

Volume 13 | Winter 2015-2016

# Georgian Court University Magazine

President's Annual Report &  
Honor Roll of Donors  
2014-2015

The New Guy  
on Campus

—  
Meet  
President Marbach



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Happy New Year! I am excited about the promise of what 2016 has in store for Georgian Court University, and if recent months are an indication of what is ahead, hold on tight! Together, we have much to celebrate and more work to do.

Many of you have warmly welcomed me and my family to GCU, and it has been great getting to hear your suggestions for making Georgian Court **the** Catholic university of New Jersey. Thank you for embracing me at the BlueClaws stadium in August, where Agnes Moore Higgins '39 and student-athletes joined me to throw a first pitch, and at activities like Move-In Day, Homecoming and Family Day (read more on page 17), my Inaugural Week, and the NJEA Convention in Atlantic City.

Your phone calls, e-mails, letters, and cards relay a growing sense of enthusiasm and your rock-solid pride in GCU, especially as accolades rolled in recently from *MONEY* magazine, *The Economist*, *Washington Monthly*, and Colleges of Distinction (read more on pages 5-7).

I am counting on your continued support as we look for innovative ways to embrace the GCU mission and build on the legacy entrusted to us by the Sisters of Mercy.

In early 2015 when I interviewed for the presidency, I was repeatedly asked, "Why do you want to be president of GCU?"

Today, my answer is the same: GCU is a campus of opportunity.

It's why I came here. Our presence as the only Catholic university serving Central and Southern New Jersey presents an opportunity to engage Catholic high schools and parishes through new scholarship offerings. In the business community, we have an opportunity to create courses and degrees that serve industry, adult learners, and nonprofit organizations—whether they come to campus or we go to them. We are creating new opportunities for partners to join GCU in educating students and exploring new academic programs.

Going into 2016, we face external challenges related to demographics, the economy, and public perception of the value of a liberal arts-infused college education. These challenges, however, can be met as we build on our strengths and position GCU for growth. As a campus and as a university family, we will be nimble as we move forward in 2016 and beyond.

Indeed it is a new year. Together, we will make it a great year. Go Lions!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Joseph R. Marbach".

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.

President, Georgian Court University

P.S. Connect with me on Twitter at @DrJosephMarbach!



**GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY**

THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

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

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# Georgian Court

University Magazine

President's Annual Report 2014–2015 & Honor Roll of Donors



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The secret is out: Georgian Court is an institution that delivers an exceptional education at an equally exceptional value.



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# Answering the Call:

## GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.

*By Gail H. Towns*





For Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., the last several months have been good. Challenging, busy, and occasionally exhausting, but overall, the transition to becoming Georgian Court University's first male and first lay president has been very, very good.

"Actually, it's been great," says Dr. Marbach, who joined GCU July 1 after serving as provost at La Salle University. "It feels like a good fit, and based on the response from staff, faculty, students, alumni, and the Board of Trustees, they seem to appreciate my presence and some of the initiatives I've proposed."

From promoting new scholarships for Catholic high school graduates to touting GCU's unique position as the only Catholic university serving Central and Southern New Jersey, Dr. Marbach is constantly exploring innovative ideas to grow awareness and revenue.

"Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is increasingly about partnerships, and how we expand those in New Jersey, Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania will make a difference," says Dr. Marbach, who is often out in the community, connecting with corporate leaders. "We are moving aggressively. I'm out there networking—as are others—to develop ideas, expand partnerships, and establish new programs."

He wants to create joint programs with medical and law schools, strengthen relationships with Catholic churches throughout the Trenton, Metuchen, and Camden dioceses, and attract some of the region's million-plus adults who have college experience but lack a degree. He recently connected the university with a new online academic assistance program, now being piloted with high-achieving GCU students as tutors, and is reviewing a proposal to grow healthcare-related majors.

To the uninitiated, it may seem that the new guy on campus is already overextended. Not so. Instead, Dr. Marbach is energized by the possibilities and clear about the road ahead.

"Enrollment is job #1," he says. "Every other goal is second to that. That's been well communicated, and it's not a hard sell. People are all in. Everyone recognizes that recruitment and enrollment are everybody's charge."

## Committed to Calling

Dr. Marbach, a product of Northeast Catholic High School in his hometown of Philadelphia, graduated from La Salle University and earned his master's degree and doctorate in political science at Temple University.

He began his career at Seton Hall University, where he was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and became a sought-after media expert on government and New Jersey politics. In 2010, he was named chief academic officer at La Salle, where he expanded doctoral, master's degree, and undergraduate degree offerings.

When GCU launched its national search for a new president in late 2014, Dr. Marbach was drawn to the job, in part, because of the Mercy charism and the university's strong commitment to Catholic higher education.

"This institution has been making a difference in people's lives for 107 years," he says. "Transforming lives is integral to our Catholic mission, which allows us the academic freedom that is sometimes forbidden in the public sphere."

"How business, politics, science, and other trends affect spiritual and moral development are issues that we can explore through vocation and calling—in everyday conversation," he says enthusiastically. "We have a unique opportunity to define our niche in the marketplace and to tell our story by ensuring students answer their calling."

The point was emphasized as GCU marked his Inaugural Week with the theme, "Answering the Call: Transformation through Catholic Education." Hundreds of supporters packed



*Dr. Marbach and his wife, Paula, (center) with their children Joseph (right), Jillian (left), and Madison (front)*



the Wellness Center for the investiture on October 16, which drew speakers including the Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., JCD, bishop of the Diocese of Trenton; Lesa M. Lardieri-Wright '75, chair of the GCU Board of Trustees; and Seton Hall University President A. Gabriel Esteban, Ph.D.

The bishop's advice to GCU's ninth president: Take time now to develop a vision.

"A vision, however, cannot be formed or fashioned in isolation," Bishop O'Connell, former president of the Catholic University of America, spoke from experience. "A good leader looks first before he leaps; a good leader listens first before he speaks; a good leader learns first before he teaches.

"Look, listen, and learn first," he advised, "and your vision as a good leader will follow and deepen and grow for the community you seek to lead..."

Additional words of wisdom were offered by former Georgian Court presidents Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72; Barbara A. Williams, RSM, '63; and Maria Cordis Richey, RSM, Ph.D., '50. More than a dozen more Sisters of Mercy also celebrated the inauguration.



*In September, Dr. Marbach visited with Sisters of Mercy at The Mount in Watchung.*

## On the Move

Dr. Marbach, a member of St. Katherine Drexel parish, is many things—a husband to wife Paula for 26 years, father to a college junior and a high school senior, and #1 fan to Madison, his fifth-grade soccer midfielder who also plays point guard on her CYO basketball team.

The Eagles/Phillies enthusiast is everywhere, seemingly all the time—at Open Houses, info sessions, campus workshops, and athletic events. He convenes student town hall meetings, listens carefully during faculty and staff forums, and is GCU's biggest fan on Twitter and Instagram.

"He has made a unique impact," says Miriam Hunte '16, president of the Student Government Association Executive Board. "Students have noticed how approachable and innovative Dr. Marbach is, and his support for students can also be seen through his attendance at games and other student events. Dr. Marbach also has a great sense of humor! It's not uncommon for a student to enjoy a good laugh with him during a conversation."

"In everything we do, it's all about the students," says Dr. Marbach, who also visited with alumni in Atlantic City during the NJEA Convention. "It's about what GCU offers them and how it transforms lives. It's real. It's not a cliché."

Indeed, his first six months at The Court have been busy, but Dr. Marbach wouldn't have it any other way.

"GCU is on the move," he says. "We're not a sleepy little college in Lakewood. We are *the* Catholic university in Central and South Jersey. We're proud and plan to take full advantage of the opportunity that presents."



*Dr. Marbach posed for a photo with former presidents Sister Rosemary (left), Sister Barbara (right), and Sister Maria Cordis (front) after his investiture.*



*Dr. Marbach was on hand to take selfies with students and talk to parents on Move-In Day.*



*Dr. Marbach and his wife served French toast at the Dining Hall during the "Breakfast for Dinner" Inauguration Week event.*

@ Want more? Go to [georgian.edu/inauguration/news](http://georgian.edu/inauguration/news) to hear the president's speech, read congratulatory messages, and view video and photos.

# The Smart Money is at Georgian Court

**NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MEDIA AND ORGANIZATIONS ARE  
RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF A GEORGIAN COURT DEGREE.**

*By Gwen Moran*

For many years, Georgian Court University has been an open secret at the Jersey Shore. Members of The Court community knew that the university offered an excellent education, exceptional experiential learning opportunities, exciting organizations and initiatives, and strong community partnerships. In addition, all of these attributes were steeped in the Mercy core values of compassion, integrity, justice, service, and respect, making it a sound investment for students and families.

Now, the secret is getting out. Recently, Georgian Court has been the subject of a flurry of national and regional attention—including recognition by *MONEY*® and *Washington Monthly* magazines and others—as an institution that delivers an exceptional education at an equally exceptional value.

“We’ve seen any number of engaged learning practices that have been going on here at Georgian Court for years—internships, service learning projects, undergraduate research, travel study, and all the elements that help enhance what is taught in the classroom,” says Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., GCU president. “It is central to our mission. What we do is all about the students.”



## The Court Makes Headlines

One of the most exciting citations came in July 2015 when *MONEY*® magazine named Georgian Court #25 among its “Top 50 Colleges that Add the Most Value.” The recognition placed Georgian Court among the top 2 percent of more than 1,500 four-year colleges and universities nationwide. The Court was also named #412 among the nation’s 736 best colleges.

While other college and university rankings may be more well known, the *MONEY* list is more focused on metrics that matter to students, according to *Washington Post* analysis. Those measurements include graduation rates, net price, the amount they’ll have to borrow to pay for the education, and whether they’ll have marketable skills to land a job after they graduate.

Roughly a month after the *MONEY* announcement, Georgian Court was named to *Washington Monthly*’s “Best Bang for the Buck” list for the second year in a

row, landing the #21 spot out of more than 400 northeastern colleges and universities. When choosing schools for this list, researchers consider a range of factors, including graduation rates, the percentage of low-income students who qualify for Pell grants, student loan default rates, and the net price to attend the college. *Washington Monthly* editors say the list reflects “colleges that are doing the best job of helping non-wealthy students attain marketable degrees at affordable prices.”

The accolades don’t stop there. Georgian Court was named a “College of Distinction” and a “Catholic College of Distinction” by Colleges of Distinction, a ranking system that includes factors like quality of instruction, campus atmosphere, and graduate success. In addition, Niche.com ranked Georgian Court #14 on its 2016 list of “Best Colleges in New Jersey,” ahead of larger universities such as Fairleigh Dickinson, Rider, and William Paterson.

Georgian Court also earned the elite Military Friendly® School designation for 2016, which is

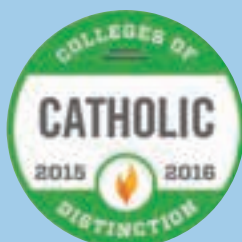
awarded to top colleges, universities, community colleges, and trade schools that do the most to embrace military students and dedicate resources to ensure their success both during their instruction and after graduation. It takes into

consideration military support on campus, graduation and employment outcomes, and military spouse policies, among others, and the list has been an important factor in promoting practices that support military members and veterans in these settings.

Finally, Georgian Court achieved high marks in several areas of the new White House-backed College Scorecard, which helps students find the schools that are the best fit for them. Georgian Court scored above average in salary after graduation—an average of \$45,700 versus the national average of \$34,343. In addition, a whopping 88 percent were paying down student loan debt after graduation—21 percent better than the national average of 67 percent.

