DaPonte, Ph.D., framed Critical Concerns Week this way: “It is, rather, the campus community’s annual effort to notice and attend to the distinctive cry of the poor in our midst and beyond.”

Donors Rock! On October 28, Georgian Court University held its Annual Scholarship Brunch. This year’s event was held at the Atlantis Ballroom at the Days Inn in Toms River. The room was filled with 205 of GCU’s student scholarship recipients, scholarship donors, alumni, family, and friends. Guest speaker Vincent J. Brown, a junior history major and recipient of the Eugenia M. Palmegiano Endowed Scholarship, offered inspiring and heartfelt remarks, reminding everyone of just how much of a difference scholarships make in the lives of our students.

Creating Spaces for Student Learning

By Gwen Moran

Georgian Court University’s commitment to student success has always extended beyond the classroom. Caring faculty, small class sizes, and personalized attention are hallmarks of the university, and help students achieve their academic goals. One of the university’s primary strengths is the wide array of programs designed to identify and support struggling students.

To further that commitment, the university has opened three “learning spaces” around campus, largely developed or expanded by a federal Title III grant Georgian Court received in September 2016. These centers offer students tutoring and other assistance in specific disciplines, furthering the university’s mission to provide a comprehensive liberal arts education.

Writing Center
Sister Mary Joseph Cunningham Library, Room 105
georgian.edu/writing-center

From basic writing skills to style requirement reviews to determining an approach to new assignments, the Writing Center offers peer and professional tutors to help students become better writers. Visitors may book up to 90 minutes of tutoring per week in 30- and 60-minute increments, but the center is also open to walk-ins, depending on tutors’ availability. Online and phone sessions are also available.

“More students come to college under-prepared for the rigors of coursework,” says Anthony Brano, Ph.D., assistant professor of English and director of the Writing Center. “We need to do a better job of preparing those under-prepared students.”

Preliminary data show that students who use the Writing Center see greater success on their writing assignments, and that success is making the center a popular destination. During Fall 2018, 200 students booked more than 600 appointments.

The center, which is open seven days a week, is also available to faculty and staff members who need assistance with writing-related issues.

Math Lounge
Jeffries Hall, Room 103
georgian.edu/math-lounge

Since its opening in September 2017, the Math Lounge has been popular with students who need help with mathematics. In its first month, 32 tutoring appointments were fulfilled, nearly doubling to 62 in its second month. In October 2018, the lounge booked 82 appointments, breaking its monthly record.

Highly qualified professionals and peer tutors are available to help students with everything from remedial math skills to advanced mathematics concepts. Tutors help students better understand the concepts and connect them with additional resources that can foster greater understanding, says Math Lounge Director Robert Devlin. Some students excel in the classroom. But there are also students who “get lost in the shuffle of a big room and need the one-on-one,” Mr. Devlin says. “Pretty much all the mathematical community, whether it’s Georgian Court or otherwise, for the most part believes that one-on-one tutoring is a great supplement to what the full classroom can supply,” he adds.

Multimedia Studio
Sister Mary Joseph Cunningham Library, Room 114
georgian.edu/library

Students, faculty, and staff now have a place for multimedia production and experimentation using the latest technology. The new Multimedia Studio offers access to equipment to produce everything from videos to podcasts. The studio has been outfitted with Yeti microphones, Logitech webcams, soft box lighting, reflector umbrellas, high-speed media card readers, JVC headphones, scrims in assorted colors, and moveable furniture. Camera kits with Panasonic 4K digital video cameras and Shure handheld microphones, and other video production equipment are available for loan from the Office of Information Technology.

Four editing stations are equipped with Adobe Creative Cloud, including applications like Dreamweaver, Illustrator, Photoshop, Flash, After Effects, and Audition, among others. Camtasia and Microsoft Photos are also available.

Drop-ins are welcome at the studio, but students, faculty, and staff can also reserve the 12-person space by visiting georgian.edu/library.
Mission Statement
Georgian Court University, founded by the Sisters of Mercy of New Jersey in 1908 and sponsored by the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas since January of 2007, provides a comprehensive liberal arts education in the Roman Catholic tradition. The university has a special concern for women and is a dynamic community committed to the core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion, locally and globally. Georgian Court University provides students with:

- a curriculum broad enough to be truly liberal, yet specialized enough to support further study and future careers;
- an environment for the entire university community to grow through shared educational, cultural, social, and spiritual experiences;
- and the will to translate concern for social justice into action.
Dear Donors and Friends:

Georgian Court University is a special—if not exceptional—place. It is where generations of students have come to learn and leave as leaders. As graduates, they contribute to the world through their careers, community involvement, and in civic circles across our country.

They become just and compassionate agents of change, and, as you’ve seen in the earlier pages of this edition of GCU Magazine, they are making a difference. They are able to do this because of you and your generosity.

The President’s Honor Roll of Donors that follows is more than a list of names. It is a reflection of your willingness to invest in our students and in the future of Georgian Court. During the 2017–2018 year, you helped GCU achieve:

- an 8% increase in annual giving revenue;
- a 10% increase in individual undergraduate alumni donors; and
- a 24% increase in donors giving at the Apollo Society level ($1,000) or higher.

Last year, GCU saw gains among corporate and foundation support, too. There was an 11% increase in revenue and a 13% increase in the number of institutional funders. And during the same period, more graduates supported GCU with their time: we saw a 33% increase in alumni attending events or participating in university activities.

The numbers, however, only go so far. It is the unwavering support of donors and friends like you who shape the GCU story. Thank you for all that you do to ensure Georgian Court students have access to a high-quality college education. Because of you, we are able to position them for success.

We are most grateful.

My best,

Robert E. Constant
Assistant Vice President for Development
GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY 2017–2018 BY THE NUMBERS

63%
Increase in students booking appointments at the GCU Writing Center, now in its second year, thanks to a federal Title III grant. Freshman visits alone were up 145% from 2016–2017.

3.41
Average GPA of incoming student-athletes

7 CACC Players of the Year

84%
The Learning Connection (TLC) students with disabilities achieving GPAs between 3.0 and 4.0

832
Media mentions of GCU Up 10.8% from 2016–2017

3,000+
Snapchat viewers Visited Georgian.edu

300+ New Instagram followers @GeorgianCourt

813
Hours of peer tutoring provided by GCU students

7.59%
Undergraduate alumni participation, up from 6.93% in 2016–2017
2017–2018 PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT & HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

135 Participants at the Global Lions International Fair

4 CACC Championships won in women’s soccer, women’s lacrosse, men’s lacrosse, women’s track & field. Men’s track & field was runner-up.

295 people
Heard Leadership Lessons from Columbine and Beyond from former Columbine High School Principal Frank DeAngelis

746 Alumni registered on the College Central Network job board, via GCU Career Services, which was named the Nonprofit Partner of the Year (2017) for the Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce

54 Students visited 15 countries for study or service abroad

39 Number of programs hosted by EMPOWER, GCU’s grant-funded awareness and training program focused on sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence

400+ Unique, automated messages created for prospective students through Slate, GCU’s new admissions customer relationship management software

267 Student-athletes representing 14 NCAA Division II programs

24% Increase in donors at the $1,000 level or higher

267 Student-athletes representing 14 NCAA Division II programs

24% Increase in donors at the $1,000 level or higher
**Colleges of Distinction (2017–2018)**

Innovative learning opportunities garnered GCU recognition by the nation’s Colleges of Distinction program. GCU earned several honors, including: Catholic Colleges of Distinction, New Jersey Colleges of Distinction, and Colleges of Distinction Recognition for Business, Education, and Nursing. Colleges of Distinction recognized GCU for many of its strengths, including study abroad programs and students’ success through service learning, internships, and other programs. To be recognized, GCU must meet specific criteria for engaged students, great teaching, vibrant community, and successful outcomes.

**Military-Friendly® School (2017)**

Victory Media declared GCU a 2017 Military-Friendly® School, a designation awarded to the top colleges, universities, community colleges, and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students. Georgian Court participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program, offers a Military Veterans Endowed Scholarship, and houses the GCU Veterans Resource Project, which includes a dedicated Veterans Lounge and veterans’ programming on campus.

**Abound: Finish College (2018)**

Abound: Finish College, a college guidance system for undergraduate degree-seeking adults, commended GCU for addressing the issues that matter most to adult students: affordable options for attending college, access to professors, campus professionals, support services, and ways to accelerate their path to graduation. Publishers at Abound placed GCU on two additional lists: 2018 Top Degrees for Adult Undergrads in New Jersey and 2018 Top Degrees for Adult Undergrads–Catholic.

**Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Honor Roll (2018)**

GCU is one of about 100 colleges nationwide that made Phi Theta Kappa’s 2018 Transfer Honor Roll. The program identifies top universities for creating a dynamic pathway to support transfer students. The Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Honor Roll also recognizes schools like Georgian Court for its high standards in areas like scholarship and financial aid, admissions outreach, student engagement, and student support services.

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In 2019, the President’s Annual Report and Honor Roll of Donors will no longer be included in GCU Magazine to help reduce our impact on the environment and the costs of printing and mailing. The publication will be posted online at georgian.edu, but if you prefer to continue receiving a print copy, please opt in by contacting advancement@georgian.edu or 732.987.2232.
HONOR ROLL OF DONORS 2017–2018

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CLASS OF 1935 ($85,843; 100%)
Great Oak Society
$10,000–$99,999
Gertrude Turner Mahon ’35†

CLASS OF 1939 ($150; 100%)
Century Society $125–$249
Agnes Moore Higgins

CLASS OF 1941 ($2,000; 100%)
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Mary D’Zio†

CLASS OF 1945 ($151; 40%)
Century Society $125–$249
Jeanne Tomasulo Kay
Honor Society $1–$124
Florence Riccobono Johnson

†Deceased
*Arranged for matching gift
CLASS OF 1946 ($1,125; 30%)
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Helen Marchese Peterson †
Honor Society $1–$124
Ruth Drexel Castle
Mary Jane McMaster Courtwright

CLASS OF 1947 ($100; 14%)
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous

CLASS OF 1948 ($100; 6%)
Honor Society $1–$124
JoAnn McCarthy Donnelly

CLASS OF 1949 ($360; 27%)
Century Society $125–$249
Sarah Lombardi Pietrafesa
Cecily Swabb Zerbe
Honor Society $1–$124
Mary Flora San Antonio, OP †

CLASS OF 1950 ($1,200; 24%)
McAuley Society $500–$999
Mary Sullivan Finizio
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Clare Costello
Century Society $125–$249
Joan Murphy Manning
Doris Musa
Honor Society $1–$124
Patricia Keating White

CLASS OF 1951 ($1,950; 29%)
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Betty Jean Buck Byrnes
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Phyllis De Spirito Bocina
Joan Farley Carroll
Marie-Louise Bauman Kehoe
Honor Society $1–$124
Mercedes Buckalew Paton
Marty Conrad Rogers

CLASS OF 1952 ($1,075; 18%)
McAuley Society $500–$999
Joan Kozusko Gadek
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Patricia Bray Matonak
Century Society $125–$249
Irene Dominik Storkan
Honor Society $1–$124
Dolores Bauer Mayer
Eileen Leyshon Warman

CLASS OF 1953 ($775; 41%)
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Mary DiBenedetto Cerrato
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Nilda Muñoz Astor
Joan G. Campana
Rose Loscarso
Margaret Langan Madaras
Katherine Byrnes Poveredly

CLASS OF 1954 ($2,020; 33%)
McAuley Society $500–$999
Helen Belf Wilson
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Jeanne Innes Brown
Emily Ho Chiang
Mary Donahue Johnson
Century Society $125–$249
Katherine Rodgers Raab
Honor Society $1–$124
J. Lorraine Oklamlack Laubach
May Lee Liu
Grace Chinski Obama
Mary Ann Kling Phillips
Elvira Condina Schopfer

CLASS OF 1955 ($251; 15%)
Century Society $125–$249
Joan Murphy Manning
Doris Musa
Honor Society $1–$124
Patricia Keating White

CLASS OF 1956 ($25,080; 32%)
Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999
Carol Masronadi Mastoloni
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Gloria Backes Christiansen
Peggy O’Connell Roddy
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Joan Nowak Romatowski

CLASS OF 1957 ($2,350; 38%)
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Anonymous
Kathleen O’Halloran Stevens
Century Society $125–$249
Phyllis Falcinelli Allen
Jane Heher Dibert
Bernadette Markey Schultze
Honor Society $1–$124
Kathleen Lee Choy
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Catherine Santowasso Murphy
Adelaide Ruggiero Roberts
Joan Wright Ruppert
Jenny Chen Yu

CLASS OF 1958 ($30,873; 41%)
Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999
Barbara Faerter †
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Carol Quinn Reilly
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Eileen Smith Nolan
Barbara Allan Simpson
Century Society $125–$249
Barbara Potter Fasting
Jeanette Macri LaMonaca
Honor Society $1–$124
Barbara Downing Chetkin
Maureen McDonnell Clark

CLASS OF 1959 ($2,685; 38%)
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Maria Costa
McAuley Society $500–$999
Joyce Armstrong Carroll, Ed.D., H.L.D.
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Marie Anna Han Chang
Century Society $125–$249
Dorothy D’Annunzio Mongelli-Cardinale
Honor Society $1–$124
Gertrude Szlajg DiFrancesco, Ed.D.
Phyllis Cherry Goldfarb
Mary Teresa Farrell Gray
Patricia Steiner Hunt
Kathleen Flaherty McGowan
Elizabeth Masters O’Neill
Lynn Aagaard Schell
Patricia Welsh, RSM

CLASS OF 1960 ($1,850; 31%)
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Amy Joseph Habib
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Eugenia Palmegiano, Ph.D., J.D.
Century Society $125–$249
Loretta Merkovsky Romanow
Honor Society $1–$124
Eleanor Kubon Barnes
Janet Lamb Clarkson
Margaret Samson Cuthbertson †
Dorothy Rowland Heilin, Ph.D.
Elizabeth Spann Knese
Mariluise Jones Warner

“I am the first one to graduate college in my family, and everyone is extremely proud of me. I lost my dad two years ago, but I know that he is with me each step of the way. Georgian Court is a wonderful university, and I couldn’t have picked a better school. The professors are always there for their students, and everyone works together to help the students succeed. I want to thank you for making the scholarship possible. Every little bit helps a college student like myself. I know that I will continue to work hard and finish strong here at Georgian Court University!”

Amanda Brill ’19
Psychology

2017–2018 PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT & HONOR ROLL OF DONORS | 7
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS OF 1961 ($2,215; 38%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McAuley Society $500–$999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyce Gavan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Larkin Stefan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kingscote Society $250–$499</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ellen Morris Byrne, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Cicillo Bracco</td>
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<td>Katherine Pillitteri Gatt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delia Rivo Adorno</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Drexler Foleno</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gail Underkoffler Girard</td>
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<td>Cecilia Gilman Blank</td>
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<td>Sharon Buc Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Marcino Lando, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Haworth Paul</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Raffety</td>
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<td>Kathleen Fitz-Maurice Hellberg</td>
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<td>Arline Koenig San Antonio</td>
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<td>Catherine Basso Szymanski</td>
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<td>Joanna Lyons Foley</td>
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<td>Rosemary Cox Grygo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miriam Bailey Hostetter</td>
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<td>Penny McManaman March</td>
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<td>Frances Kling Spann</td>
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<td>Carolyn Gurka Stumpf, Ed.D.</td>
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<td>Susan Rogers Vitella</td>
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<td>Sandra Ross Gold</td>
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<td>Lorraine Clauss Helgeth, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Marguerite DiBenedetto Brennan</td>
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<td>Jane Farrell-Beck, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Carola Bergdolt Regan</td>
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<td>Barbara Bilinski Smith</td>
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<td>Sally Newman Standiford, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Corrine Ravizza Tillotta</td>
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<td>Carolou Calissi-Cirillo, Arch.D.</td>
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<td>Fia Corona Pleiffer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paulette Christine Damicco, RSM</td>
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<td>Patricia McFadden Domibal</td>
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<td>Wanda Richards Finch</td>
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<td>Joanne Feroni Fratterolo</td>
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<td>Mary Beth Quinn O'Brien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Kathleen O'Halloran, RSM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ann Vanden Heede Richards</td>
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<td>Mary Mannion Spain</td>
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<td>Barbara Anne Williams, RSM</td>
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<td>Gail Muccilli Williams</td>
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<td>Ellen Mullane Gallagher</td>
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<td>Alice Hofmann Craighead</td>
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<td>Diane Rainier Bryda</td>
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<td>Elena Truncellito Santoro</td>
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<td>Gloria Dey Tylutki</td>
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<td>Diane Belisle Birch</td>
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<td>Marie Butler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irene Kalapos Hachat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Orbe</td>
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<td>Carole Ayres White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lillian Macchi Brunner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justine Hogan Carrigan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie M. Cook, RSM, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Louella Bertoni DeVita</td>
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<td>Marlene Fritz, RSM</td>
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<td>Roseanne Hill O'Brien</td>
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<td>Linda Carr Peck</td>
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<td>Margo Mroz Sciarrotta</td>
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<td>McAuley Society $500–$999</td>
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<td>Marilyn Del Vescovo</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Morrison DeSimone</td>
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<td>Mary Louise Schlechtweg Taylor</td>
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<td>Ann O'Connor Kelly</td>
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<td>Eileen Markey</td>
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<td>Elizabeth O’Hara, RSM, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Maryann Bonelli Rosta</td>
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<td>Anita Louise Talar, RSM</td>
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<td>Barbara Trainor Whitner</td>
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<td>Dunila Borer Brogan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Bowman Halpin</td>
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<td>Pamela Buckley McInnis</td>
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<td>Delores Parron-Ragland, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Anna McGoey Paugh</td>
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<td>Lauren Mooney Pavlovich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regina Gallagher Torgalkar *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suzanne Sharkey Valla</td>
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<td>Justyna Steuer Carlson</td>
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<td>Maureen Hanley Geller</td>
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<td>Barbara Eschelbach Reutter</td>
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<td>Kingscote Society $250–$499</td>
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<td>Donna Esposito Hughes</td>
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<td>Roseann Smith Latsko</td>
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<td>Kathleen Scanlin Tschaen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Century Society $125–$249</td>
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<td>Mary Basso</td>
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<td>Katherine O’Neill Brown</td>
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<td>Joanne D’Amato</td>
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<td>Theresa Buccafurmi McElroy</td>
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<td>Rhoda Brilliant Axelrad, M.A.</td>
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<td>Patricia Maher Brewer</td>
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<td>Mary Faas</td>
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<td>Mary T. Gomolka, RSM</td>
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<td>Mary Frances Gordon</td>
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<td>Percyée Hart, RSM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eileen Keefe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Flynn Kuhn</td>
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<td>Rose Ann Noto LaFisca</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy S. Lazarick, RSM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Dora McGrath, RSM</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Egan Nastus, Ed.D.</td>
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<td>Kathleen O’Brien Procacci</td>
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<td>Janice Koenig Riley</td>
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<td>Dorothy Ward Toth</td>
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<th>CLASS OF 1967 ($32,576; 40%)</th>
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<td>Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edna Diaz Chang-Lo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amelia Alonso McManamey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mimsie Sullivan Cicluch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela D’Aversa, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Lakjer Vegqian</td>
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<tr>
<td>McAuley Society $500–$999</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Cheney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donnamarie Irwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharon Popinko Rogora</td>
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<td>Kingscote Society $250–$499</td>
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<td>Joan Evans Olson</td>
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<td>Faine Higgins Smith</td>
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<td>Mary Basso</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryanne Jackman Wagner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret A. Waldron, RSM</td>
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</table>
“You can’t imagine the obstacles you face when you’re an adult learner living on your own and mom and dad aren’t there to help you. This is why I feel truly blessed to have received the Suzanne Sharkey Valla Endowed Scholarship. As the responsibilities of adulthood such as rent and groceries piled up, I felt that my back was against the wall. I didn’t know what I was going to do about tuition; I thought I was going to have to take a semester off. Your generosity made a big difference in my life, so thank you for your support of Georgian Court University.”

Brian Amador ’22
Nursing
“I was raised by my grandmother and financially, it was always rough. Scratching out the extra money to pay off my college for each academic year was tight, but my grandmother sought the best for me and would do anything. She taught me to work hard and to be grateful for those around my circle and the kind people such as yourself who bring hard work to light. Like her, you have helped me to further reach my dream of a successful four-year education.”

Vincent J. Brown ’19
History

Century Society $125–$249
Nancy Calvin
Ellen Culpepper Sandy
Honor Society $1–$124
Donna Galgano Amon
Anonymous
Noel Calhoun Baker
Michele DeFazio Bond
Mary Wildgen Butler
Michele DeFazio Bond

Honor Society $1–$124
Donna Dauscher Beckmann, M.S.
Vivian Salamandra Brink
Patricia Chenoweth
Luisa Rodriguez Cumbo
Karen Povacz Cunningham
Joan Watson DuPont
Karen Dalm Engan
Marilou Tierney Fuchs
Kathleen Meder Gifford
Karen Krzyzanowski Gordon
Christine Tartaglia Hubner
Princess Jones
Mary Kay Doyle King
Barbara Luichinger
Lucille Marley
Daryl Marsala
Carol Germain Montgomery
Patricia Morris Ryan
Claire Loftus Williams

Century Society $125–$249
Susan Orlando Adakalasamy, M.A.
Christine Meyer Flanagan
Patricia Doyle Hayden
Marie Birrer Maloney
Michelle Hessinger Sarama
Shelley Lynch Wasilewski
Honor Society $1–$124
Donna Dauscher Beckmann, M.S.
Vivian Salamandra Brink
Patricia Chenoweth
Luisa Rodriguez Cumbo
Karen Povacz Cunningham
Joan Watson DuPont
Karen Dalm Engan
Marilou Tierney Fuchs
Kathleen Meder Gifford
Karen Krzyzanowski Gordon
Christine Tartaglia Hubner
Princess Jones
Mary Kay Doyle King
Barbara Luichinger
Lucille Marley
Daryl Marsala
Carol Germain Montgomery
Patricia Morris Ryan
Claire Loftus Williams

CLASS OF 1975 ($7,620; 20%)
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Renee Katz Barry
Lesa Lardiier-Wright *
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Nancy Saling
Maria Ursino
Century Society $125–$249
Roxxanne Thomas Adinolfi
Judith Allen-Shaw
Carole Breckinridge
Virginia Krych Komar
Brenda Mandell
Mary Ann Russo Marfa
Sandella Comune Marmorato
Janice Senkel O’Connor
Mary Connolly Richter
Elizabeth Savner
Cheryl Rusczcyk Schmid
Susan Shrott
Debra Connerton Smith
Elaine Yarusinsky