Using this federal data, *The Economist* placed Georgian Court University in the top 10 percent of all four-year colleges and universities—#119 among 1,275 schools—for added value in its first-ever college rankings. GCU’s ranking is fourth among the 24 New Jersey schools listed by the magazine, which also considered factors such as SAT scores, students’ chosen fields, demographics, and the presence of business programs.

President Marbach believes the recognition is due to a combination of factors. First, since Georgian Court is a teaching institution, it is student-centric and pays close attention to the needs of students on campus. In addition, the university’s commitment to experiential learning, internships, study and service abroad, leadership, and other development opportunities gives students real-world immersion that develops them both as professionals and as people. A commitment to the Mercy core values helps Georgian Court graduates see the world as a place where they can make a difference, he says.





## Those in the Know

While lists and distinctions are commendable, the real testament to the value of a Georgian Court education lies in the stories of graduates. One such graduate is Kristen Cladek '14, who recently completed her Master of Social Work degree at Fordham University. She is now employed at her "dream job" at LADACIN Network, a nonprofit organization that works with adults who have developmental disabilities.

When she first started at Georgian Court, it was less a matter of choice and more a matter of finances—a healthy financial aid package sealed the deal, even though she had her sights set elsewhere. But, when she arrived on campus and found that Georgian Court staffers both knew her name and were warm and welcoming, she decided to give it a chance. From there, she fell in love, graduating first in her class and taking on internships with the State of New Jersey's Division of Disability Services in Trenton and the Regional Day School in Jackson. Ms. Cladek says that the university was instrumental in helping her obtain those internships.

"The people at Georgian Court became such a family. All of the staff and everybody else who works at Georgian Court have just been absolutely outstanding. I think it's definitely like a hidden gem in this area, and it's the best decision I've ever made," she says.



Kristen Cladek '14



Ayo Adebayo

Ayo Adebayo, a digital design major in the Class of 2017, says Georgian Court is a "home away from home" for him. Small classrooms and a diverse, welcoming environment make him feel comfortable, he says. His professors even helped him combine his love of design with a major that would offer great job prospects and good income once he graduated, while ensuring he has had the support he needed and even a work-study job to help him complete his degree.

"GCU is definitely different. I get enough time with the professors, and I'm able to participate more, stand up, and say what I need to say. I'm just grateful," he says.

President Marbach welcomes the increasing recognition of all that Georgian Court has to offer, much of which is based on the performance and accomplishments of alumni. It is in such success stories, as well as those of students, where he finds the true convergence of the value of a Georgian Court degree and the deeply ingrained values of the university itself.

"The value-added education is really at the heart of the degree we've been offering for 107 years," President Marbach says. "We are preparing young people and adults for life once they leave Georgian Court. It is from that philosophy the practices we put into place really emanate as we look to prepare our students for the next steps in their lives."





# A PILGRIMAGE FOR MERCY

MEMBERS OF THE GEORGIAN COURT COMMUNITY MADE THEIR WAY TO POPE FRANCIS' MASS AND WERE LEFT WITH LASTING IMPRESSIONS.

By Gwen Moran

Lisa Gravato tried to calm her nervousness as she stepped off the bus. Her trip to Philadelphia was the culmination of months of planning and anticipation, and the Georgian Court University junior had never been on a pilgrimage before. She didn't know what to expect or exactly where or how far to go as she began walking with her group and the throngs of people surrounding them—by her estimate, more than 500 just in her vicinity—making their way to the center of Philadelphia for Pope Francis' Mass. Within moments, her nervousness turned into a realization that “we were about to be part of something big,” she says.



Lisa Gravato (center) took a selfie with other GCU students on their pilgrimage.

When Pope Francis delivered the closing Mass for the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia on Sunday, September 27, as part of his U.S. visit, Georgian Court was there. Lisa was one of a group of Georgian Court students, faculty, and staff who made the pilgrimage with members of fellow Mercy institution Gwynedd Mercy University in Gwynedd Valley, Pennsylvania. When the word came that the Pope would be visiting the area, Evelyn Quinn, M.S.W., M.Ed., '74, vice president for mission integration, and Jeff Schaffer, director of campus ministry, sprang into action.

“I immediately put out feelers all over thinking, *There's no way these students are going to miss this opportunity*,” says Ms. Quinn.



Mentor Jeff Schaffer waited to see Pope Francis with GCU students.

Gwynedd Mercy responded immediately, offering hospitality for any student at any Mercy college or university. The university also shared tickets with Georgian Court. Lisa and members of the Mercy Collegiate Society worked with Ms. Quinn and Mr. Schaffer, holding long conversations about the selection process and who would be able to go. The final group included 14 students and two mentors—Mr. Schaffer and Kathleen Boody, dean of student success. Ms. Quinn and Linda James, Ph.D., professor of psychology and director of the First-Year Experience, who were both involved with the selection process, stayed behind so their tickets would be available to students. Then, the preparation for the trip began.

“We talked about what it meant to do a pilgrimage, and the things that happen along the way,” says Mr. Schaffer. “We talked about how challenges were part of the process that were meant to bring us closer to God.”

## EMBARKING ON A PILGRIMAGE

The students and mentors departed for Gwynedd Mercy on Friday to avoid much of the traffic expected in the area. They stayed at the host university and participated in a Saturday program focused on one of the Mercy Critical Concerns,



a concentration of five key problems that the Sisters of Mercy feel need to be addressed through prayer; attention to personal, communal, and institutional choices; education; advocacy with legislators and other government leaders; and corporate engagement. The concerns are racism, immigration, nonviolence, care for the Earth, and equal rights for women, especially in repressive societies. The focus of Saturday's programming was sustainability, which resonated with Lisa, a newly converted Catholic.

"I represented Georgian Court at a Sisters of Mercy Conference for Advocacy and Lobbying in Washington, DC, over the summer. I lobbied and advocated for the environment and President Obama's Climate Change Action Plan," she says.

On Sunday, students boarded their bus and were dropped off near the stadium complex. The group wasn't sure how far they needed to walk—a journey that ended up being roughly four-and-a-half miles. But the excitement in the air and the sense of community with the many faithful who were also on the pilgrimage made the distance unimportant, Mr. Schaffer says. People sang and high-fived each other along the way in a celebratory atmosphere.

Once at their location, the group had some difficulty hearing the Mass, and wasn't sure they would be able to receive Communion. But, at the end of the Mass, groups of priests came down a nearby access road and began giving Communion to people in the area.

"It was really a joy to have that experience—the Eucharist, which had been blessed and consecrated by the Pope," he says.



Debbie D'Agostaro (far right) found her own way to see Pope Francis with three of her friends.

## MAKING THEIR OWN WAY

Other members of the Georgian Court community found their own ways to the Mass. Debbie D'Agostaro, a staff assistant for Georgian Court's TRIO-SSS program, which provides student support services, had been interested in attending the World Meeting of Families from the moment she heard about it. When she heard that the Pope would be visiting, she was determined to go. She "searched high and low" for a group going to see the Pope. The Georgian Court trip was an overnight trip, and it was full. She couldn't find a local parish group going. Finally,

through the Diocese of Trenton, she found a bus trip being run out of a parish in Manahawkin. She and three of her friends bought tickets and made the pilgrimage.

They found a spot near a large television monitor, so they could watch the Mass. They were just a few feet away from the security fence where Pope Francis would ride by on his way to the Mass. She says it got more exciting as the time was coming. She was able to see him ride by, and many of the faithful were wearing their rosary beads, so they could be blessed by him as he passed.

"Seeing him was wonderful, and participating in Mass was fantastic. No one left after they saw the Pope go by. Everyone stayed for Mass," she says.

Mary-Paula Cancienne, RSM, Ph.D., assistant professor of religious studies/theology, made the pilgrimage with Sisters of Mercy who departed from Villanova University. Her bus was part of a caravan that traveled along a strangely vacant Interstate 76, a road that is usually clogged with traffic. As she watched the sun come up over the city, she felt a sense of anticipation. She and her group were able to get into the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul and listen to the choir practice. Speaking to the other people around her, she sensed the sheer joy of the people who were there.

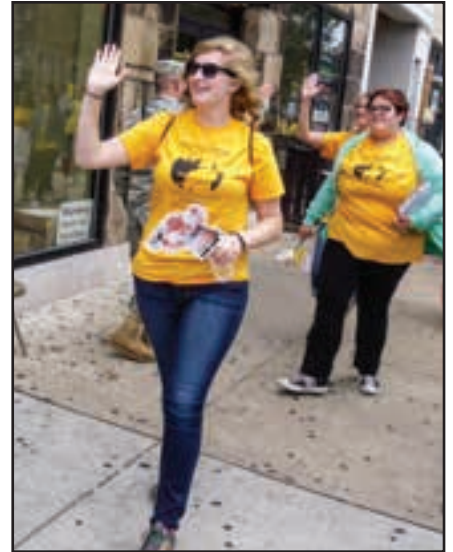
"Pope Francis is issuing a message of compassion, mercy, and acceptance. How do we forgive one another? How do we accept one another? How do we go forward? His emphasis is not so much about the rules, but about what the central organizing principle is for why we do what we do. He is telling us we need to go deeper," she says. "He is pointing to what religion is really all about."

## LASTING IMPRESSIONS

The faithful who made the pilgrimage took away more than just being part of an historic event. For many, it reaffirmed their faith. Sister Mary-Paula says she just wanted to be quiet and contemplate the call to live more peacefully. Mr. Schaffer says that he felt closer to God and developed a bond with his fellow travelers, who experienced such a moving and remarkable event with him. For Lisa, the event had a deeply personal and lasting impact, stirring and affirming her faith.

"At first, I just couldn't believe I was going to be in the presence of a man who was so holy. Now, I realize I went on a spiritual pilgrimage and I've really seen the God in people—thousands of people that day. I had never been in a situation like that in my entire life," she says.





## A CHANCE SIGHTING, A CHERISHED MEMORY

By Rosemary Quigley McPhillips '48

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, located in Washington, DC, is the largest cathedral in the United States. The beautiful and massive structure is supported, in part, by numerous stone columns in the basement, "Memorial Hall." There, the names of 14,400 benefactors are engraved on marble slabs, surrounding the columns from floor to ceiling, and there is where I experienced such a great surprise and tug at my heartstrings.

I had the chance to visit Memorial Hall and the Crypt Church under the Basilica when my daughter's church choir was invited to sing two televised Masses for the homebound, presented Sunday mornings via the local Catholic TV station. As we were leaving, I stopped to adjust the strap of my sandal and leaned on one of the columns in Memorial Hall.

When I looked up, I couldn't believe what I saw: a marble tablet engraved with, "Students of Georgian Court College, Lakewood, N.J." What were the chances that I would stop at that exact spot and see the name of my own college among the thousands of engravings? I was simply shocked and thrilled to see the name of my beloved alma mater!

I was lucky enough to have yet another memorable experience at the National Shrine when my daughter was selected to sing with the elite 90-person choir at the Canonization Mass of Junipero Serra, presided over by Pope Francis.

I won a ticket to the Papal Mass through my church's lottery, and although it took two hours to clear security for entry to our reserved seats, and I probably could have seen more from the comfort of my living room TV, the joy that I experienced being in the presence of the people's Pope made every second worth it. It was thrilling to be among the 25,000 people who attended this Mass outside the Basilica on a gorgeous day in September. The love for the Holy See was palpable, especially as he rode by in his "Pope-mobile," and of course, the music was spectacular!

My visits to the Basilica are wonderful memories, as are my memories of Georgian Court. I was an editor of the Georgian Court newspaper and appeared in every play performed on campus while I was there. My class—totaling 50 of us—was the largest to have graduated from Georgian Court until then. Seeing the name etched in the foundation for eternity gave me a wonderful sense of connection to my cherished alma mater.