CLASS OF 1976 ($3,305; 17%)
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Mary Frances Cheatle Galloway
McAuley Society $500–$999
Marlene Lynch Ford, JSC
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Lynda Klebold
Honor Society $1–$124
Linda Walsh Miller Beam
Mary Birmingham
Susan Coan Boston
Amelia Canali
Marlyn Hart Coyle
Cheri Ellen King Crowl
Anne Marie Kilmurray Dorso
Alexas Horwitz Foster
Kathleen Gallant
Janice Griffin Gurney, ASCP
Karen Sala Ianniello
Teresia Giangola Johnson
Kathleen Regan Keller
Virginia Krych Komar
Brenda Mandell
Mary Ann Russo Marfa
Sandella Comune Marmorato
Janice Senkel O’Connor
Mary Connolly Richter
Elizabeth Savner
Cheryl Rusczcyk Schmid
Susan Shrott
Debra Connerton Smith
Elaine Yarusinsky

CLASS OF 1977 ($2,320; 16%)
McAuley Society $500–$999
Barbara Beal
Linda Pesce
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Joanne Sullivan Huelsman
Linda Monek Malayer
Century Society $125–$249
Constance Anne Reymann
Honor Society $1–$124
Joan Morris Barry
Barbara Butensky
Deborah Check
Nadine Maciorowski Frydryszewski, Ph.D.
Vicki Erbrick Heck
Barbara Van Cook Hinchliffe
Ann McNerney Kelly
Diane Salerno Manfredy
Eileen McDonnell, RSM, CHPN
Marlyn Miller-O'Melia
Lynda Paton
Donna Fischetti Perry
Glória Telencio
Jo Ann Wojcik Walter
Jeanne Bordonai Williscroft

**CLASS OF 1978 ($2,611; 16%)**
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Barbara Owen Daoust
Century Society $125–$249
Karen Gadek Fiorentini
Bernard Reider
Tina Ruubas, M.S.W.
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Venetia Gilmore Banks, M.Ed.
Eileen Kruger Breckner
Yvonne Karpovich Broggi

**CLASS OF 1979 ($12,715; 12%)**
Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999
Cheryl Stoeber-Goff
Apollo Society $500–$999
Cherylly Gudgeon Quinlan
Doreen Rioux-Galligan, D.O.
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Judie Casey
Maria Martin Pyntek, D.O.
Century Society $125–$249
Denise Bouffard Larsen
Kim Erin O’Connor
Honor Society $1–$124
Amy Allegretti
Donna Giordano Bartolino
Helen Bixenman, CHC, CLCP
Mary Ann Burns Bowers
Barbara Coelln
Anne Markham Foster
Pamela Porter Helman
Candace Lillie, RRT, RPSGT
Carol Schemen Mould
Marylee Nicholas
Margaret Ann Scarpone, RSM
Jeffrey Shapiro
Lorraine Tesauro, J.D.
Susan Wylie

**CLASS OF 1980 ($2,795; 10%)**
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Phuong Kim Nguyen, Esq.
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Stanee Pettit Murray
Century Society $125–$249
Frances Conover Barker
Joan Reardon Kenneally
Barbara Mosca Remillard, Ph.D.
James Sandy
Jane Schier
Honor Society $1–$124
John Bradley
Joyce Busch Cervati
Pamela Chabak
Roy Feldman
Grace Williamson Haviland
Diana Diggins Isaacs
Robyn Saul Magovern, LDTC
Marion Kritzberger Massari
Karen Busch Scheick
Marie-Ellen Tighe Walsh, M.A.
Phyllis Weissman

**CLASS OF 1981 ($23,281; 6%)**
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Margaret Santullo Whelan
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Helen Policastro Stiskal
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Marianne Holler, D.O., M.S.W.
Betsy Smith
Century Society $125–$249
Renee Crome Cuthbert
Honor Society $1–$124
Sharon Bradley
Madelyn Churchill
Andrew Long
Evelyn McDowell
Beth Miller-Porter
Laurine Jankowski Sibilia, M.A., M.Ed.
Theresa Sichere Tiplady

**CLASS OF 1982 ($4,980; 13%)**
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Elizabeth Will Nanna
McAuley Society $500–$999
Jean Jaccard O'Donnell
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Mary Cranwell
Catherine O'Malley O'Neill
Honor Society $1–$124
Sherry Bartee
Georgianna Girard Cote
Marylu Dalton, Ed.D.
Patricia Donegan Freyberger
Susan Stavres Grady
Kim Hanadel
Kathleen Parenti Higgins
Catherine Jagiello
Honor O'Brien Kilgallen, JSC
Jeanette Harth Koplitz
Richard Manfreddy
Joan Mast, Ed.D.
Susan Krisanda McDonald
Mary Ann McMahon
Alice Coakley Mokrynski
Justina Newman
Mary Risden
Angelo Rubano
Barbara Nelson Schaller
Nancy Straman
Barbara Pennente Wainwright
Lisa Carroll Hilton

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Joyce Goletz Heckman
McAuley Society $500–$999
Anonymous
Lynn Trigani DeCapua, Ph.D.
Cindy Lisowski
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Kathy Russell, M.B.A.
Century Society $125–$249
Marlena Yourstone Holm
Mary Peckison
Honor Society $1–$124
Nancy Wall Cestare
Anne Turtura Gardner
Theresa McDermott Gordon
Lucie Bock Jude
Ruth Kalwinsky
Maureen McDonnell Maroney
Sandra Jubak Stamos
Deborah Vignuolo, RSM
Susan Normile Wheeler
Teresa Onimus Wood

**CLASS OF 1984 ($6,795; 10%)**
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Eugenia Wilson Lawson
McAuley Society $500–$999
Barbara Reilly
Century Society $125–$249
Mary Beth Field
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Bernadine Jankowski Borowick
Doris Bowdren
Joaanne Camper
Catherine Boudford Essner
Theresa Polainin Fedorco
Kathleen Janes
Charlie Mae Johnson
Veronica Klos
Susan McDermott
Rosalind Ribaudo
Marianne Buzzerio Tasy
Charlene Thompson-Smith
John Vahey

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Kim-Chi Dang Nguyen
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Anonymous
Catherine Brodeur Shahinian
Century Society $125–$249
Barbara Nulty Matthews
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Allan Ball Jr.
Rosemary Scafiti DellaSala
Patricia Marie Donlin, RSM
Marie Dolan Mackanic, CPA
Jill McCoy Maloney
Elizabeth Meehan
Patricia Romagna
Sylvia Tambor
Marylu Dalton, Ed.D.
Georgianna Girard Cote
Sherry Bartee
Catherine O'Malley O'Neill
Mary Cranwell

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Century Society $125–$249
Kathleen Cassidy Holevinski
Patricia Wepprecht-Smith
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Carol Lombardi Cangialosi
Janice Miller Cross
Joann Darrar
Kathleen Esmer
Marie Napoleon Gore
Carole McKenna
Veronica Miller
Kaitlyn Mary Gilmartin ’20
Clinical Mental Health Counseling

"Receiving financial assistance from scholarships has made my dreams more attainable. I am able to better afford the cost of my graduate degree and cultivate all the education and experience necessary to become a successful licensed professional counselor. This scholarship has helped me not only financially, but has boosted my confidence, as I know scholarships are reserved for students who can prove their academic excellence. Thanks to you and your generous scholarship donation, I am able to prove to myself that I can accomplish my dreams and I can better my future for myself, my loving mother, my family, and my future family. For this opportunity, I am forever grateful and fortunate."

CLASS OF 1987 ($1,925; 8%)
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Phyllis Faulk Novitch
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Karen Estelle Smith, CPA
Century Society $125–$249
Elaine Rivard Goucher, Esq.
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous

CLASS OF 1988 ($1,733; 8%)
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Laura Stamp Trigani
Anonymous
Barbara Lecoque Bauerband
Virginia Quinn Hesse
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Corinne Lucier Brennan
Denise-Marie Coulter, Ed.D.

CLASS OF 1989 ($1,610; 7%)
Century Society $125–$249
Catherine Healy Atwood, RN, CCM, CRC, GCM
Timothy Holton
Lorraine Baumann Palme
Honor Society $1–$124
Theresa Turick Alt
Lisa Williams Begley
Mary Voigt Benner
Regina Birchler
Gina Petrocelli Boyles
James Coppola
Geralyn Nazzaro Bowling
Marjorie Douglas Edelson
Lila Forsberg
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Craig Ramsey
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Margaret VanVechten Smith
Phyllis Kovach Tompsett
Dawn Kibitlewski Underwood, CPA
Catherine Wilkes McKee

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Kingscote Society $250–$499
MaryAnne Applegate Donahue, Ed.D.
Susan Kiefer
Honor Society $1–$124
Lisa Dickerson Applegate
Walter Boyd
Cheryl Glasgow Jackob
Kathleen Conner Olejack
Patty Hojer O’Neill
Susan Rosenshine
Debra Prizer Spering

CLASS OF 1991 ($1,690; 4%)
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Kelly Dempster Hanahan
Century Society $125–$249
Colleen Donahue
Lori Martelli Dunbar
Debra Hart Long
Jane Gilchrist Scora
Genevieve Hamilton Van Peit
Honor Society $1–$124
Pamela Dreher Breitenbach
Thomas Calabro
Linda Daube Elko, RN
Teresa Niedzwiecki Fortunaka
Mariette Figueroa Gallagher
Jill Hanks-Swain
Dena Hild-Wade
Kelly Ruerup Karnosovic
Wendy Kalmar McNicholas
Susan Weber Rinaldi

CLASS OF 1992 ($710; 3%)
Century Society $125–$249
Walter Hrycenko
Rosemary Fahrer Poling
Honor Society $1–$124
Andrea Fiore
Linda Foerst Jelley, RRT
Linda Shann Leonard
Roma Mauro, RN

CLASS OF 1993 ($595; 2%)
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Kathleen Kluk Sutton
Honor Society $1–$124
Elizabeth Kingston Burdge
Shannon Reilly Burkett
Stacey DeCesare-Monetti
Victoria Alpert Elbrecht
Reverend Thongayil Thomas
Jacqueline Conrich Tinik
Kerry Schaufler White

CLASS OF 1994 ($590; 4%)
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Kurt Stofko
Century Society $125–$249
Ann Caffrey Donaan
Honor Society $1–$124
Rhonda VanDuyne Balle
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Sharon Berardi, ASQ, CQE
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Century Society $125–$249
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Honor Society $1–$124
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Angela Stevens

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Montgomery, RN
Caroline Heinis Roncin
Sandra King Walker
Maureen Ryan Ward
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McAuley Society $500–$999
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Century Society $125–$249
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Honor Society $1–$124
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Robyn Dunn
Stacey Kwytyn Gibson
Karen Clarke Goff
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Carol Fisher Megill
Kimberly Kelly-Terry
Laurie Pells George
Debra Emery
Aletha Reaves DeBiase
Paulette Ciganek
Maria Bucsanszky
Anonymous
Honor Society $1–$124
Julie Oxford Whelan
Patricia Classick Sacks
Kingscote Society $250–$499
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Century Society $125–$249
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Kingscote Society $250–$499
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Julie Oxford Whelan
Honor Society $1–$124
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Maria Bucsanszky
Paulette Ciganek
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Debra Emery
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Mary Malloy Siringo
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Century Society $125–$249
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Clair Chapter
Kathleen Dorry
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Inger Hinrichsen
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Kara Hendrickson Kniffin
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Susan Bathmann Mac
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Barbara Sanfilippo Preston
Anne Lemanski Sawicki
Alice Kuczynski Stephens
Linda Fischer Stevens
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Honor Society $1–$124
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Celeste Colton
V. Roy Edwards Jr.
Mary Egbert
Deborah Ferris
Robert Langman
Peggy Chafart Lema
Francesca L. Albergato Muterspaw, Ed.D.
Triantafillos Parlanapides, Ed.D.
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Kimberly Salafriso Morrison
Margaret Mosco Zvolensky
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Virginia Blasi
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Michele Dlugos
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Paul Fink
Regina Kurdewan
Ellen Manley-Forte
Julie Salkeld McBride
Ruthann Pullen
Dawn DeBatt Thompson
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Kingscote Society $250–$499
Marjon Weber
Century Society $125–$249
Deborah Munyer Moroney
Honor Society $1–$124
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Katy Tanasy Hawalka
Betty Jannarone
Kathleen Settles
Heather Snook Shanabrook
Jason Steinard
Laurie Campbell Trochymczuk
Margaret Davison Warren
Sharon Stewart Wessel
CLASS OF 2003 ($970; 2%)
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Kristina Bannon
Michelle DePolo
Century Society $125–$249
Rebecca Todd
Honor Society $1–$124
Anonymous
Phyllis Mateusz
Daphne Salick Ryan, Ph.D.
Karen Strang
Deborah Weingroff
CLASS OF 2004 ($895; 3%)
Kingscote Society $250–$499
Laura Fortune Ortiz
Century Society $125–$249
Yanci Pereira Merkel
Honor Society $1–$124
Karen Woodfin Barbagelata
Rory Miller Carrillo
Miriam Destra
Marian DiGiamarino
Sheri Freibott Fama
Susan Balasic Fritz
Christine Haines
Jelena Lobza Komitas
Lori Fenton Romano
Sheila Videreiro
Carolyn Walker
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Century Society $125–$249
Mary Mewherter Workman
Honor Society $1–$124
Donna Percoco Cetrone, RNC,
AHN-BC, M.A.
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Margaret Dooley, RN
Elizabeth Kelly Kruissjen
Fiah Gussin Kwasseu
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Jean-Bosco Mutarambirwa
Carmelina Ortiz
Anneliese Zappia
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McAuley Society $500–$999
Neal Steed, CPA, Esq.
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Camilla Lauricella
Century Society $125–$249
Eugenia McAluife Kelly
Tatsiana Shparaga Lisowsky
Mary Ann Dailey Munson
Honor Society $1–$124
Nanci Bachman
Carrie Niedrach Gilliland
Jeffrey Grose
Marcela Hernandez Knipper
Kelly Lyman-Kerekes
Gissela Malgeri
Alessandra Montoya
Tanya Mosley
Christa-Dawn Heer Newsom
Maria Rivera-Butler
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Century Society $125–$249
Nelcy Davila-Aponte
Peter Lisowsky
Honor Society $1–$124
Patricia Booraem
Caitlin Wuchter Daigle
Karen Riccitelli Fahey
Alberta DiMaria Kunkel
Tina Losi-Petersen
Kathleen Brown Malouf, RN
Elizabeth Kelly Kruissjen
Fiah Gussin Kwasseu
Susan Diccianni Milano
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Carmelina Ortiz
Anneliese Zappia
2017–2018 PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT & HONOR ROLL OF DONORS | 13
"Being the first person in my family to attend college can be stressful, but your donation gives me the extra push to work harder. I am studying to receive my bachelor’s degree in social work and planning to earn my master’s degree afterward. In addition, I am on the track and field team, am an active member of Emerging Leaders, and was inducted into Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society. The scholarship will lighten the load of greater loan debt and influence me to not limit my education or drop out because of the high costs of college. With less stress, I will perform better in the classroom and succeed as a student."

ShaViahnah King ’20
Social Work

CLASS OF 2008 ($795; 3%)
Honor Society $1–$124
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Anne Matthews
Jessica Keiper McDevitt
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Kingscote Society $250–$499
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William Wegner
Honor Society $1–$124
Mary Lou DeSantis Beyer
Kelly Cenkner
Danielle DeCaprio
Dana Vougiltos, Esq.

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Kingscote Society $250–$499
Kathleen Heitz Mancuso
Century Society $125–$249
Patricia DeNise
Honor Society $1–$124
Mary Ann Artz
Genevieve Brimat
Amanda Brown
John Bussanich
Jennifer Hurley DeLellis
Jennifer Herbert
Brittany King
Chelsea Long
Kathleen Miller
Laura Steeb
Candace Tocci
Elizabeth Tomasulo, Psy.D.

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Kingscote Society $250–$499
Kenneth Ward
TaShara Austin
Honor Society $1–$124
Anthony Alemi
Marisa Alvarado
Anonymous
Emily Bessemier, D.P.T.
Heidi Chamberlain Clark
Colleen Mazur Diveny
Christina M. Georgas
Dinneen Jackson-Peleskey
Franshara C. Napoleon
Catherine Opinante
Sarah Jastrzebski Trittini
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Shima Chayvet, CEH, MRM
Honors Society $1–$124
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Tori Brown
Janine Burgio
Bianna Cregle
Jessica DeMaio
Kathryn Emrich
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Jenna Meier
Michelle O’Connell
Brienne Gilvary O’Rourke
Joseph Priestley

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Kingscote Society $250–$499
Lauren Colore
Honors Society $1–$124
Maria Aviles
Jennifer Brennan
Kaitlyn Coleman
Linda Harden
Allison Porr Marucci
Meghan Mathis
Rebecca McGettigan
Suzanne McMurray, RN
Sabrina Regina
Sara Tufano Sardella
Bethany Stofko
Laura Wagner

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Century Society $125–$249
Kristen Cladek, M.S.W.
Cynthia Cuile
Deborah Kedmi
Honors Society $1–$124
Samantha Bellefeuille
Charles D’Angelo, CPA
Laurie Egel
Tanya Vash Giardina
Isalin Howard
Michele Huzar
Claire Kilcommons
Virginia Horner Wacker

CLASS OF 2015 ($36,417; 4%)
Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999
Deacon James Knipper
McAuley Society $500–$999
John B. Makar *
Honors Society $1–$124
Denielle Balint
Chelsea Bleckie
Jeri Brandt, B.S.N., RN
Rachael Campbell
Genuino Del Carmen
Shelby Frink
Ryan A. Gentil
Jessica Martino
Dawn Brunelli McEvoy
Robert Quinn
Chanel Rogers
Dominika Nicole Stankiewicz, B.S.N., RN
Jeanne Sundberg
Carly Surmonte
Gabrielle Tull
Lauren Myles
Corey Noonan
Emily Sperry
Elizabeth Spevak, B.S.N., RN
Cassandra Tangredi

CLASS OF 2016 ($28,178; 4%)
Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999
Elizabeth Schmalz Ferguson
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Moriah Jennings
Honors Society $1–$124
Andrea Delia
Jamie Hand
Christine Hedgebeth
Miriam Hunte
Anna Lapinskas
Valentina Lyle
Samanta Mancino
James McGuire
Anthony Mellone
Carolyn Messina
Jorge Moran
Elise Nowak
Michael Purrazzella
Cindy Rubioyanes
Jaclyn Scandura
Efthimia Stefanou, RN
Ricardo Vasconez Palacios

Lauren Myles
Corey Noonan
Emily Sperry
Elizabeth Spevak, B.S.N., RN
Cassandra Tangredi

Lauren Myles
Corey Noonan
Emily Sperry
Elizabeth Spevak, B.S.N., RN
Cassandra Tangredi

CLASS OF 2015 ($36,417; 4%)
Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999
Deacon James Knipper
McAuley Society $500–$999
John B. Makar *
Honors Society $1–$124
Denielle Balint
Chelsea Bleckie
Jeri Brandt, B.S.N., RN
Rachael Campbell
Genuino Del Carmen
Shelby Frink
Ryan A. Gentil
Jessica Martino
Dawn Brunelli McEvoy
Robert Quinn
Chanel Rogers
Dominika Nicole Stankiewicz, B.S.N., RN
Jeanne Sundberg
Carly Surmonte
Gabrielle Tull
Virginia Horner Wacker

CLASS OF 2016 ($28,178; 4%)
Great Oak Society $10,000–$99,999
Elizabeth Schmalz Ferguson
Apollo Society $1,000–$4,999
Moriah Jennings
Honors Society $1–$124
Andrea Delia
Jamie Hand
Christine Hedgebeth
Miriam Hunte
Anna Lapinskas
Valentina Lyle
Samanta Mancino
James McGuire
Anthony Mellone
Carolyn Messina
Jorge Moran
Elise Nowak
Michael Purrazzella
Cindy Rubioyanes
Jaclyn Scandura
Efthimia Stefanou, RN
Ricardo Vasconez Palacios
### CLASS OF 2017 ($1,201; 4%)
#### Honor Society $1–$124
- Ayomide Adebayo
- Troy Allen
- Adam Attia
- Jaclyn Baccarella
- Elliot Baldwin
- James Bytheway
- Michael Clarke
- Melanee Coleman
- John W. Currie
- Thomas DeNeville
- Jordan Eugenis
- Paul Falcone
- Gustavo Gomez
- Lisa Gravato
- Darion Moss
- Kristin Mueller
- Ralph Noriega
- Brittany Pavlik
- Ryan Peters
- Kailey Prachthauser
- Stefanie Stryker
- Lauren Tapia
- Monica Wacewicz
- Chaz Wisuri

#### Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Martuscelli</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Mendez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Natoli</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Joshua Osborne</td>
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<td>Dana Sobel</td>
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<td>Philip Spear</td>
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<td>Briana Sykes-Medley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Szewczyk</td>
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<td>Casey Tumblety</td>
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<td>Jaelyn Tweedy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ciera Valyo</td>
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<td>Tara Vitale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nikola Vujovic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holly Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Wardle</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Wilson III</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CLASS OF 2018 ($1,306; 16%)
#### Honor Society $1–$124
- Malawi Allen
- Michael Barbieri
- Taylor Bauerband
- Nicole Bavaro
- Allison Bouthillette
- Kathleen Brady
- Nick Buzzo
- Juvuan Carter
- Tyler Chamra
- Nicholas Claudeo
- Karen Davis
- Francesca Dee
- Kristin Dolan
- Mia Angela Dones
- Laurie Ebenau
- Farris Ellington
- Brandon Evans
- Rosa Franzè
- Sean Graham
- Michael Haker
- Jessica Handsaker
- Erica Hutton
- George Kavarakas
- Elizabeth Kroon
- Morgan LaDuca
- Larisa Manzo
- Julia Martone

#### Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malaya J. Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malia P. Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morgan Blusewicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Bock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charisma Bosley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quentin Bouly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brunella Bowditch, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caleb Bowser</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nerea Brajac</td>
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<tr>
<td>DaReon Brael</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Brazzel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Brennan ’13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy G. Bruno</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rajae Calbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Calvetto</td>
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<td>Tremaine R. Carter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christian Casciano</td>
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<td>Rose Cassidy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Castiglione</td>
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“I come from an immigrant household with three sisters. My older sister is also attending college, so paying two college tuitions with two more on the way is definitely something that has been difficult and challenging for my parents. Nevertheless, my family is very loving and supportive and has been my greatest motivation. This scholarship will release a huge financial burden for my family, and for that I am extremely grateful. Thank you for making this scholarship possible, and thank you for your generosity.”