Mrs. McPhillips points to the tablet commemorating Georgian Court.



# New Faculty at GCU



**Anthony Brano, Ph.D.**, joined the full-time faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences in July as an assistant professor of English and director of the Writing Center. He previously served as the director of the Writing Center at Fordham University, where he also taught composition and literature courses. Dr. Brano, who holds a Ph.D. in English from Fordham, specializes in early modern and 18<sup>th</sup>-century literature.



**Melanie Mogavero, Ph.D.**, joined the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences this fall as an assistant professor of criminal justice. She most recently served as a visiting assistant professor of criminal justice and human security at the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut. She was also a part-time lecturer at Rutgers University and an adjunct professor at Ramapo College. She holds a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Rutgers University–Newark.



**Lei Cao, Ph.D.**, joined the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences this fall as an assistant professor of mathematics. He received a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Drexel University in Philadelphia, where he most recently served as a visiting assistant professor and was the recipient of the Albert Herr Teaching Award. Dr. Cao previously served as a visiting assistant professor at Bethel College in Kansas and an instructor at Drexel.



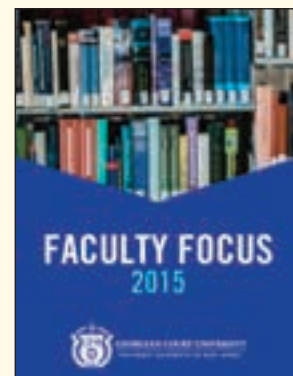
**Marny A. Requa, J.D.**, joined the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences this fall as an associate professor of criminal justice. For the past 10 years, she served as a faculty member in the School of Law at Queen's University Belfast in Northern Ireland. She received her J.D. degree from the Fordham University School of Law, where she was a Crowley International Human Rights Scholar and a Stein Public Interest Scholar.

## Faculty Focus Highlights Academic Accomplishments

*Faculty Focus 2015* shares the many accomplishments of the GCU faculty—including research, grants, exhibits, and conference presentations. Faculty highlighted in this year's publication include

- Scott H. Bennett, Ph.D., professor of history and chair of the Department of History, Geography, and Political Science, who led the planning for a World War I conference, interviewed radical peace activist David McReynolds, and co-led a study abroad tour of places important to the Holocaust and World Wars I and II;
- Nancy Sardone, Ph.D., associate professor of education, whose research with second-graders in Ecuador found that children's literature can influence attitudes about peace (read more on page 14);
- Silvana Cardell, associate professor and chair of the Department of Dance, whose award-winning, multidisciplinary project, *Supper, People on the Move*, explored immigrant experiences;
- Kasturi "Rumu" DasGupta, Ph.D., professor of sociology, whose recently published book, *Introducing Social Stratification: The Causes and Consequences of Inequality*, is attracting great praise;
- Gloria Edwards, Ph.D., associate professor of education, who directs a technology summer camp that helps her gather data on how pre-service teachers can effectively teach STEM concepts;
- Kathleen Froriep, Ph.D., who recently shared her expertise on wordless books with ESL teacher candidates from the University of Taiwan;
- Cathleen M. McQuillen, D.P.S., assistant professor of business and chair of the School of Business and Digital Media undergraduate programs, and Ashley Elmore, Ph.D., assistant professor of business and co-director of the M.B.A. program, who are bringing the international experience to campus through Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL); and
- Jean Parry, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, who is researching, collaborating, and co-authoring papers with students to see how certain genes contribute to holding cells together to form veins, arteries, intestines, and kidneys (read more on page 14).

The publication also highlights Pamela J. Rader, Ph.D., professor of English, who was the recipient of the 2014 Virginia Graham '31 Award for Teaching Excellence.



@ Check out [georgian.edu/publications](http://georgian.edu/publications) to read *Faculty Focus* in its entirety.



# BEST WISHES TO THE RETIREES!

*On April 23, Georgian Court's annual Faculty and Staff Appreciation Reception celebrated more than 70 dedicated members of our community. Among them were 14 faculty and staff members celebrating their retirement, whom we thank for their years of service and offer well wishes.*

**Judy Casey '79**, assistant professor emerita of physical education, organized the first National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics teams, offered the college's first athletic scholarships, and recruited Georgian Court athletes for the first time. Most recently, she was director of the physical education program, but she had also served as a head coach, the assistant dean of academic affairs, the coordinator for the Evening Division, and a supervisor and instructor in the School of Education. Ms. Casey also created and introduced the first program in holistic health.

**Suzanne Demarest**, secretary to the dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, started as a secretary in the then-Department of Education. As schools were established, she became the secretary to the dean of the School of Education. Eventually, she served as the administrative assistant to the dean of the School of Sciences and Mathematics, and then as the assistant to the dean of the combined school.

**Harriet Douglas**, food service worker, had worked at Georgian Court since 1993. She contributed to the good health and enjoyment of the Sisters of Mercy who resided on campus as the recipients of her wonderful meals.

**Gail Conca Holian, Ph.D., '70**, professor of English, served Georgian Court for decades as an English professor. She worked to establish Georgian Court's first official writing program more than 25 years ago and structured the then-college's initial first-year prose and composition classes. While computers were used in some math and business courses at the time, Dr. Holian helped introduce them for writing.

**Linda Reilly Kardos, LCSW, '81, '13**, associate professor emerita of social work, had worked at Georgian Court since 1990. She had served as the chair of the Department of Social Work and as the field coordinator. Maintaining a private practice in individual and family therapy, Ms. Kardos was instrumental in helping the social work program gain candidacy and initial accreditation through the Council on Social Work Education.

**Joanne Kenny, Ed.D.**, associate professor emerita of education, served as co-chair of the teacher education program and as co-director of the accelerated teacher education program. She was a contributing author of two Teacher Education Accreditation Committee (TEAC) briefs, one for teacher education and one for administration and leadership, which resulted in full accreditation of both programs.

**Madeline Kline**, human resources specialist, was an exceptional employee. Her consistent attention to detail was critical to her office, and her enthusiasm to put in extra time and effort to help meet deadlines demonstrated a commitment to excellence on which others came to depend. Rather than merely keeping up, she set the pace and led the team.

**Robert Loudon**, professor emeritus of criminal justice, had taught at GCU since 2005. He served as the chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, Anthropology, and Sociology and the director of the homeland security program. An expert on hostage situations, his numerous presentations and publications in professional journals, as well as his citations in the media, raised the profile and the visibility of the university in the region.

**Suzanne Pilgram**, associate professor emerita of art, began teaching at Georgian Court in 1981. She was a long-time chair of the Department of Art and Music, for which she taught print-making and painting. Ms. Pilgram is also responsible for creating the gallery of student art that graces the walls of the second floor of the library.

**Sandy Sessa, Ph.D.**, professor emerita of psychology, had taught psychology and counseling at GCU since 1978. She continued an active practice in counseling, and her students benefited from her professional expertise. She is a past chair of the Faculty Assembly and the Faculty Concerns Committee and served on many committees.

**Elaine Thompson, Ph.D.**, professor emerita of psychology, had taught psychology at GCU since 1990 and is a past chair of the department. She served on numerous committees through the years, including Rank and Tenure, and recently, the taskforce to revise general education. She is a recipient of the Merit Award for Service.

**Geraldine Velasquez, Ed.D.**, professor emerita of art, had been at GCU since 1978. She taught illustration and other subjects, including fabric arts, and served as the chair of the Department of Art. Dr. Velasquez recently developed and promoted a degree program in graphic design and multimedia.

**Claribel Young, Ph.D., '75**, professor emerita of history, had taught history at GCU since 1976 and is a past chair of the Department of History, Political Science, and Geography. She also developed and taught the first distance education course in 2000. She received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Ocean County Historical Commission in April 2013. In 2002–2003, she received the Teacher of the Year Award for College Teaching Excellence from the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance.

**Rev. John Zec**, program director of music, taught music theory and history in the classroom and instructed private music lessons. He also served as director of the music program. In addition to organizing recitals and ensemble performances, Father Zec and his students also provided the music for many campus events.

# Learning by Doing: Faculty-Student Researchers Tackle Tough Projects

By Alexandria Graziosi '16

Giving children a great education is important everywhere, Georgian Court pre-service teachers learned during their 2015 trip to Quito, Ecuador, led by Nancy Sardone, Ph.D.

The associate professor of education traveled with Kristin Cislak '16 and Laura Parker '16 to explore whether children's literature can affect students' outlook on peace. Their project, "Teaching the World: Global Themes through Children's Literature," is one example of how GCU faculty members and students conduct research together.

Throughout the academic year, students participate in faculty-led projects that tackle topics incorporating everything from molecular biology and sustainability methods to elementary education and social media marketing. In many cases, the research is made possible through university fellowships and donor gifts.

"Our structure allows for the opportunity to build relationships between faculty and students," comments Provost William J. Behre, Ph.D. "The emphasis on creating those mentorship relationships really makes GCU special."

## Scientific Method for Success

Jean Parry, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, fell in love with the field of molecular biology as an undergraduate. Today, she works with up to seven students a semester, mentoring them on projects that study the genes that contribute to keeping cells together and how they form veins, arteries, intestines, and kidneys.

Past studies have focused on NAT10, an enzyme encoded in the NAT10 gene in humans, and *C. Elegans*, a free living and transparent roundworm found in temperate soil environments. Earlier this year, students Kristina Sullivan '16 and Samantha Kuntz '16 co-authored a paper with Dr. Parry that examined the investigation of a human laminopathy gene. Their work was underwritten in part by a \$2,500 grant from the Independent College Fund of New Jersey (ICFNI) and was presented at the organization's annual research symposium in March.



Kristina Sullivan, currently an intern at Colts Head Veterinary, joined Jean Parry, Ph.D., to present research earlier this year.

## High-Impact Partners

Faculty-student research, as well as service learning, internships, study abroad, and culminating projects are considered high-impact practices. By graduation, 84 percent of GCU seniors participate in two or more of these activities, according to the National Survey of Student Engagement. Among other mid-east private colleges, the figure is 75 percent. GCU students also gave high marks to the university's supportive environment and quality of interactions, two elements important in the success of faculty-student research.

For example, Dr. Sardone worked closely with Kristin and Laura to find developmentally appropriate children's literature addressing important social issues. They created videos that met Common Core literacy and social studies standards and considered how the project might increase their understanding of other worldviews.

"I chose to embark on the trip to Ecuador to experience culture and education systems in other parts of the world, specifically in poverty-stricken countries," says Kristin.

While there, the GCU team used books about human rights, bullying, and peacemaking in their respective lesson plans. They also engaged in a cultural exchange with 40 pre-service educators at

the Universidad Tecnica De Ambato who were preparing to teach English as a second language.

Their research, conducted through a creative pedagogical approach, asked Ecuadoran youngsters to draw what peace meant to them at the start and at the end of the program. After a two-week period, the researchers found that through the implementation of their social issue-based children's literature plans, the youngsters recognized peace as an action. Children's literature does have the ability to influence attitudes about peace, they concluded.

"We were thrilled at the opportunity to work with eager, young students, reading books to them in Spanish and preparing an associated activity," says Dr. Sardone. "We also feel fortunate to have been able to gift about 100 books to this program, in both English and Spanish."

For Laura, the lessons learned were personal, too.

"It was a privilege to be invited to work with Dr. Sardone," she says. "Having studied to be a teacher in the United States, particularly at a time when there is so much conversation around teacher effectiveness and the Common Core standards, I was very interested in seeing classrooms in another part of the world. I discovered they are just like us—teachers around the world want to give the best of themselves to children eager to learn."