Jasbeth Lopez ’21
Criminal Justice
“Throughout my life, I have had opportunities to volunteer both locally, in my hometown of Clinton, Massachusetts, and abroad while deployed with the United States Marine Corps. All those experiences exposed me to inspiring healthcare staff, particularly nurses. Their passion and service toward their patients motivated me to pursue the same. I plan to continue volunteering, with goals of pursuing a Doctorate in Nursing Practice. Your financial contribution will allow me to continue focusing my time on studying and maintaining a 3.7 GPA. Thank you for your immense generosity; your act of kindness is inspiring and motivating. I will continue to work hard so that one day I may also be able to pay it forward and help other students pursue their education.”

Sonali Chadwick ’19
Nursing

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Mary Jo Herbert
Tyshona Robinson ’20
Medical Imaging Sciences

“Growing up in a large family with a single mother, hard work and dedication has been my life. I was pushed into the prime example role for my younger siblings, so it was important for me to enforce the idea that education is cool. Thank you so much for the opportunity to continue my education with one less concern. I will complete my third year financially stress free because of your help. With your continued support and everlasting generosity, you are helping students in ways unimaginable. I feel so blessed to have someone like you in my corner.”

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**John Murtagh ’20**
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2017–2018 President’s Annual Report & Honor Roll of Donors | 23
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New Academic Programs Meet Market Demands in Health Care and Cyber Security

By Tara M. Strickland

Degrees in health sciences and health profession studies are among the newest offerings available to undergraduate students at Georgian Court University. Both programs launched at the Lakewood campus this fall, and the health profession studies program will expand to GCU@Hazlet in early 2019.

“The demand for health care education is undeniable,” says GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, noting the significant growth GCU continues to see in existing majors like nursing and exercise science, wellness, and sports.

“Nationally, health-related jobs are growing faster than all other sectors and part of our job, as a university, is to make sure employers have the talent they need, whether that is in hospitals, pharmacies and laboratories, or in community clinics and corporate wellness centers.”

There are distinct differences between the two degrees, but each mirrors GCU’s goal of launching new programs directly related to market demand.

For example, the B.S. in Health Sciences prepares students for further study and professional training. Graduates may ultimately work in fields like medical imaging, clinical laboratory science, genetic counseling, physical therapy, occupational therapy, medicine, dentistry, optometry, podiatry, and so much more.

The new health profession studies program, meanwhile, is perfect for students who like multiple aspects of health care. The flexible program offers broad options for pursuing jobs such as patient care assistant, patient care coordinator, hospital or medical office manager, patient advocate, patient navigator, and other roles.

“By 2026, health care occupations are expected to grow about 18 percent and create 2.3 million new jobs,” says Carolyn Bergman, Ph.D., associate professor of biology and interim director of the new health programs. “We are meeting the needs of students today and the demands of tomorrow’s employment market.”

In addition to the new degree programs in health care, GCU also added a new concentration for criminal justice majors and a minor in cyber crime. These additions are part of a larger effort to provide future graduates with new skills and competencies relevant to today’s contemporary criminological challenges.

As a central hub for the buying and selling of illicit goods, information, and services, the internet has changed the face of modern crime. Both private industry and governmental entities are actively seeking employees who are better versed in cyber security and cyber crime risks. Jobs in this field are expected to grow 28% from 2016 to 2026, and numerous tech companies predict a labor shortage in cyber security for the next three years.

“Two core competencies of the minor, geographic information systems (GIS) and coding, offer students highly practical, translatable and marketable skills,” says Anna King, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, Anthropology, Sociology, and Human Rights. “Because of the widespread use of computer systems, this minor provides valuable knowledge—no matter what field a student is interested in pursuing.”

Lofty Pines Society Event Offers Insight Into Wills

By Robert E. Constant

“I give so future students can have access to a GCU education. With my support, GCU can continue to expand key programs and continue its traditions and mission.”

—Kathleen Kish Moon ’71
Lofty Pines Society Member

During this year’s Reunion and Homecoming Weekend, the Office of Institutional Advancement hosted Women in Philanthropy, featuring guest speakers Katie Carlson and Michael E. S. McCarthy from the U.S. Trust. Ms. Carlson, a market executive, and Mr. McCarthy, a trust fiduciary executive, led an intriguing discussion about the contents of the wills of two very private women: Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and Doris Duke. They also provided useful information and guidance for individuals interested in leaving legacy gifts.

The event was sponsored by GCU’s Lofty Pines Society, whose members have made a commitment to GCU with a gift through their wills, trusts, and other estate gifts. Legacy gifts like these provide a compassionate service that ensures the sustainability and continued vitality of Georgian Court from one generation to the next. For more information on the Lofty Pines Society, please contact Robert E. Constant, assistant vice president for development, at rconstant@georgian.edu or 732.987.2256.
At The **Court**

**Great Advice for 2018 Graduates: Keep Your Eyes Open for Opportunities**

*By Michele Hujber, APR*

GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., presented more than 650 master’s and bachelor’s degrees to the Class of 2018 during Commencement 2018. These included August 2017, December 2017, and May 2018 graduates. The class included students from ages 19 to 64, with the majority of them hailing from New Jersey. Graduates also came from eight other states, and from countries as far away as Australia.

It was also a big day for three honorary degree recipients. President Marbach presented Doctor of Business Administration degrees to Elisabeth Fontenelli, retired Goldman Sachs executive and former GCU trustee, and Jon F. Hanson, founder and chairman of The Hampshire Companies, and a Doctor of Educational Administration degree to Triantafillos “Tommy” Parlapanides, Ed.D., ’00, superintendent of schools for the Central Regional and Seaside Heights school districts.

Olivia Zitarosa ’18, president of the Student Government Association Executive Board, shared the greatest lessons that Georgian Court University has taught her: “to keep our eyes open to opportunities and to say ‘yes’ to them, because you never know just how life-changing they can be.” She also provided sage parting advice for her fellow graduates.

“Wherever you go, whatever you end up doing,” she said, “keep your eyes open for opportunities. Listen to what’s going on around you, and don’t be quick to say no. You never know where the road will lead.”

Visit [georgian.edu/commencement](http://georgian.edu/commencement) for links to speeches, videos, and photos of the events.

*The two-day celebration began with a formal Academic Procession through the campus, during which Olivia Zitarosa (front left) planted ivy at the base of The Eagle statue, a long-standing GCU tradition.*
Graduates, families and guests, and GCU staff and faculty crowded the Wellness Center Arena for a Baccalaureate Mass, with a homily delivered by Reverend Monsignor R. Vincent Gartland, GCU trustee. The Mass was followed by an Academic Awards and Certificate Ceremony, which recognized nearly 60 undergraduate students with departmental awards and recognition for leadership and other service to the university.

Casey Tumblety reacts to receiving the Kingdon Gould Award at Commencement. The award is presented to the senior, who, in the opinion of fellow classmates, has contributed the most to the general welfare of Georgian Court University. Casey also received the Outstanding Senior Award at this year’s Reunion and Homecoming Weekend.

Elisabeth Fontenelli was the Commencement speaker on May 24 at the RWJ Barnabas Health Arena in Toms River. She advised graduates to make their world a better place by focusing on their own surroundings: “Your outer circle, your broader community, where you are a member and have an affinity but where you don’t have personal relationships, can and will be greatly enhanced by your caring.”

Aaron James ’17 and Courtney Meehan ’18 are all smiles at the 2018 Commencement Ceremony.
At The Court

GCU SUMMER INTERNS TACKLE DISNEY MARKETING, NYC ACCOUNTING

By Kristen Fischer

Two students from Georgian Court University completed business-related internships that took them out of the state and on a real-world learning adventure.

Emily Novozinsky, a digital communication major, spent eight months studying online and working at Walt Disney World. She was one of 2,000 people accepted into the Disney College Program, for which about 50,000 across the globe applied.

“The program inspired me by letting me know exactly what it is that I want to do with my life,” says Emily, who plans to graduate in 2020. “I struggled for a long time, not finding my niche, or figuring out what I want to do after graduation.”

Through the internship, she realized that she loves guest servicing and hospitality, as well as fostering brand loyalty. During an eye-opening Disney marketing class, she was able to conceptualize ideas to improve vacations and create more magical trips.

“People will continue to come to Disney World as long as it is evolving and keeping the magic alive, and I want to be part of it in one way or another,” says Emily, who is pursuing another college program in Disneyland upon graduation. Other career aspirations include staying in the guest service and marketing field, even if she cannot work at a Disney park. The internship experience also has her considering a minor in marketing.

“I’m currently taking a few classes on this, and it’s honestly just bringing it all together for me. I am so excited to use my talents that I’ve learned both at GCU and Disney World, in the real world,” she says. Emily credits her GCU advisor, Gina Marcello, Ph.D., assistant professor of communications and director of the digital communication program, for offering support.

“She set me up for complete success when I was in Disney, and I am so grateful for her. The Disney College Program was a dream come true, and I wouldn’t have been able to do it without her, and the skills—and the core values—that GCU has equipped me with,” Emily adds.

Be sure to check out Emily’s Disney College Program vlog at http://bit.ly/GCU_Intern2018
Counting Her Way to a CPA

Tiffany Monte, a senior accounting major, commuted to New York City to complete her internship for accounting firm JAD Consulting, LLC. She worked on various client projects, mostly handling Schedule K-1 tax returns, which are for S corporations. This involved calculating taxable income through line deductions on the form and making sure line amounts matched in Microsoft Excel. Copying tax returns for clients was another part of the job, as was organizing the documentation. She also managed bank reconciliations in QuickBooks for business entities.

“I learned a new project through a walkthrough with another full-time coworker for however long it took until they felt I was good enough to do it on my own,” says Tiffany.

“I could always ask questions when I was unsure of how to do something; my coworkers were helpful to me.”

Tiffany thinks the internship has prepared her to obtain a full-time job upon graduation and prepare to take the exam to become a certified public accountant (CPA).

The close working relationship with GCU professors have made a huge impact on Tiffany. She enjoys experiencing different courses with the same teachers because she is accustomed to their teaching styles and expectations. They have taken the time to get to know her and develop relationships that have supported her in the classroom—and now, outside of it.

“My professors inspire me to be great in what I do through their own experience stories and expertise in the field, which makes me more passionate about accounting and my future,” says Tiffany.

“GCU provides a caring environment where you are a name, not a number—faculty want to hear about your accomplishments during and after college,” she adds.

Tiffany's internship was around the corner from the New York City Stock Exchange (left).
Welcome Home: Reunion & Homecoming Weekend

By ToniAnn McLaughlin

Reunion and Homecoming Weekend 2018 was incredible as students, faculty, staff, and alumni enjoyed a variety of festivities. The weekend kicked off with an alumni reception in the Mansion, while students enjoyed the fascinating hypnotism of Eric Minna and a bash and bonfire behind the Casino. On Saturday, 75 alumni and friends attended brunch followed by a day of activities that included athletic games, a Family Fun carnival, entertainment by iHeartRadio and New York’s Z100 radio personality Skeezy Jones, a beer and wine garden, an arboretum tour, and food trucks.