Nancy Sardone, Ph.D., and two GCU students worked with Ecuadoran fifth-graders to explore peace through children's literature.





*Miriam Hunte interned for the MTA at Grand Central Terminal this summer. Built in 1871, Grand Central is one of the busiest train stations in the world, welcoming over 750,000 daily visitors for travel, dining, and shopping.*

## Not Just a Number: MTA Intern Miriam Hunte

*By Megan Kelly '15*



*Above: Zulma Rosario (left), manager of capital/non-operations at Metro-North Railroad, supervised Miriam during her internship.*

*Below: Miriam spoke on behalf of the students during the inauguration of GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., on October 16.*



Every year, Metro-North Railroad holds its summer internship program, giving students an insider's look at the largest transportation network on the continent. This summer, one of the 60 students participating was Miriam Hunte, a Georgian Court University senior accounting major.

Miriam, a New York City native who serves as president of GCU's Student Government Association Executive Board, worked as an intern in the Department of Procurement and Material Management at the MTA, which oversees more than 2.7 billion—yes, billion—trips throughout the New York region each year by subway, bus, and railroad. That's the equivalent of about one in every three users of mass transit in the United States and two-thirds of the nation's rail riders.

"As an intern in the procurement department, I see what I have learned about accounting in the classroom in each task I am given," she comments. One example she notes: "I'll often think to myself, 'I remember when I learned to navigate the accounting transactional processes of a company.'"

Miriam, who utilized GCU's Office of Career Services, offers advice to other would-be interns. "I would advise any student seeking a great summer internship to visit career services and have someone review your résumé and cover letter. This helped me tremendously," she says.

Through this unique experience, she has learned the most important aspects in achieving success in the workplace. "The biggest lesson I have learned as an intern on the job has been in order to stand out and be remembered, you must be consistent, reliable, and innovative," she says.

"It's exciting to finally apply what I have learned about accounting in my past three years at GCU," she concludes.

"I am truly grateful to my professors and the unique academic curriculum they impart to the students in the GCU School of Business and Digital Media. It truly gives graduates and interns, such as myself, the edge they need to stand out in the workplace."



# Justice, Mercy, and More

Bryan Stevenson, Author and Attorney, Brings Message to GCU

By Gail H. Towns

Bryan Stevenson was speaking at a church when he noticed a wheelchair-bound man staring back with a stern, almost angry, expression.

"After I talked, someone wheeled him to the front of the church to speak to me," Mr. Stevenson told students, faculty, and community guests at the kickoff for GCU Critical Concerns Week 2015. "He put his hand up and said, 'Do you know what you're doing?'"



Mr. Stevenson signed books and posed for pictures with GCU students and other guests.

The attorney, who has been called the "Nelson Mandela of his day," and whose TED Talk on social justice has more than 2.5 million views, was at a loss for words.

"Do you know what you are *doing*?" Mr. Stevenson recalled the man asked two more times, forcefully. "You are beating the drum for justice. You keep beating the drum."

## Real Change, Real Challenges

Hundreds of listeners came out in early November to hear that story and others from Mr. Stevenson, one of the country's most respected legal thinkers and author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*.

A leader in the movement against mass incarceration, he graduated from Harvard Law School before moving to Alabama to practice law. He is also a professor at the New York University School of Law and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, which represents poor prisoners, prisoners who may have been wrongly convicted of crimes, and those denied a fair trial.

Getting him to speak at GCU was huge.

"We were planning an integrated Critical Concerns Week with an emphasis on justice," says Evelyn Quinn, M.S.W., M.Ed., '74,

vice president for mission integration. "We listened to his TED Talk, read his book, and knew that he would be the perfect speaker."

The timing was perfect, too.

*Just Mercy* was required reading for First-Year Seminar. Plus, a few weeks before his GCU appearance, Starbucks began selling the book and just days before the event, Oprah Winfrey and Katie Couric broadcast interviews with him.

At GCU, students leaned in to hear his four points for making real change:

First, get proximate, or closer to the most pressing issues. Second, challenge the narratives that dictate beliefs about race, poverty, and justice. Third, remain hopeful and hope-filled. Finally, understand that change agents sometimes do what is uncomfortable to fight injustice and inequality.

The audience was captivated.

"It was one of the most amazing things I've ever seen or heard," says Ms. Quinn. "Students initially went because they were told they had to go. Later, some told me they never wanted him to stop speaking. We were all on the edge of our seats."

"We have to invest ourselves if we expect change to happen," she adds. "It's not just a message for the multibillionaire or the legislator. It's about each of us doing something."

## Compassion and Mercy

The Casino was eerily quiet as Mr. Stevenson discussed the man in the wheelchair.

"He pulled me down and said, 'See this scar behind my ear? I got that scar in Greene County, Alabama, trying to register people to vote.'

"Then he turned his head and said, 'See that cut at the bottom of my neck? I got that in Philadelphia, Mississippi, in 1964. And see this dark spot on my scalp? It's from a bruise I got in Birmingham in 1965.'

"Some people looked at him like an old man sitting in a wheelchair covered with cuts and bruises and scars," Mr. Stevenson recalled. "But he said to me, 'These are not my cuts, these aren't my bruises. These are my medals of honor.'"

His point—everyone can do *something*.

"It may take a few cuts, bruises, and scars, but there is something honorable in joining a community of believers who understand the redemptive power of compassion and mercy," Mr. Stevenson said. "There is something powerful in being an agent of change—an agent of justice."

# HOMECOMING & FAMILY DAY 2015



Homecoming & Family Day 2015 drew more than 400 alumni, students, family members, and friends to campus.

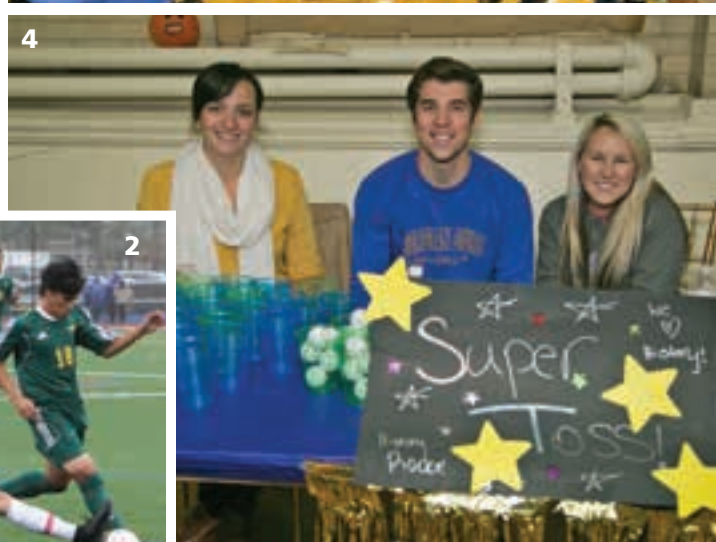
During the October 3<sup>rd</sup> event, GCU alumni hosted a table—overflowing with fresh produce and a special giveaway basket from GCU's Mercy Garden—where they greeted visitors. It was a great opportunity to meet students and connect with other alumni, according to Beverly Milyo '69, '83.

"We learned that some came out because they now have children who are at GCU," she says. "We had our Alumni Association display and did a lot of walking and talking with graduates who came back."

The day also provided an opportunity for alumni to donate, which increases the university's alumni giving rate, and to get to know current students.

"Our message is that we are alumni coming back and sharing the idea that they are students today, but will soon be alumni, too," says Ms. Milyo.

In addition to an alumni-senior class reception on Friday night, guests participated in GCU Athletics' Fourth Annual 5K Run/Walk on Saturday morning and watched the Lions win in women's volleyball and men's and women's soccer matches. The Lions student-athletes' program GCU Strong also presented President Joseph R. Marbach with a check for \$2,400—an increase of \$700 over last year. Hundreds of people packed the Casino—where the usually outdoor event was moved due to inclement weather—throughout the day for fun and activities hosted by the GCU Student Government Association.



(1) Diane Szubrowski, RSM, '68; Shelley Lynch Wasilewski '73, '95; Beverly Milyo '69, '83; and Alice Bosies Velez '84, '93 welcomed fellow alumni.

(2) Both the men's and women's soccer teams triumphed over the teams from Felician University.

(3) The volleyball team prepared for their Homecoming match.

(4) Student clubs and organizations offered numerous activities for attendees in the Casino.



# HELPING STUDENTS CHART THE COURSE FOR FOUR-YEAR DEGREES

By Gwen Moran

While many assume that the length of time it takes to earn a bachelor's degree is four years, the reality is often very different. A 2014 report by the advocacy nonprofit Complete College America found that students often take as long as six years to graduate and that fully half of students surveyed weren't taking enough courses to graduate in four years. Nationally, the extended time and additional cost means that some students may not persist and earn their degrees.

Georgian Court University's faculty and administration is always looking at ways to improve the student experience and help students complete their degrees in the most efficient ways possible. To complete a typical degree requiring 120 credits, students must take at least 30 credits per year. However, when university representatives looked at the freshman class in Fall 2013, many students were not completing those 30 credits, which put them behind for the following year.

That was the catalyst for Chart the Course, an invitation-only program to help students attain their degrees on time. Two courses were offered to 60 students who had earned fewer than 15 credits during the Fall 2014 semester. Students could opt to take the economics or psychology course offered between Wednesday, December 17, 2014 and January 16, 2015. Both courses meet general education program requirements.

Through the program, students received academic coaching provided by a GCU student success specialist, as well as coaching on the fundamentals of the GCU progress chart and how to chart the course to achieve a degree within four years. They connected with their instructors, peers, and student tutors both face-to-face and via texting through Google Hangouts, where instructors could text students in the class and remind them of assignments and students could connect with tutors. If students were confused about an assignment, they could pose a question to the group and receive help from their peers. Best of all, the students received both the course and the coaching at no cost.

"For a student and a family who is paying for tuition dollars, to be able to say, 'I'm going to give you this coursework at no cost,' was pretty phenomenal, and it made it so there were no barriers to the students who wanted to participate," says Kathleen Boody, dean of student success. Courses were structured to be taught in hybrid and online formats, which gave students the flexibility to be able to take the course at home

during Christmas break—an added benefit for those who live far away and couldn't afford on-campus housing for the break or who simply chose to take the course online. The only cost was their books.

Twenty-six students participated in the program. Dean Boody says that all of the students who participated in the first semester returned for the spring semester—remarkable because this is a "group that's not likely to retain," she says. The program was such a success that a third course was offered during the 2015 summer session.

Kimberly Rogers, a sophomore math and education major, took both the winter psychology course and the summer

history course and says she got "more than the average student." She had taken the psychology course during the fall semester and, while she was getting a good grade in it, she says she wasn't understanding the material and withdrew. She enrolled in the winter program and, with the help of the instructor and academic coaches, discovered a previously undiagnosed learning disability.

"From there, they were able to put me in the TLC [The Learning Connection] program, and now I can get the extra help I need with tests and assignments," she says. She recommends the course to eligible students because it helped her so much, she says.

Dean Boody says the program has been such a success that 86 percent of Chart the Course participants have been retained,

versus the class average of 78 percent. The program will be continued for freshmen during the 2015–2016 academic year, and her team is currently exploring how to effectively offer the program in the future. The key is to ensure that the program is there for whom it's needed, but not seen as a way to get a "free course," she says.

The program's success has attracted outside notice as well. In November, GCU was honored by *University Business* magazine in its Winter 2015 Models of Excellence program, which recognizes innovative approaches to encouraging and nurturing student success on campus. The Models of Excellence program noted GCU's use of retention data to help motivate students at risk of falling behind through.