The weekend concluded with Mass and the 50th anniversary dinner for nearly 50 members of the Class of 1968, who joined GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., for a wonderful program that took them back in time. They also presented a large class gift in honor of their class advisor, Mary Arthur Beal, RSM, ’55 (see the back cover of this magazine). Over in the Casino, alumni and students wore 1920s attire for a Great Gatsby-themed Casino Night.

At the alumni brunch, Dr. Marbach announced and asked alumni for their support for a new campaign. The 10 x 20 Campaign is an initiative to increase alumni participation—the number of alumni that donate to the university in one fiscal year—to 10% by 2020. Last year, our alumni participation rate was over 7.5%, and this year, our goal is 8%. Reaching the goal of 10% by 2020 means introducing over 400 new alumni donors. If you are an annual donor, we thank you and encourage you to continue to give. If you are not a donor and would like to help our university hit this milestone, please visit georgian.edu/giving.

1) At the alumni brunch, Dr. Marbach presented Joyce Goletz Heckman ’83 with the Alumni Service Award.

2) Students Devin Martin, Kayla Rodriguez, Mary Verange, Paris Blume, and Kraig Ruff (left to right) enjoy the Casino Night.

3) GCU student-athletes Jada Atchison, Arturo Sanchez, Ashley Pierson, and Carolyn Stanton present Dr. Marbach (and Roary!) with a record-setting $3,170 for the annual GCU Strong initiative. Each first-year student-athlete donates $5 with the amount increasing in $5 increments annually (i.e., $10 for sophomores, $15 for juniors, and $20 for seniors).

4) Lois Brennan Allen ’73; Elfriede Kinkopf Bresocnik ’73; Karen Povacz Cunningham ’73; Sheila Maguire Setti ’73; and Rebecca Gero Kopet ’73, ’83 attend Mass during their 45th Reunion.
Saving Lives: GCU Student-Athletes Receive CPR/AED Training

By Christopher McKibben

Taking its inspiration from one of the NCAA Division II National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee’s (SAAC) 2018–2019 goals, the Georgian Court University SAAC took matters into their own hands in August and collectively received cardiopulmonary resuscitation/automated external defibrillator (CPR/AED) training.

“As a member of the NCAA Division II Management Council, I have the privilege to serve as the liaison to the National SAAC, and I was so impressed with their passion in advocating for CPR/AED training to be a priority across the division,” says Laura Liesman, assistant vice president for athletics and recreation. “The National SAAC’s goal is to begin with the training of each Division II SAAC and then expand this effort until each and every student-athlete has the ability to step up and assist at a moment’s notice.”

By educating the GCU SAAC, it guarantees that each of the university’s athletic programs will have a minimum of two student-athletes on its roster that possess this life-saving skill set. In alignment with NCAA requirements, all GCU student-athletes undergo a pre-participation medical examination and must be cleared for participation by a physician before they can begin practice.

The 29 members of the GCU SAAC join the ranks of more than 20 Georgian Court coaches (including all nine head coaches) who are certified in First Aid/CPR/AED.

GCU’s athletic training staff, which includes Joe Friedrich, director of sports medicine and performance, and certified athletic trainers Adam Elsieidy and Caitlyn Grabowski, are health care providers with extensive training in emergent care. An athletic trainer is on site for all on-campus team practices and home competitions, but can’t be everywhere all the time; having more individuals who are appropriately trained in these lifesaving skills is essential.

“It’s great to see the National SAAC take such a proactive interest in bringing health and safety to the forefront of its initiative,” says Mr. Friedrich, who has amassed over 15 years of experience as a CPR/AED instructor with the American Red Cross. “Student-athletes are often seen as the embodiment of health and fitness and are prominent figures on campus. When an unexpected cardiac event takes the life of a young athlete, the depth and breadth of such a tragedy can be widespread throughout the campus and local communities.”

Early intervention with CPR/AED, ideally within three minutes of the onset of sudden cardiac arrest, can improve the likelihood of survival by as much as 90%, according to some estimates. Community education initiatives like this one can be a great way to decrease incidences of sudden cardiac death. The skills acquired by certified responders are of immense and immediate value to the local community and will serve the individual well throughout their lifetime.

“I was excited to share my passion for this topic with the very same student-athletes I have the pleasure of working with each day,” adds Mr. Friedrich. “The idea of certifying all of our nearly 300 student-athletes in CPR/AED was a bit overwhelming logistically, but kicking off our efforts with the GCU SAAC seemed to be a logical starting point. We will continue to add more certified student-athletes throughout the year.”

Each participant completed a one-hour online educated module in CPR/AED. The American Red Cross has redesigned its course offering, making the online learning component fun and interactive. As student-athletes returned to campus, those concepts were reinforced through hands-on skills assessment with the GCU athletic training staff. Each test took only 15 to 25 minutes, leaving students confident in their newly acquired skills.

Two-sport GCU student-athlete and two-term SAAC president Arturo Sanchez ’19 notes that “it is important to realize that less than 10% of our nation’s population is CPR/AED trained, and there is a probability that someone may need urgent care. Training our SAAC members, who include at least two representatives from each team, allows us to have the confidence and peace of mind that there is at least someone on each team, as well as on our own campus, who has the knowledge to save a life.”
Athletics Staffers Elected to National Chairmanships

By Christopher McKibben

GCU Women’s Soccer Head Coach Jim Moore has been elected as the chair of the NCAA National Women’s Soccer Committee for 2018–2019. He recently served as the chair of the East Regional Advisory Committee while serving on the National Women’s Soccer Committee since 2016. As the national committee chair, Coach Moore primarily oversees the selection process for the annual NCAA tournament and played a vital role in the running of championship weekend November 25–December 1 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

“It is a tremendous honor to have been asked to serve in this role,” says Coach Moore. “I am looking forward to working with the committee to help make Division II women’s soccer as strong as possible.”

Coach Moore recently completed his 15th year at the helm of the GCU soccer program, during which his squad completed their 13th-straight winning season. The Lions won the CACC regular season title for the fourth straight season, going unbeaten in all CACC regular-season competitions. For his success, Coach Moore has been named the CACC Coach of the Year three times.

Assistant Vice President for Athletics and Recreation Laura Liesman has been elected chair of the NCAA Division II Management Council. She began a four-year term with the NCAA Management Council in May 2016 as the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) representative. She will serve on the NCAA’s Board of Governors as the sole Division II athletic director.

“I am honored to serve the NCAA Division II membership as chair of Management Council,” says Ms. Liesman, the recipient of the prestigious Collegiate Athletic Administrators of New Jersey Garden State Award in 2017. “Our division is guided by exceptional leadership, and I look forward to continuing to work with them as we move our division to new heights.”

Ms. Liesman continues to lead the athletics program to new heights since its transition to NCAA Division II prior to the 2003–2004 academic year. Under her leadership since 2003, GCU athletics constructed a state-of-the-art recreation, wellness, and athletics complex; increased the women’s offerings to nine; and welcomed five men’s athletic offerings since going coeducational in 2013.

Athletics

GCU Athletics Launches Crowdfunding Initiative

By Christopher McKibben

The Georgian Court University Department of Athletics and Recreation kicked off the holiday season with the launch of a new crowdfunding fund-raising initiative through everydayhero. The project is the first of its kind for the Lions.

“We are excited to launch this initiative as a creative way to engage our fans and other external audiences,” says Laura Liesman, assistant vice president for athletics and recreation. “We will continue to look for innovative ways to raise funds critical to the needs of our student-athletes and athletic programs.”

The first crowdfunding campaign will run through the spring semester. Its goal is to address the annual and special project needs to raise money for resources vital to the success and well-being of Georgian Court’s nearly 300 student-athletes. Interested individuals have the option to choose any project(s) they would like to support.

Crowdfunding offers donors, alumni, and fans a modern avenue to directly support our student-athletes and the programs most meaningful to them. The crowdfunding platform will streamline sport-specific fund-raising, and allow for better communication and understanding of how donors’ generous support positively influences GCU’s athletic programs. This will also allow teams to visually show their specific fund-raising goals to donors and how they are achieving them.

“It is our hope that the friends and family of GCU athletics will support the link between the university and our community,” says Ms. Liesman. “We can achieve this by offering donors an opportunity to provide financial assistance to any project of a program in which they have a special interest.”

The most successful crowdfunding campaigns use the power of their followers’ social networks to increase visibility of the project. Georgian Court athletics encourages alumni, parents, student-athletes, and fans to assist with this campaign by making a gift and sharing their giving experiences with friends and family.

All gifts made in support of the crowdfunding campaign are tax-deductible and will be allocated toward each program’s respective resource fund.

Please visit gculions.com and click Support Your Lions!
Hoops Star Continues as Victory Scholar

By Christopher McKibben

Thousand-point scorer Jaelyn Tweedy ’18 wrapped up her collegiate career at Georgian Court University in May with a degree in business administration, but the former GCU hoopster is far from finished with basketball and academics.

Jaelyn, who hails from Richmond, Virginia, was selected as a Sport Changes Life (SCL) Victory Scholar. Designed in partnership with the charity’s founding university partner, Ulster University, the Victory Scholar Program brings hope to young people across Northern Ireland and Ireland through alternative forms of education in teamwork, sport, and confidence delivered by a prestigious group of American student-athletes as they pursue postgraduate degrees.

Jaelyn, the Lions’ 2018 New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (NJAIAW) Woman of the Year, is one of 34 student-athletes named as 2018–2019 Victory Scholars. The Victory Scholars have excelled in their academics and sport, primarily basketball and in recent years, golf, at American universities. Through a rigorous selection process, these future leaders progress to study for master’s degrees at partnering universities and higher education institutes across the island of Ireland while putting their extensive knowledge of their sport, team building, and mentorship into practice in the local communities.

“I am very excited to begin my new journey in Ireland inspiring the youth, giving back, and getting involved within new communities. This brings great joy to my heart,” says Jaelyn, who is studying at Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) in Donegal, Ireland, and playing basketball. “I am truly grateful the SCL family has given me the opportunity of a lifetime!”

The Victory Scholars legacy helps strengthen the level of basketball being played at a grassroots level and continues to leave a lasting impact by building relationships that provide a vital outlet for confidence building. In many cases, the scholars mentor young people toward their own future success.

“We are so proud of how far the Sport Changes Life Victory Scholar Program has come and truly feel that these next few years will be the most exciting,” says Gareth Maguire, CEO and co-founder of Sport Changes Life. “We have also seen great growth in our local university partners, placing our Victory Scholars across 13 universities and higher education institutions. With this growth, it is a very exciting time for the future of our young people.”

In addition to their roles as local ambassadors for sport and as team builders and mentors, the Victory Scholars were ambassadors for the Basketball Hall of Fame Belfast Classic presented by Sport Changes Life in late November and early December 2018. The three-day basketball event welcomed eight American universities as they completed head-to-head in a collegiate basketball tournament outside of America.

“This is the experience of a lifetime, and I could not be more thankful to everyone who has helped me get to this point of my journey,” says Jaelyn. “I will sincerely miss my GCU family, but I am looking forward to meeting new faces and creating new unforgettable bonds.”
Alumni Profile

BEAUTY QUEEN:
Georgian Court Alumna Has Made Up Stars for More Than 50 Years

By Gwen Moran
The world leaders, artists, actors, musicians, politicians, experts, and other fascinating people who have appeared on the CBS newsmagazine 60 Minutes during its 50-year history have vastly different backgrounds. But, many share one experience: sitting in Florence Riccobono Johnson’s chair.