"We are definitely seeing successful outcomes, and we're excited about that," says Dean Boody. "Students are continuing, they're on track to graduate, and they're progressing."

"We are definitely seeing successful outcomes, and we're excited about that," says Dean Boody.



# TRIO-SSS Counts Its Successes

By Alexandria Graziosi '16



Danielle Staten Lamb, the new director of TRIO-SSS

This past summer, Georgian Court University received a new grant from the U.S. Department of Education for more than \$1.4 million to continue its TRIO-Student Support Services program through 2020.

For over 35 years, TRIO-SSS has been providing help to low-income and first-generation college students at GCU and to more than 20,000 students at 800 college campuses across the nation. The federally funded program provides resources such as tutoring, academic counseling, basic skills workshops, financial literacy training, financial aid, and a walk-in writing lab to more than 160 GCU students a year.

In October, the program also announced the hiring of a new director, Danielle Staten Lamb, who recently served as a lecturer in communication.

"I am delighted to join the Georgian Court University family as director of TRIO," says Ms. Lamb. "I look forward to mentoring students and assisting them in achieving their dreams of earning college degrees and in preparing for their professions of choice."

As a first-generation college student herself, Ms. Lamb knows just how challenging it can be and hopes she can inspire students by sharing her own story of courage and determination and ensuring they receive the help needed to be successful.

"The TRIO-SSS staff is available to assist students in overcoming challenges they may face inside and outside the classroom," Ms. Lamb adds. "Our purpose is to foster a strong academic foundation and also to provide the help and encouragement students need when they feel they have no place else to go. For some students, TRIO-SSS is a home away from home."

Among those students is recent graduate and TRIO-SSS participant Chelsea Sikora '15.

"Being a first-generation college student can be very stressful because you are blazing the trail in your family. There wasn't anyone I could really ask for advice or help when it came to the logistics of being a college student," says Chelsea. "TRIO-SSS was not only a valuable resource in navigating the academic landscape of college, but also became a second family."

Along with being the first member of her family to graduate from college, Chelsea also received GCU's 2015 Academic Excellence Award for having the highest class GPA, earning a 3.97 after four years. Chelsea, who is currently pursuing her M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at GCU, was a member of four national honor societies, a mentor for Women in Leadership Development, and an Orientation Leader during her undergraduate years.

"They really take the time to get to know you and are wholeheartedly dedicated to your success," says Chelsea about the TRIO-SSS staff. "The care they show for their students is apparent in everything they do; every meeting, every interaction has always been nothing but thoughtful, kind, and supportive."



Chelsea Sikora received the Academic Excellence Award from then-president Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72 at the 2015 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony.



*SGA Executive Board President Lindsay Taft '15 spoke on behalf of her undergraduate class.*



*Author and psychologist Robert Wicks, Psy.D., offered the Commencement address at the undergraduate ceremony on May 21.*

# CLASS OF 2015 GETS LESSON ON FAITH AND VALUES

*By Gail H. Towns*

**F**aith is critical to achievement, graduates learned during GCU's 2015 Commencement exercises, during which more than 350 undergraduates and nearly 200 master's degree candidates were awarded degrees.

"Live a life worthy of your calling," then-president Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72 told the Class of 2015. "Where could faith call you? I'm sure you cannot even imagine. Will it help you to dream how to make life better for others? Or will faith demand meeting unexpected needs of people in different places?"

"Go with our blessing and with high hopes into a world in need of your commitment and your faith," said Sister Rosemary,

who was honored with president emerita status by the GCU Board of Trustees.

Undergraduates began their special day with a Baccalaureate Mass led by GCU trustee Reverend Monsignor Casimir H. Ladzinski. The homily was delivered by Deacon James J. Knipper, also a university trustee and a 2015 graduate of GCU's Master of Arts in Theology program.

At the graduation ceremony, business major Lindsay Taft '15, who served as president of the Student Government Association Executive Board, spoke of her GCU journey.

"Whether it was breaking away from what was comfortable,







*Father Alphonse Stephenson delivered the Commencement address at the graduate ceremony on May 20.*



*Jennifer Bumbico, who spoke on behalf of the graduate students, was one of the first seven Catholic school educators to finish the GCU program in administration and leadership launched in partnership with the Diocese of Trenton.*

taking a risk and trying something new, or pushing my self-set limits, I took the unplanned and unpredictable road less traveled,” she said. “And if not for Georgian Court, I would never have followed those redirections or taken those leaps of faith.”

Guest speakers Robert Wicks, Psy.D., and Karen Schneider, RSM, M.D., both of whom received honorary degrees, reiterated the importance of keeping the faith.

“There are five words I want you to remember as you respond to your calling: faith, humility, mindfulness/prayer, detachment, and perspective—especially in tough times,” Dr. Wicks said.

“I promise you no less darkness, but if you are faithful in reaching out to others, and faithful to self-care, self-love, and self-knowledge, and faithful to something greater than yourself, you will be deeper and different for the rest of your life,” he promised.

During the graduate ceremony, master’s degree candidates listened intently to Sisters Academy Principal Mary Lou Miller, a

lawyer and a Sister of Mercy, and to Jennifer Bumbico, who earned an M.A. in Administration and Leadership through GCU’s special program for Catholic educators.

Audience members—some of whom traveled from as far away as Canada, England, and Guatemala for the ceremony—also heard from Father Alphonse Stephenson, chaplain, brigadier general of the United States National Guard (Ret.), and conductor of the Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea.

“After 40 years as a priest and more than 25 years as a chaplain, I can tell you that faith is the only thing that keeps it all together, no matter what profession you go into,” he said. “And there is a difference between hope and faith. Each of you is smiling now and you have hope for the future. That’s wonderful, but hope is optimism with an ‘out’ clause. Faith is different.”





## Justin G. Roy Joins Georgian Court as Dean of Admissions



*Mr. Roy (center) spoke with students at the Fall 2015 photo shoot.*

Just a few days into his new job, Georgian Court University Dean of Admissions Justin Roy joined students during GCU's fall photo shoot.

They peppered him with questions, took time out for a few selfies, and sensing an opportunity to share their pride, talked to him like an old friend rather than a new administrator.

Mr. Roy, formerly vice president of enrollment and marketing at William

Peace University in Raleigh, North Carolina, seems to have that effect on people—especially students.

"Engaging and enrolling prospective students is a significant challenge for colleges and universities nationwide," says GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.

"As the only Catholic college or university serving Central and South Jersey, we know that Georgian Court is the right choice for many families," says Dr. Marbach. "Justin has valuable expertise in developing long-term growth strategies—strategies that will help us reach, attract, and retain those students who want a high-quality, values-infused college education."

Mr. Roy's success in higher education reflects his passion for the student experience—especially millennial students who are market-savvy and more receptive to digital communication.

He also brings extensive experience in recruitment, marketing, operations planning, and business development.

"I am excited and honored to lead our enrollment efforts," says Mr. Roy. "Georgian Court's mission, values, campus community, and classroom experience provide amazing opportunities for students to develop and grow into leaders. The campus community is eager to help us attract and deliver the GCU experience to a wider array of students."

At William Peace, Mr. Roy expanded student recruitment territories among his staff and rebranded the university following its 2011–2012 transition from an historic women's institution to a fully coeducational university.

There he also led integrated marketing and communications efforts, implemented a new customer relationship management (CRM) system, and designed strategic reorganizations—all of which contributed to increased student enrollment.

Previously, he worked at Nichols College in Dudley, Massachusetts, as director of social and digital media. At Nichols, he also increased brand visibility, led a Web site redesign, and implemented a range of digital strategies to support enrollment and the college's online marketing.

Georgian Court has already seen some dramatic gains since Mr. Roy stepped on campus.

"Not only did the November Open House draw a record number of attendees, but we have an increase in the number of both undergraduate and graduate applications for the Fall 2016 semester," says Mr. Roy. "The energy on campus has been contagious, and I could not be more proud to call myself a Lion!"

Continue the  
**Legacy of Mercy**

Do you know a student  
who belongs at  
The Court?

Encourage them to  
attend and e-mail  
**admissions@georgian.edu**  
with their name and  
contact information.

Once they apply,  
their application fee will be  
waived—a \$40 value!

# M.B.A. Students Gain Real-World Knowledge through Capstone Projects

*By Alexandria Graziosi '16*

The flexibility of earning a Master of Business Administration degree at Georgian Court University is only one of the many qualities that attract students to the program. M.B.A. students have the ability to choose between a one-year accelerated program, offering full-day classes on Saturdays, or a self-paced program that allows students to take up to four classes a semester.

The program also allows undergraduate students currently majoring in business administration or accounting the ability to begin taking classes toward their M.B.A. degree prior to graduation. It also allows students with a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts degree in any business major the opportunity to waive the 18 credits of required Common Professional Component courses based on the similarity of their prior undergraduate courses with a grade of B or better.

At the end of their M.B.A. program, students are also required to complete a final capstone project in order to demonstrate their acquired skills and show how they can implement them into their various business endeavors.

To do so, they are given the choice between a classroom simulation and an individual strategic management project. The classroom simulation allows students to integrate their skills acquired in the M.B.A program and use them to develop a successful corporate strategy. The strategic management project then takes the exercise a step further, by allowing students to not only integrate their skills but apply them to a real-world company.

“We encourage students to choose the project over the simulation because it allows students the opportunity to strategize and then execute their strategy in a real-world setting,” says Janice Warner, Ph.D., dean of the School of Business and Digital Media.

Students who opt for the project work one-on-one with an advisor to either examine a problem within a company they currently work for and develop a strategic plan for improvement, or develop a general business plan for a company they have created themselves.

During the Summer 2015 semester, two students chose to complete the strategic management project.

Christina Chila '15 created a business plan for the store where she is employed, a national women's clothing retailer, that aimed to reduce costs by utilizing more mall resources after business began plummeting as the result of a move from a small strip mall in Sicklerville, New Jersey, to the Deptford Mall in Deptford Township.

Christina's project recommended her company use all of the available marketing tools the Deptford Mall had to offer to target new/potential customers and to generate more outreach to previous customers by showing them how they could receive better service at their new location. Christina's managers have already begun to implement some of her ideas, which have shown positive results.

Tracy Ganjoin '15 developed her own business plan for a new cycling studio to be located in Newark, Delaware.

A cycling enthusiast, Tracy noticed a 25 percent increase in boutique fitness studios between 2013 and 2014 and saw a need for an indoor cycling studio in the area. Through her project, Tracy determined that opening a cycling studio in the specified area was feasible providing she partnered with local cycling clubs and the University of Delaware athletic department.

“I chose this project because it is my dream to be a business owner,” explains Tracy. “The capstone project allowed me to logically put all of my ideas on paper and prepare me for my dream of opening a cycling studio.”

As of now, about 10 percent of students enrolled in the M.B.A. program choose to participate in the project. By the end of the 2015–2016 academic year, administrators are hoping the number will increase to about 25 percent.

“Ultimately, the project is a great résumé builder,” adds Dean Warner. “We encourage students to choose it because it's implementable. It's also something that can be presented to management and future employers that highlights the skills and abilities acquired through the GCU M.B.A. program.”





# GCU Alumna “Lives the Dream” in Borneo Jungle

By Michele Hujber



*“I am born for this jungle—able to balance on a moving boat with almost all of my gear on!” says Tanya in this photo from her Facebook page.*



Above: Sun bears (*Helarctos malayanus*)

Left: A saltwater crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*), also called “saltie,” who is about to get tagged and fitted with a GPS collar



Above: A male orangutan and Borneo pigmy elephants

**T**anya Dinova '08 had been working as a park naturalist in Monmouth County, but she wanted to “do more.” She enrolled in Miami University’s Global Field Program to pursue a master’s degree, which included a 10-day research expedition on the island of Borneo. She studied wildlife along the Kinabatangan River; the research center scientists were so impressed with her work that they invited her to stay on to pursue a Ph.D.

Support from the Georgian Court University community helped to make this opportunity a reality. The GCU Sisters of Mercy and Alumni Association both made donations to help support her residency in Borneo.

After three months in Borneo, she decided to forego the Ph.D. and return to the United States. More recently, in the summer of 2015, Tanya traveled to Hawaii, where she studied what it takes to save species in the wild and engaged with local partners, developing and testing site-specific methods of community engagement to sustain ecological and social health.

Tanya continues to work on her master’s degree and will complete her program this December. Her dream is to work on global United Nations projects. She was inspired to do this during a trip she made to the UN with GCU Mercy Sisters during her senior year.

Tanya credits GCU for helping her to live her dreams. “People at GCU believe in you,” she said.





# PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT HONOR ROLL *of* DONORS

2014–2015

**GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY**

THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY





# YEAR-END HIGHLIGHTS

**The GCU School of Education drew praise from the Teacher Education Accreditation Council** legacy panel committee and was awarded full accreditation (seven years) for its M.A. in Administration and Leadership (ALP) program.

**The School of Business received its quality assurance report** without notes and conditions from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection honored GCU with its **Governor's Environmental Excellence Award**. GCU's unique approach to sustainability caught the attention of judges in the state's Healthy Ecosystems category. Sustainability Director Louise Wootton, Ph.D., professor of biology, also joined Aqua Kids TV for lessons on the flora and fauna of New Jersey's maritime forest and the importance of protecting beach dunes.

**The GCU Evaluation Center**, led by Pamela Lowry, Ph.D., assistant professor of education, and Alfred Mancuso, Psy.D., associate professor and chair of the Department of Biology and chair of the Department of Psychology and Counseling, began offering clients a wide range of much-needed services. Among them—psychological evaluations, educational counseling, social assessments, adaptive function assessments, and more.

**The NCAA honored GCU with the President's Award for Academic Excellence.** As 2014 recipients, the GCU Lions were one of only 24 Division II programs with a four-year academic success rate of 90% or better. GCU's NCAA academic success rate of 92% reflects the graduation rate and progress of all student-athletes, including transfer students.

**The Lions' lacrosse program expanded to include a men's team, and quickly attracted its first 20 recruits.**

**GCU Athletics earned a successful peer review from the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference**, which noted the "exceptional" support GCU student-athletes receive from staff, faculty, and peers.

**Seven Catholic school educators were the first to complete GCU's specialty master's program in parochial school administration and leadership.** Kathleen Blazewicz (Holy Family) Lakewood; Jennifer Bumbico (Saint Mary School, Middletown); Margaret Kane (St. John Vianney High School, Holmdel); Jane Olving (Mater Dei Prep, Middletown); James Reid (St. John Vianney, Holmdel); Theresa Ritter (Holy Cross Academy, Delran); and Thomas Guida (Holy Cross Academy, Delran) completed the 36-credit program led by Timothy Briles, Ed.D., associate professor and assistant dean in the School of Education.

**GCU students, faculty, staff and other volunteers invested more than 84,000 hours in community service and outreach!**

**GCU began extensive renovations and improvements** to Hamilton Hall, Raymond Hall, and Jeffries Hall (formerly the Arts and Science Center). The work, funded largely by New Jersey's bond program, will enhance the learning spaces, the science labs, and assure all buildings are ADA compliant.

**GCU graduates living in Puerto Rico** shared memories of their college years (and more) with Diane Szubrowski '68, RSM, and other GCU advancement staff during a December 2014 visit to San Juan.

**Georgian Court University took top marks on the U.S. Department of Education's financial responsibility test.** Each year, the agency scores degree-granting private colleges on a scale of minus 1 to 3. In December 2014, Georgian Court received a 3—the highest possible score—coming in higher than several other private New Jersey institutions.

**Students Sabrina Cruz and Bianchi Valdez were accepted into the highly competitive 2015 Governor's Hispanic Fellows Program.**

**About 100 GCU student leaders marked Martin Luther King Jr. Day** with volunteer work at Providence House, the American Red Cross, and the Children's Home Society.

**Students with better academic credentials are enrolling at GCU.** In Fall 2014, the average incoming freshman had a 3.21 GPA, up from 3.05 in Fall 2013. In addition, the retention rate for Fall 2014 students living on campus climbed to 90% from 88% the year before.

**GCU seniors last year were more likely to be involved in at least two high-impact learning practices**, according to the National Survey of Student Engagement. The 2015 NSSE survey found that 84% of GCU seniors took advantage of learning communities, service learning, internships, research with faculty, and culminating senior experiences. Among other mid-east private colleges and universities, the figure was only 75%.

**During the child immigrant crisis of 2014, the GCU community showed warmth and compassion** for youngsters being processed through the immigration system in New York. Donated items included 17 coats, 31 hoodies, 25 long-sleeve t-shirts, 69 hats, 55 scarves, and 92 pairs of gloves and mittens.

# PUTTING THE YEAR IN PERSPECTIVE

GCU students and faculty served and studied in faraway places, including Costa Rica, France, Ecuador, Argentina, Hong Kong, Spain, and World War II commemorative sites throughout Europe.

GCU hosted several exciting guests last year, including: **Arun Gandhi**, the 80-year-old grandson of legendary peace advocate and spiritual leader Mohandas “Mahatma” Gandhi; **Kerry Weber**, author of *Mercy in the City* and an editor at *America* magazine; **Msgr. Michael Doyle**, a renowned poet of the poor and social justice advocate in Camden; **David McReynolds**, the well-known radical pacifist and democratic socialist leader and activist who has championed peace, justice, civil liberties, civil rights, and human rights for six decades; and Sudanese civil war survivor **John Bul Dau**, whose life story is depicted in the award-winning documentary film *God Grew Tired of Us*.

During “Sister Rosemary E. Jeffries Day” on March 17, **the Board of Trustees renamed the GCU Arts and Science Center as “Sister Rosemary E. Jeffries Hall,”** in honor of Sister Rosemary’s 14-year tenure as university president.

**GCU student giving outpaced contributions by students at many similar institutions**, according to a recent VSE (Voluntary Support of Education) report from the Office of Institutional Advancement. For example, GCU students last year gave \$2,566, putting them on par with students at slightly larger campuses and ahead of certain comparison schools. Similarly, the GCU undergraduate alumni giving rate of 10.2% was consistent with or better than some peer schools.

**The Office of Conferences and Special Events** welcomed more than 22,000 guests in 2015, including attendees of Mrs. Gould’s 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Social, the New Year’s Day Garden State Philharmonic Concert, and the dozens of professional conferences held on campus throughout the year.

This past year at GCU has been one of change—coupled with some new challenges. Nationwide, enrollments continue to present new challenges to organizations such as ours, especially as we adapt to an ever-shifting enrollment paradigm. As noted in this year’s annual report, the enrollment challenges we encountered in FY15 contributed to lower than expected net tuition revenue, and therefore a net operating loss in excess of initially budgeted balances.

As we enter FY16, we will build our financial plans while incorporating short-term and long-term perspectives. Doing so will allow us to be more adaptive to operating changes and will position us to capitalize on opportunities. Many initiatives are underway and have already resulted in improved operating efficiencies and cost savings.

GCU has historically maintained a low debt burden and strong liquidity, which have allowed the university to navigate shifts in enrollment and strategic directions. We will build upon our strong foundation as we prepare for the future—a future where we achieve not only balanced financial operations, but also execute our strategic plans and operating objectives.

*John Sommer*

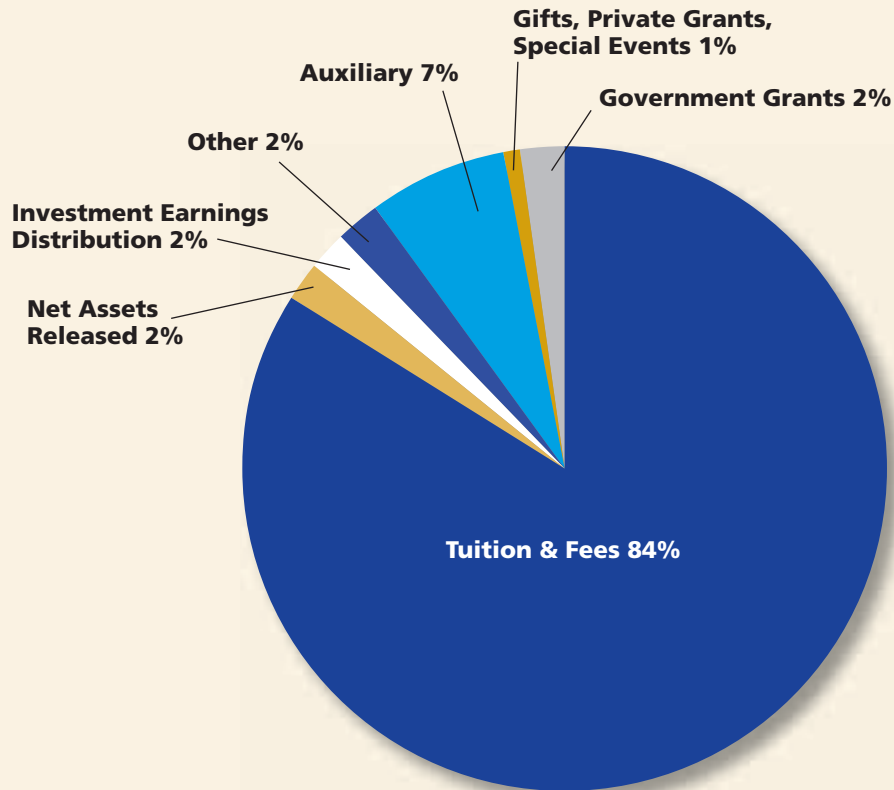
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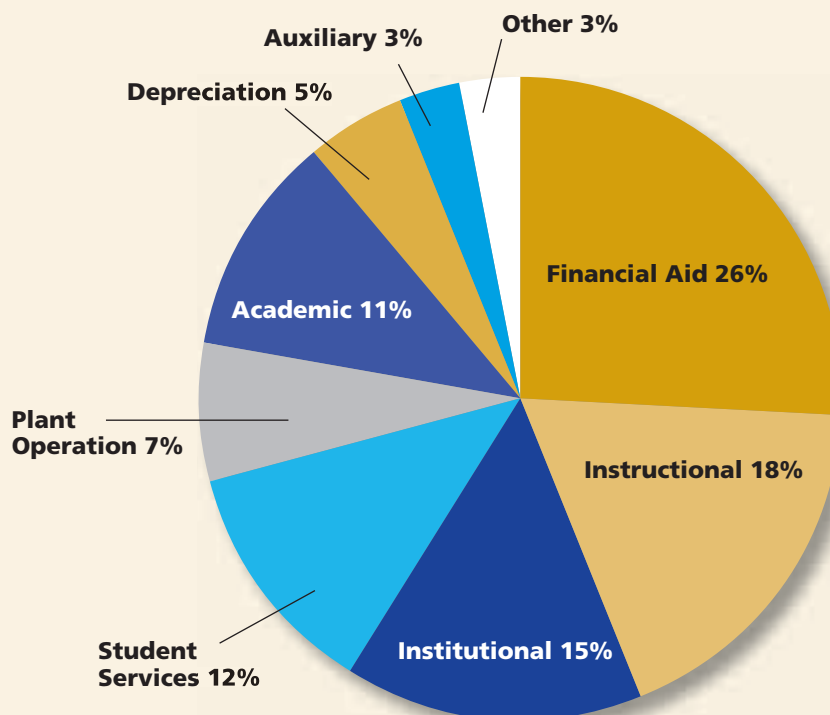
# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES *for the year ended June 30, 2015*