Ms. Johnson, a Class of 1945 graduate who goes by “Riccie”—a nickname bestowed by her graduate school pals—has been a makeup artist in news and entertainment for more than 65 years. After earning her undergraduate degree from Georgian Court in art, and an M.A. in Theater Arts from the Pasadena Playhouse Association’s School of the Theater in California, she and a classmate came to New York City to see if she could land work as an actor and singer. As the two were making their “rounds,” dropping off headshots and résumés at various agencies, a contact suggested she head over to NBC, which was hiring.

A New Kind of Art
After filling out an application, Ms. Johnson was offered a job as a makeup artist, even though she had no experience, likely because of her art background, she assumes. She turned it down. Her friend talked her into taking it to get a foot in the door. So, she turned around and accepted the job.

At NBC, she worked for renowned makeup artist Dick Smith, who headed the department. He would later go on to win an Academy Award in 1985 for his makeup artistry on Amadeus. After a year, she moved to CBS, where she has been ever since.

A Lifetime of Memories
Ms. Johnson, now 94, has made up some of the world’s most famous faces, including news giants Edward R. Murrow, Walter Cronkite, Dan Rather, Mike Wallace, and Peter Jennings; and United States Presidents Johnson, Nixon, Ford, and Clinton. She also worked on the soap opera, Guiding Light, and even made up the members of The Beatles for their first appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show. And while that may seem like it was a thrill, perhaps not so much for Ms. Johnson.

“Theyir reputation preceded them with the young people, but we really didn’t know who they were,” she says.

When someone is sitting in her chair, Ms. Johnson is careful to take her cue from them. Some want to chat. Some want to think. She adapts her conversation style to what each person needs.

“Sometimes, especially with the anchors, it’s the only time they have to just sit quietly and think about what they’re going to do,” she says.

Her home base at the CBS studios in New York City allowed her to work and still manage an active family life. She has seven children and worked during each of her pregnancies, and “that wasn’t something that people did very much,” she says.

Part of her strength and drive comes from her time at Georgian Court, she says. At first, she was attracted to The Court because it was a Catholic university. Ms. Johnson’s faith is very important to her. She recalls a Jesuit ethics professor whose lessons stayed with her.

“That helped me my whole life. It gave me values,” she says.

The lessons she learned at Georgian Court help her to this day, she says. Ms. Johnson, who went to school during World War II, points to her yearbook dedication as testimony.

“My yearbook dedication offers thanks ‘To the patient and tireless efforts of the faculty of Georgian Court College. Their aim has ever been to create strength of mind and character so that we may not be lost in a worldterrorized by disorder and intellectual chaos.’ Now, you know, that could be said today,” she says. “It was their goal to instill this in their students.”

1960s

Irene Mountenot

Brignola ’64 is retired, but still teaches CCD and Bible classes.

Lucille Visceglia Lenskold ’64 and her husband, Arthur, enjoy touring the United States. When they’re home, they keep themselves busy with the educational, social, and athletic activities of their grandchildren.

Delores Parron-Ragland, Ph.D., ’66 was presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who’s Who, the world’s premier publisher of biographical profiles. Delores was the first person to fill the legislatively mandated position of associate director for special populations at the National Institute of Mental Health from 1983 to 1999. She is recognized for her research and policy development in women’s health and health disparities among ethnically diverse minority populations. She was also instrumental in creating Public Law 103-43, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Revitalization Act of 1993, which created inclusion requirements for subpopulations and women in clinical research and trials supported by the NIH. Her leadership and office has yielded research reflected in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual-IV (DSM-IV) that better ensures culturally specific and appropriate services for ethnically diverse communities. Other highlights in her career include service with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as deputy assistant secretary of planning and evaluation, as well as scientific advisor for capacity development at the NIH Office of the Director.

1980s

Lauri Adams McGaughran, D.V.M., ’83 is proud to announce her 15-year anniversary as owner of Woods End Equine Veterinary Services, LLC, in Wantage, New Jersey. Lauri obtained her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Purdue University in 2000, where she graduated in the top 10th percentile of her class. She started her horse-dedicated practice in 2003 and serves as veterinarian and business owner. Her practice encompasses sport horse medicine, reproduction, dentistry, endoscopy, surgery, and preventive and emergency care.

Susan McDermott ’84

is a sales manager for TransCore and a board member of Women in Parking (WIP). WIP is the premier association dedicated to promoting the advancement and achievement of professional women by providing networking, leadership, and career outreach opportunities and support to its members.

Tess Mosko Scherer ’86

showed her artwork, along with that of David Lloyd Bradley, in Sympathetic Vibrations, a two-person exhibit at the Eye Lounge in Phoenix, Arizona. The exhibit explored the complexities of our human nature as both an individual and a member of a global society. Tess explores the tumultuous inner machinations of the human psyche in her mixed media, analogous work. Her interest in Jungian psychology and her private coaching practice informs her art.

Cheryle Hale ’89 has been hired as vice president, senior portfolio manager, for the Commercial Loans Team of Lakeland Bank in Iselin, New Jersey. She has 29 years of lending experience and was most recently vice president, credit officer, for Santander Bank in Howell. She earned a bachelor’s degree in English with a minor in business administration from Georgian Court. Cheryle, a resident of Toms River, is a participant of American Legion Post 348.

Kristen Hulak Hanson ’89, ’98, ’16 was named special services director for the Brick Township Board of Education.

1980s

Margaret Holton Ricciardi ’84, Julie Sklar Knowles ’84, Helen Sutton Verity ’84, Lisa Simzak Wendolak ’84, Mary Caselli-Renn ’84, and Marybeth Field ’84 (left to right) gathered at Helen’s home in Burlington County to enjoy each other’s company and reminisce about their days at The Court.

Cheryl Glasgow Jackob ’90 is the proud grandmother of Ella Rose and Oliver Mason, children of her son Chad and his wife, Christine.

Jennifer MacGregor Safeer, CPA, ’92 is the recipient of the Ivan C. Brown Withum Way Award from WithumSmith+Brown, PC (Withum), a top nationally ranked public accounting and advisory firm. Jennifer, chief financial officer, was honored with this year’s CEO-selected award for her commitment to excellence and loyalty during her more than 23-year tenure at Withum. She leads by example in the spirit of the Withum Way and spearheaded the Practice Engine build out, which resulted in higher-quality reporting. Her inexhaustible work ethic also led the firm’s efforts to be even more metric and data driven in terms of its centralized billing. Jennifer earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Georgian Court and is active in several professional and civic organizations, including the Lakewood and Toms River Chambers of Commerce.

1990s

Barbara “BJ” Dowlen ’90 was named to NJBIZ’s 2018 list of Best 50 Women in Business. She is the president of Bodyworks Enterprises, an elite sports writing and sports performance group in Brick, New Jersey, which she founded in 1999.
Michael Schaller, Esq., ’94 was honored by the Point Pleasant Beach Public Education Foundation by being inducted into the Hall of Fame. Over the years, he has coached Little League, recreation basketball, and recreation wrestling. He served the New Jersey State Police for 25 years as a general road trooper, as a detective with the Criminal Investigation Section, and as an instructor with the Training Bureau.

Jacek Labinski, S.T.D., ’99 celebrated the 35th anniversary of his ordination earlier this year in the diocese he has served for all but two years of his priestly life. Father Labinski was bestowed the title of Honorary Canon in the Co-Cathedral Church of St. Hedwig in Zielona Góra, Poland, by Bishop Adam Dyczowski. In addition to his pastoral duties, Father Labinski earned a master’s degree in theology from Georgian Court and a Doctor of Sacred Theology degree from the University of Opole, Poland.

Brandy Edwards Derenoski ’00 is a job coach at the Special Education District of Lake County, Illinois.

Jennifer Ann Freet-Serviss, Ed.D., ’00 received her Doctor of Educational Technology Leadership degree from New Jersey City University (NJCU). She began her collegiate career at Georgian Court, where she received a B.A. in Special Education. She then earned an M.A in Educational Technology from NJCU in 2011. After completing her M.A, Dr. Serviss received a Library Media Certification and a Supervisor Certification from the state of New Jersey. With the support from her husband, John, and her children, Megyn and Thomas, she enrolled in the doctoral program at NJCU. While completing her doctoral studies, Dr. Serviss had the opportunity to bring 21st-century skills and knowledge to the students and staff at an impoverished school district in Guatemala City, where she had the privilege of meeting the First Lady of Guatemala. Jennifer is currently a teacher in the Long Branch Public School District in New Jersey.

Karen Hughes ’01 will be retiring this year after serving in a teaching and administrative capacity exclusively in the Lacey Township School District for 31 years. After 19 years of classroom instruction and coaching, and a return to college to pursue an M.A. in Administration, Supervision, and Curriculum Planning from Georgian Court University in 2001, she was hired in 2004 as the high school’s athletic director and remained in that position until 2011. Thereafter, she took on the responsibility of the middle school’s athletics and now oversees athletics in the district for Grades 7 to 12. Additionally, she is the supervisor of physical education and health for the high school.

Alicia Intromasso ’01, was named to the WRAT Teachers Who Rock Class of 2018, presented by the New Jersey Education Association. She is a special education teacher at Lakewood Middle School.
2000s

Brian Latwis, Ed.D., ’06 was named superintendent of the Barnegat Township Board of Education. He began his career in public education in 2002, taking a teaching position with the Monroe Township School District in Middlesex County. In 2011, he became director of student services for the Kearnsburg School District in Monmouth County. He holds a doctorate in education leadership from Rowan University. He also has a bachelor’s degree from New Jersey City University and a master’s degree from Georgian Court.

Melissa Krupp ’02 has been teaching for the Southern Regional Board of Education for 15 years and currently teaches in the middle school. Missy is also an adjunct in instructional technology at Stockton University.

Donna Petro Schröder ’04 was named senior business development manager of Xyntek Inc.

Stacie Ferrara, Ed.D., ’06 was named principal of Brick Township Memorial High School. She brings over 18 years of educational experience to the district. Stacie received her doctoral degree in educational leadership from Saint Peter’s University, Jersey City. She holds a master’s degree in administration, supervision, and curriculum development from Georgian Court and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from The College of New Jersey.

Leonie Mattison, D.B.A., ’06, ’07 was recognized as one of the 40 best and brightest transformational leaders under 40 years old by The Pacific Business Times.

Michelle Graham Speidel ’07 was named to the WRAT Teachers Who Rock Class of 2018, presented by the New Jersey Education Association. She is a kindergarten teacher at Clara B. Worth Elementary School in Bayville, New Jersey.

Kim Clauss ’07, ’17 was appointed interim principal of St. Paul School in Princeton. She earned two master’s degrees from Georgian Court: one in administration and leadership and one in holistic health studies. She received her bachelor’s degree in physical education and health from Springfield College, holding certification in K–12 education in New Jersey as well as a New Jersey State Principal Certificate. Kim was most recently the technology coordinator and teacher of technology and life skills at Holy Cross School in Rumson, New Jersey, where she served on the Holy Cross Middle States Evaluation Committee, was chair of the AdvanceD Review, and created the first Holy Cross School Security plan, working closely with local law enforcement.

Floyd Barnett III ’08 was named a distinguished alumnus by the Shirlee and Bernard Brown University Center at Cumberland County College. He completed his undergraduate studies at Temple University, where he earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Following that, he earned an M.B.A. from Georgian Court. Floyd then completed graduate-level coursework at Columbia University and earned another master’s degree in leadership from Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business. He serves as the director of business transformation at Sungard Availability Services, a multinational enterprise.