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
<b>Revenue, Gains and Other Support</b>				
Student tuition and fees, net of scholarship expense of \$16,306,806	\$33,806,864	\$ —	\$ —	\$33,806,864
Government grants and programs	903,498	—	—	903,498
Gifts and private grants	671,870	740,546	772,004	2,184,420
Special events revenue	162,374	—	—	162,374
Less direct costs of special events	(46,287)	—	—	(46,287)
Net special events	116,087	—	—	116,087
Auxiliary enterprise revenues	4,405,513	—	—	4,405,513
Other revenues	884,312	—	—	884,312
Investment earnings distributed	1,333,319	—	—	1,333,319
Total revenue, gains and other support	42,121,463	740,546	772,004	43,634,013
Net assets released from restrictions	1,202,852	(1,202,852)	—	—
Total revenue, gains and other support and net assets released from restrictions	43,324,315	(462,306)	772,004	43,634,013
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
Instructional	13,482,903	—	—	13,482,903
Academic support	8,063,255	—	—	8,063,255
Student services	9,152,874	—	—	9,152,874
Institutional support	11,620,940	—	—	11,620,940
Auxiliary enterprises	3,357,678	—	—	3,357,678
Total operating expenses	45,677,650	—	—	45,677,650
(Decrease) increase in net assets from operating activities	(2,353,335)	(462,306)	772,004	(2,043,637)
<b>NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Interest and dividend income	1,058,092	1,660,617	—	2,718,709
Net unrealized and realized gain (loss) in fair value of investments, net of investment expenses of \$273,000	193,691	(891,471)	(20,636)	(718,416)
Gain on sale of fixed assets	14,736	—	—	14,736
Distribution of investment earnings	(1,333,319)	—	—	(1,333,319)
Other nonoperating gains	17,488	—	—	17,488
(Decrease) increase in net assets from nonoperating activities	(49,312)	769,146	(20,636)	699,198
Change in net assets	(2,402,647)	306,840	751,368	(1,344,439)
<b>NET ASSETS, beginning of year</b>	68,889,827	10,247,793	12,704,118	91,841,738
<b>NET ASSETS, end of year</b>	\$66,487,180	\$10,554,633	\$13,455,486	\$90,497,299

## Unrestricted Revenues 2015



## Unrestricted Expenditures 2015





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 Raymond and Carol Mastronardi Mastoloni '56  
 Margaret Mastronardi

†Deceased



Amelia Alonso McTamanev '67  
Meridian Health System  
Melissa Hansen Myers  
Ocean County Women's Association  
OceanFirst Foundation  
Eugenia Palmegiano, Ph.D., J.D., '60  
Paul DeLaurentis Trust  
The Honorable Anthony J. and  
Mrs. Judith Persichilli  
Peter F. DeLaurentis Trust  
Robert Sydney Needham Foundation  
Arlene Schicker '59 †  
The Honorable Eugene D.  
Serpentelli, J.S.C.  
Raymond F. Shea Jr., Esq.  
James Sibree and Claudia McCormack-  
Sibree '70 †  
Reverend Gerard S. Sloyan  
TD Charitable Foundation  
Louis and Dolores Young Thebault '44 †  
Joseph and Rosemary McElroy Todino '56  
Todino Family Foundation Inc.  
Suzanne Sharkey Valla '66  
The Walter and Louise  
Sutcliffe Foundation  
Margaret Tantullo Whelan '81  
Whelan Foundation Inc.

## CASINO SOCIETY

\$5,000–\$9,999

Ted M. Beal Sr.  
Tessa Breslin  
Mary and Joseph Carr  
Francis G. Coleman  
James H. Dickerson Jr.  
Laurence M. Downes  
Eleanor Twomey Charitable Trust  
Flemington Furs  
Florian J. Lombardi Foundation Inc.  
Kingdon and Mary Gould Jr.  
Patricia Smith Heanue '68  
Robert J. Hugin  
Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.  
T/A Save Barnegat Bay  
Linda James, Ph.D.  
Michael E. Levin, Esq.  
Levin, Shea, Pfeffer  
Blanche Lombardi  
Louis R. Lurie Foundation

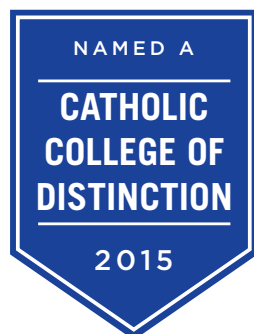
Gertrude Turner Mahon '35  
Pamela Buckley McInnis '66  
McInnis Family Charitable Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. John McLaughlin  
Robert E. Mulcahy III  
Elizabeth Healey Mulvihill '66  
New Jersey Natural Gas Company  
Normandy FW, LLC  
Frederick E. Nydegger  
Office Basics Inc.  
Overlook Medical Center  
Christopher Paladino  
The Rosemont Foundation Inc.  
John and Leona Seazholtz  
SEI Investments  
Kathleen T. Sullivan '88  
Finn Wentworth  
M. Deborah Hanley Williams '68

## APOLLO SOCIETY

\$1,000–\$4,999

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Anonymous  
Nina Anuario  
Nancy F. Barberi  
Joan Barron '68  
Renee Katz Barry '75  
BD  
William J. Behre, Ph.D.  
Warren and Jeannette Henig Beyer '95  
Lisa R. Biagas, Ed.D., M.B.A., M.S.  
Cecilia Birdsall Blank '62  
Phyllis De Spirito Bocina '51  
Bocina Family Foundation Inc.  
Paul Brown  
Joseph and Carol Buckelew  
Buckelew Family Foundation  
Betty Jean Buck Byrnes '51  
C.R. Bard Foundation Inc.  
Helen Hanna Casey '71  
Margaret Casey '73  
Annie Hanna Cestra '73  
Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi, PC  
Mary Chinery, Ph.D., '86  
Gloria Backes Christiansen '56  
CJM-LDM Charitable Fund Community  
Foundation of Western MA  
Rodrigo Colón '95 and Maria Garcia  
Colón '05, '12  
Gary Conlon '95  
Arlene Gula Connolly '70  
Barbara Cordasco, Ed.D.  
Manuel and Rose Marie Bellocchio  
Correia '59  
Jerry and Alice Hofmann Craghead '64  
Russell Crane  
Laura and Robert Crowell  
Brian Dailey  
Barbara Owen Daoust '78  
Darby Development, LLC  
Virginia Darvas  
Angela D'Aversa, Ph.D., '67  
Deloitte Services, LP  
Jane Derrig, M.D., '83  
Joseph G. DiCorcia, Esq.  
Robert and Patricia McFadden  
Dombal '63  
John Paul Doyle, Esq.  
Catherine Duggan, Esq., '69  
Election Fund of Assemblyman  
Dave Rible  
Ellucian  
Exxon Education Foundation  
Thomas and Elizabeth Ferguson  
Lisa A. Festa, Ph.D.  
FieldTurf  
GCU Middlesex Alumni Chapter  
GCU Ocean County Alumni Chapter  
GCU Student Government Association  
George Link Jr. Charitable Trust  
Goldman Sachs  
Michael F. Gross, Ph.D.  
Margaret Grove  
Grunin Properties  
Norman and Marjorie Murphy Hale '68  
Mary Bowman Halpin '66  
Margaret Hansen  
Thomas J. Healey  
Healey Family Foundation  
Mark Holtzman  
The Honorable John J. Hughes (Ret.)  
IBEW Local Union 400  
Jostens  
Joanne Kenny, Ed.D.  
Reverend Monsignor  
Casimir H. Ladzinski  
Danny LaVecchia  
Eugenia Wilson Lawson '84, '96  
Joan Carr Lightfoot '62  
Steven G. Littleton, FACHE  
Robert Loudon, Ph.D.  
Michelle Lynch '82  
Madison Insurance  
Charles Mandell, Esq.  
C. J. and Lillian Darragh McCarthy '45  
Frank McNicholas  
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Carol and Gene Merrill  
Beverly Milyo '69, '83  
Monmouth University  
Matthew and Lauren Mulcahy  
Megan E. Mulcahy-Romano and  
Francis A. Romano III  
Cynthia Mussinan '68  
Valter H. Must, Esq.  
N.J. Alliance for Action  
N.J. Association of Public Accountants—  
Monmouth & Ocean Counties  
Edward M. Nadworny Jr.  
Elizabeth Will Nanna '82, '84  
Joseph and Mary Casey Nebus, Ph.D., '69  
Bradley Nettune  
Roger Nettune, D.M.D.

New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium  
NJM Insurance Group and NJM Bank  
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation  
O.W. Havens Foundation  
Lynn O'Brien  
O'Brien Family Foundation Inc.  
Ocean County Cultural and Heritage  
Commission  
OceanFirst Bank  
Linda Orlando '07  
Jane France O'Rourke '68  
Eduardo and Hermosa Paderón  
Lauren Mooney Pavlovich '66  
Jane Ahmuty Perry '69  
Helen Pitonyak  
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local  
Union No. 9  
Prospect Street Administrators Inc.  
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Evelyn Saul Quinn, M.Ed., M.S.W., '74  
Aurora Randazzise '73  
Carol Quinn Reilly '58  
The Honorable David P. Rible  
Mark N. Ricca Sr.  
Joel Rivera  
Peggy O'Connell Roddy '56  
Rosary Altar Society of the Church  
of the Sacred Heart  
Jillian Rothstein '09  
Robert A. Rothstein, J.D.  
Rothstein, Mandell, Strohm & Must  
Allyson Rowe  
Rutgers, The State University of  
New Jersey  
Barbara Saake  
Peter Samaha  
Samaris Scholarship Foundation  
Elizabeth Savner '76  
Schering-Plough Foundation  
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Dr. Caryl Russo Singer  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas  
Mid-Atlantic Community  
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Ralph Spohn, Ph.D.  
Harry Spring  
Cheryl Stoeber-Goff '79  
Stout's Charter Service  
Peter R. Strohm, Esq.  
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Sykes O'Connor Salerno  
Hazaveh Architects  
Diane Szubrowski, RSM, '68  
Julia Szucsik  
Samaris Tassinaro  
TD Bank  
U.A. Local Union 322  
United Brotherhood of Carpenters  
Local 255  
The UPS Foundation  
Lydia Valencia



Valla Family Foundation Trust  
Vardon Capital Management  
Verizon Foundation  
Joan Murphy Warren '68  
Wells Fargo Private Bank  
Helen Belli Wilson '54  
WithumSmith + Brown, CPA  
Judith Weiss Yozzo '65  
Edward and Deborah Zampella