Lauren Menditto Mattei ’08 was named to the WRAT Teachers Who Rock Class of 2018, presented by the New Jersey Education Association. She is a language arts teacher at Memorial Middle School in Point Pleasant, New Jersey.

2010s

Kimberly Bennett ’10 has joined Fox Rothschild LLP in Philadelphia as an associate in the firm’s Real Estate Department. Kimberly represents buyers, sellers, and developers in an array of real estate matters. She also represents municipal planning and zoning boards and obtains land development approvals for commercial developers and homeowners.

Stacy Howland ’10 is a special education teacher for Baltimore County Public Schools.

Angelica M. Gero ’11 has been named head coach of the Aquinas College women’s lacrosse team. She becomes the fourth coach in Aquinas College women’s lacrosse history. Angelica joined Aquinas after a successful stint in Colorado at NCAA Division II Adams State University and starting the women’s lacrosse program at Felician College. She was also a member of the inaugural team at Georgian Court University, where she was a four-year starter.

Amanda January ’13 is a special educator co-teacher in second grade at Success Academy Charter Schools in New York City in the Harlem 5 School. Success Academy operates over 40 schools across four boroughs of the city. Their mission is to build exceptional, world-class public schools that prove children from all backgrounds can succeed in college and life; and to advocate across the country to change public policies that prevent so many children from having access to opportunity.

Francesca Lynch ’13 has been appointed to the position of marketing associate at Community Professional Loudspeakers. Prior to Community, Francesca had demonstrated herself to be an experienced content marketing specialist, using her skills in advertising, integrated marketing, event planning, public relations, and social media management to enjoy eight successful years in the food and beverage industry. Her academic achievements include a B.S. in Business, with a concentration in marketing, from Stockton University and an M.B.A. from Georgian Court.
Denise Contino ‘14 was appointed the new director of catechesis for the Diocese of Trenton.
Robert Wetzel, M.D., ‘14 earned his medical degree from Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. He also started a categorical internal medicine position at Cooper University Healthcare/CMSRU.

Nicole Foy ‘15 was named to the WRAT Teachers Who Rock Class of 2018, presented by the New Jersey Education Association. Nicole works at Toms River East High School as a special education teacher.

Phillip Zimmermann ‘17 is pursuing a medical degree from the Saint James School of Medicine (Chicago) at their British Overseas Territory of Anguilla campus.

Mary Bowman Halpin ‘66 (left) and Claude Berhard Maignan ‘56 (right) enjoyed an evening reception at the home of Elizabeth “Bess” Healey Mulvihill ‘66, former GCU trustee, on the Upper West Side of Manhattan on February 2, 2018.

Congratulations to the Jubilarians!

On September 7, two Sisters of Mercy celebrated their Diamond Jubilees (60 years of service) with a liturgy at the Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel: Ruth Ann Balas, former Georgian Court student, and Joan Carter ‘71. Also celebrating in 2018 are Margaret Mary Smith ‘59, who celebrated 75 years as a Sister of Mercy, and six Sisters who celebrated 70 years: Charlotte Emmons ‘63; Mary Pauline Kuntne ‘59; Rose Mary Malague ‘61; Sarah McCulloch ‘62; Mary Petrina Peters ‘57, ‘67; and Mary McAuley Ronan ‘62.

On September 8, 2018, Sisters of Mercy Mary Cleary ‘83 (left) and Beth Dempsey ‘72 (right) celebrated their Golden Jubilee (50 years of service) with a liturgy in the Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel at McAuley Hall.
On April 21, 2018, alumni and staffers visited with Sisters of Mercy at The Mount in Watchung. Pictured are Meghan Rehbein, CFRE, former acting vice president for institutional advancement; Melissa Krupp ’02; Jill Vannella ’86, ’10, former technology support specialist/help desk and database software support; Cathy Sage-Veliz ’09, former operations project specialist; Joan Humes Pacheco ’89, ’00, former admissions counselor; Lisa Williams Begley ’89; Mary Estelle, former manager of payroll; Cindy Lisowski ’83, ’95, ’06, director of data management and prospect research; Helen McGrath, former switchboard operator (standing, left to right); Mary Catharine Sullivan, RSM, Ph.D., ’55, former assistant professor of world languages (Spanish); Valerie Balbach, RSM, ’56, former School of Education admissions coordinator; and Francesca Holly, RSM, ’69, ’00, former staff assistant for the Office of Public Information and University Communications (seated, left to right).

National Capital Alumni Luncheon

Washington, D.C.-area alumni gathered for the annual National Capital Alumni Luncheon at the District ChopHouse & Brewery on January 28, 2018. Pictured from left to right are Amanda Brown ’10, Helen Policastro Stiskal ’81, Marilou Tierney Fuchs ’73, Princess Jones ’73, and Justin G. Roy, former vice president for enrollment management.
Engagements

Kali Mura ’13 and Sean Patrick Sullivan

Jennifer Swenticky ’14 and Christopher Rice

Weddings

Send your alumni news to the Office of Alumni Relations, 900 Lakewood Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08701-2697 or alumni@georgian.edu.

Children

Patrick and Sherry Keech Coulter ’05—Natalie Rose, born 12/3/17

Christopher and Kelly Brum Brincoli ’06—Lena Grace, born 7/4/18

Wes and Shelby Pagnotta Rayner ’06—Cameron Joseph, born 3/8/18

Robert Wetzel, M.D., ’14 and Devyn Brady Wetzel, RN, ’15—Anjelica Noelle, born 5/22/18

Announcements

Robert Wetzel, M.D., ’14 and Devyn Brady, RN, ’15—7/2/2017

Amanda Pallarino ’17 and Dan LaGuardia—7/22/17
In Memoriam

Helen Marchese Peterson ‘46, mother of Lucy Peterson ‘75 and Jane Peterson Ellis ‘78, and mother-in-law of Patricia Mullen Peterson ‘75
Lois Driscoll Wattendorf White ‘48, mother of Lois Wattendorf Tibbetts ‘71
Mary Ann Dee Buckley ‘47
Mary Troy Morris ‘49
Mary Flora San Antonio, OP, ‘49, sister of Margaret San Antonio, RSM, ‘44
Harriet Newmark Thompson ‘49
Bette Jean Pickett Wintrich ‘49
Rosemarie Crawley Andre-Johnson ‘50
Eileen Droesch Morrison ‘50
Ruth Burns Sewall ‘50
Elizabeth Limont Landers ‘51
Rose Marie Aria Salvatore ‘51
Anne Louise Von Hoene, MMS, ‘51
Santa Scavuzzo Legano ‘54
Janet Benzoni ‘55
Carlysh Rush Cox ‘56
Jane Higgins, RSM, ‘56
Carolyn Roth Madigan ‘56
Joyce Kenneally ‘57
Ruth Waldron Paul ‘58
Josephine Davis Ashback ‘59
Margaret Samson Cuthbertson ‘60
Helen O’Donnell, RSM, ‘60
Lucretia Ciccone Mintel ‘62
Mary Denise O’Boyle, RSM, ‘62
Diane Blievernicht Xaudaro ‘62
Joan Poltronieri Bowden ‘64
Kathleen McBride Goellner ‘64
Carol Blasi Schmelter ‘64
Kathleen Casey Flannery ‘65
Susan Flaherty, CFP, ‘66, sister of Kathleen Flaherty McGowan ‘59
Carol Creamer, RSM, ‘69
Evelyn Solmo Marano ‘69
Kathleen Collins Petruska ‘69
Holly McMackin Adams ‘70
Patricia Ruzzo Clasby ‘70, sister of Mary Jane Ruzzo Omens, LCSW, ‘70
Miriam Golden, RSM, ‘70
Sandra Sherman Sirolly ‘70, sister of Carole Sherman Trakimas ‘66
Mary Brady Baggitt ‘71
Adele Bevacqua Reo ‘72
Kathleen Horn Brothers ‘75
Barbara Clark ‘75
Naomi Evers Lynch ‘75, sister of Phyllis Evers ‘82
Theresa Suchan Mackey ‘75
Sarah Davison Schaefer ‘75
Barbara Lord ‘76
Joan Cavanaugh ‘77
Suzanne Horn Blau ‘78
Michael Giaquinto ‘78
Patricia Mara, APRN, ‘78
Barbara Thiede Rose Sibio ‘78
Geraldine Pivarnik Kamienski ‘80
Corinne Dix ‘82
Eva Muehle ‘82
Doris Daniels Cherry ‘83
Linda Wright Venier ‘83
Nancy Comfort Belonzi ‘84
Marion Hein ‘84
Suzanne Palmer-Smiga ‘85, ‘98, mother of Emily Smiga, GCU student
Jayne Renna ‘85
Fred A. Youman ‘85
Kathryn Mahon Frederickson ‘86, ‘98
Christine Cavanaugh Ross ‘86
Robert I. Knight Jr. ‘88
Eleanor D. O’Connell ‘89
Paula Boykins ‘90, ‘94
Sister Rose Maxine Babula, OSF, ‘91
Susan Haenni Fleming ‘93, mother-in-law of Danielle LaRusso Fleming ‘06
Antoinette Polpeiro Goins ‘93
Maryann Tierney ‘94
Joan Sakelaris Corcione ‘95
Sandra Lippman ‘98
Donald W. Marshall ‘99
Tamara Schwier ‘99
Alan Berndt ’00
Dorothy Armstrong ’01
Elizabeth Galia Donovan ‘03
Jeffrey Huguenin, Ed.D., ’03
Valerie Gray Pietzko ‘09
Cherie Pierce ‘10
Carol Buckelew, friend of GCU; wife of Joseph Buckelew, honorary degree recipient; and father of Brian Buckelew, former trustee, and Kevin Buckelew, former co-chair of the Golf Committee and former member of President’s Advisory Council
Kingdon Gould Jr., honorary degree recipient; grandson of George Jay Gould, original owner of the Georgian Court estate
Stanley Nebus, former maintenance supervisor
Karen Campbell, GCU library staff assistant and current student

Condolences
Georgian Court University wishes to extend its prayers and condolences to the families of alumni, members of the university community, and friends who have passed away.
On November 27, GCU celebrated Giving Tuesday with an action-packed day of fun and fund-raising in the Gavan Lounge. Students, faculty, and administrators participated in games, challenges, and opportunities to thank our donors who helped us to surpass our $90,000 goal—a GCU Giving Tuesday record! A very special thank-you goes to Trustee Patricia Smith Heanue ’68, who came through with a gift of $50,000 toward the Apollo Fountain Restoration initiative. GCU is so thankful to all of those who participated in making an impact on this very special day of giving.
Nearly 50 members of the Class of 1968 attended their 50th Reunion during Reunion and Homecoming Weekend. At their anniversary dinner, attendees reminisced about their days on campus, how far our world has come since their graduation, and how Georgian Court will always be their home. The class presented GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., with a check for $103,436.86 for the Sister Mary Arthur Beal Class of 1968 Endowed Scholarship, named in honor of their beloved class advisor who passed away in 2017.

“What a remarkable job she did as our advisor, teacher, role model, and lifelong friend,” said Marjorie Hale ’68 as she presented the check. “Let’s remember dear Sister Mary Arthur and this scholarship as a legacy of her love for students of all ages.”