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\$500–\$999

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Janet Hartman Baker '69  
Adrienne Benzoni '71  
Mary C. Bilderback, RSM  
Randie Spencer Blauth '66  
Ellen Brown '69  
Frances Bucci-Viel '68  
Robert J. Burzichelli, Esq.  
Justyna Steuer Carlson '66  
Justin Carreon  
Thomas and Joan Farley Carroll '51  
Senator Jeffrey S. Chiesa  
Linda Cimino  
Margaret Cleary '51  
Commencement Flowers  
Margaret Punderson Convey '73  
Maria Costa '59  
Clare Costello '50  
Country Club Services Inc.  
F. Thomas Crawley Jr., Ed.D.  
Frances Kraljic Curran, Ph.D., '67  
Patricia MacLusky Darcy '63  
Daybreak Marketing Services  
Lynn Trigani DeCapua, Ph.D., '83  
Frank DeMiro, CPA  
Patricia Dillenschneider '68  
Louise and Richard Doll  
Envision Environmental Inc.  
Michaele J. Esposito  
Robert and Diane Finan  
Mary Sullivan Finizio '50  
Peter A. Flihan Jr. and Linda P. Hejduk  
Marlene Lynch Ford, J.S.C., '76 and  
Francis J. Kelly, M.D.  
Terry Runkle Fortuna '66  
Joan Kozusko Gadek '52  
Joyce Gavan '61, '82  
Margaret Burke Gilmore '72  
Mary Ann Coppotelli Gregory '63  
Fiah Gussin '05, '06  
Hugh and Barbara Hansen  
James Hatfield, D.D.S., and P. Kelly  
Hatfield, Ph.D.  
Joyce Goletz Heckman '83  
Hendricks & Hendricks

Donna Esposito Hughes '66  
Daniel Hurley  
IBM Corporation  
Donnamarie Irwin '67  
Florence Riccobono Johnson '45  
Deborah Kedmi '14, '15  
Nancy Gilbride Killeen '70  
Kathleen Byrnes Kircher '68  
Catherine Lally Korten '61  
Mykhaylo S. Kulynych  
Michael J. Laferrera  
Lakewood BlueClaws  
Mary Lisk, M.A., '81, '92  
Cynthia Lisowski '83, '95, '06  
Jean Rapport Lowe '71  
Sheila Heron MacFadyen '66  
Frederick and Evelyn Solmo Marano '69  
Joseph Martini  
Caroline Brahn Masters '69  
Sheelia Malinowski Matts '73  
Caroline McKinnon '60  
Elsa Uhler McNulty '69  
Leslie McPherson, D.V.M., '02  
Kathleen McGowan Metz '62  
Gail Gleason Milgram, Ed.D., '63  
Mary Ann Miller '69  
Monmouth-Ocean Development  
Council Education Foundation  
Stanee Pettit Murray '80  
Dawn M. Nakash  
Gregory Niccolai  
Phyllis Fauhl Novitch '87  
Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea  
Delores Parron-Ragland, Ph.D., '66  
JM Payne and Barbara Johnson  
Linda Pesce '77  
Richard Ponton, Ph.D.  
Marilyn Friel Powers '56  
Arvo and Beverly Prima  
Prudential Foundation  
Meghan Rehbein, CFRE  
Barbara Eschelbach Reutter '66  
Mary Connolly Richter '76  
Mark Roman  
Joy Chin Scally '72  
Carol Blasi Schmelter '64  
Mary Anne Hartigan Schrank '59  
Jennifer A. Shufan  
Sisters of Mercy GCU Convent  
Richard W. Stanton  
Neal Steed, CPA, Esq., '06 and  
Amy A. Farina Steed  
Mary Larkin Stefan '61  
Mary Catharine Sullivan, RSM, '55  
Regina Gallagher Torgalkar '66  
Lynn Gildersleeve Torgersen '73  
UBS Community Affairs and  
Corporate Responsibility  
Paula Lakjer Veggian '67  
Geraldine K. Velasquez, Ed.D., and  
Joseph Velazquez, Ed.D.

Barbara Horn Wheeler '69  
Julie Oxford Whelan '98, '05  
Lois Driscoll White '48  
John B. Wilson  
Louise S. Wootton, Ph.D.  
Ersula Zalenski †  
Mellissia Zanjani, Ph.D., CFRE  
Debra Suchowiecki Zimmer '74

## KINGSCOTE SOCIETY

\$250–\$499

ACE INA  
Carol Jordan Anderson '72  
The Atlantic Club  
Catherine Healy Atwood, RN, CCM, CRC, GCM, '89  
Linda Burke Ball '68  
The Bauerband Family  
Robert C. Beale  
Benchmark Resolution Services, LLC  
Peggy Raftis Bendel '65  
Melvin and Helen Benjamin  
Kathleen Halik Bradham '65  
Regina Fedor Majeski Brady '48, '78  
Michael and Susan Stavres Brady '82  
Marguerite DiBenedetto Brennan '63  
Jeanne Innes Brown '54  
Theresa Brown, Ph.D., '13  
Diane Rainier Bryda '64  
Brian Buckelew  
Joyce Graham Bullen '69  
Sharon Bucs Burke '62  
Ruth Ann and Carl Burns  
Rosalie Burrows, J.D., '66  
Marie Butler '64  
Joseph Camerlengo '08  
Nancy Lott Carapezza '66  
Kim Weigand Casola '83  
Mary DiBenedetto Cerrato '53  
Emily Ho Chiang '54  
Constance Chismar, Ed.D., '72  
Nancy Ciampa '69  
Monsignor Joseph Ciampaglio  
Mimsie Sullivan Ciecuch '67  
Barbara Clark '75  
Maureen McDonnell Clark '58  
Carolann Beck Clynes '65  
Kathleen Roos Cofield '68  
John Cottingham III '99  
The Dailey Network, LLC  
Kimberley Decker '88  
Marilyn Del Vescovo '65  
Laurie DeNicola  
Kathleen Macchi Dennish '68  
Michelle DePolo '03  
Beth Healey DiTolla '66  
Ann Caffrey Doonan '94  
Dorothy Kerwin Dorney '64, '94  
Josephine Emburgia '68  
Ericsson  
Major General Maria Falca-Dodson  
Julie Farmer  
Glenda Yencho Fischer '70  
Susan Flaherty, CFP, '66  
Kyle Flood  
Dolores Daloisio Floyd '65  
Ann Flynn '67  
Mary Kenny Folan '66  
Rosemarie Fracassi '68, '86  
Barbara McKinley Freer '53  
James Gardner  
Patricia Gavan-Gordon  
GCU Tau Gamma: Kappa Delta Pi  
Olga and Gerard Geraci  
Karen Clarke Goff '96  
Joseph F. Gower, Ph.D., and  
Robin A. Gower, J.D., Ph.D.  
Charlotte Grodzki '70  
Irene Kalapos Hachat '64  
Kelly Dempster Hanrahan '91, '11  
Sonia Landy Harrison '70  
John and Patricia Doyle Hayden '73  
Lorraine Clauss Hellgeth, Ph.D., '63  
Claudia Charles Hofmann '70  
Reverend Paul A. Holmes, S.T.D.  
Joanne Sullivan Huelsman '77  
Barbara J. Hutchinson  
Eleanor Izdebski  
J.N.S. Foundation  
Princess Jones '73  
Eileen Kean  
Marie-Louise Bauman Kehoe '51  
The Honorable Thomas F. Kelaher, Esq.  
Frances Kerr '43 †  
Susan Kiefer '90  
Kitchen Gardeners International  
Barbara Marcino Lando, Ph.D., '62  
Brenda Wolski Lane '65  
Roseann Smith Latsko '66  
Laurita Vineyards & Winery, LLC  
Dorothy S. Lazarick, RSM, '67  
Scott R. Lazarus  
Margaret MacFarlane Leimpeter '71  
Laura Liesman  
Regis and Diane Lippert  
Mary Lou Reese LoVecchio '62  
John Lutz  
Karyl Sager Mahoney '66  
Jill McCoy Maloney '85  
Marie Birrer Maloney '73  
Joan Murphy Manning '50  
Shelly Masi  
Erin C. McCarron  
Margaret Fischetti McCoy, J.D., '69 †  
MetLife Foundation  
Duff Meyercord  
Claire Miller '71  
Kathleen Kish Moon '71  
Mary Jayne Tirrell Moran '52  
Patrick Morris  
Madeline Murphy, M.A., '69  
Soma and Parvathi Murthy, Ph.D.  
The Honorable George C. Nebel



Phuong Nguyen '80  
 Catherine Kelaher O'Brien '59  
 Frances Spatz Obsitnik '70  
 Carolann Jacobson O'Connor '68  
 Bertram Okpokwasili, D.Eng'g.Sc., and  
 Eunice A. Okpokwasili, M.B.A.  
 Laura Fortune Ortiz '04  
 Mary Peckiconis '83  
 Pfizer Inc.  
 Sarah Lombardi Pietrafesa '49  
 Katherine Byrnes Powderly '53  
 PPL Services Corporation  
 Pr1ma Corporation  
 Kathleen O'Brien Procacci '67  
 Maryann Giambalvo Pucilowski '72  
 Maria Martin Pyontek, D.O., '79  
 Arlene Monzillo Radman '69, '01  
 Barbara Reilly '84 and Stanley F. Schick  
 Constance Anne Reymann '77, '00  
 Ross Riviere  
 Joan Nowak Romatowski '56  
 Gary Rose  
 Patricia A. Rose  
 Ronald Rotunno and Carol Costello  
 James and Lori Rush  
 Maureen Ryan-Hoffman, CPA, '88, '01  
 Jim and Ginny Sandy  
 A. Claire Glanfield Sansone '62  
 Elena Truncellito Santoro '64  
 Patricia J. Santoro-Rosenthal, Ph.D., '68  
 Nancy Sardone, Ph.D.  
 Ernest and Susan Scherler  
 Kathleen Holland Sheridan '70  
 Michael D. Simko  
 Betsy Smith '81  
 Karen Estelle Smith, CPA, '87  
 Stella Gallina Smith '68  
 Smith Tree Service  
 Irma Carleton Spatz '40  
 St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church  
 Sally Newman Standiford, Ph.D., '63  
 Kathleen O'Halloran Stevens '57  
 Anne Stevenson  
 Helen Policastro Stiskal '81  
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 Paul Tarantino '87  
 Tarantino Companies Inc.—T/A Plaza  
 Wines and Liquors  
 Louis Toscano Jr.  
 Gail Towns  
 Carole Sherman Trakimas, M.S.W., '66  
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 Kathleen Scanlin Tschaeen '66  
 Gloria Dey Tylutki '64  
 United Way of Tri-County Inc.  
 Maria Ursino '75, '84  
 Judith Fairchild Valentine '66  
 Rose Waldrop-Addeo '83 and  
 Arthur Addeo, CPA  
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 Michelle L. Walko  
 Rachel A. Ward  
 Elaine Wargamurray '70

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 Wisdom & Williams Associates Inc.  
 WithumSmith + Brown, CPA  
 Maryanne Witzgall Mead '87  
 Catherine Wolf  
 Dr. and Mrs. Edward Wozniak  
 Celia Davis Younger, M.Ed., '02  
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 Loretta Giammalvo Zupa '65

## CENTURY SOCIETY

\$125–\$249

Susan Orlando Adaikalasamy, M.A., '73  
 Elaine M. Adler '96  
 Mary Soos Alexander '62  
 Patricia Klebacher Alvino '66  
 Jane Anderson '81  
 The Honorable Mary Pat Angelini  
 Karen Hayes Beall '66  
 Scott Bennett, Ph.D.  
 Gloria J. Benson  
 Sandra Rosato Betts '77  
 Rolf and Mary Lou DeSantis Beyer '09, '11  
 Eduard Bitto, Ph.D.  
 Jane Gallagher Bogert '79  
 Elizabeth Cirillo Bracco '61  
 Irene Mountenot Brignola '64  
 Timothy M. Briles, Ed.D.  
 The Bristol-Meyers Squibb Foundation Inc.  
 Judith Austin Brown '65  
 Katherine O'Neill Brown '67  
 Patricia Buck '65  
 Rose Marie Letizia Buhrlé '71  
 Grace Letizia Cairns '68  
 Regina Marie Callahan, RSM, '72, '99  
 Joanne Camper '84  
 Margaret O'Donnell Canzonier '66, '95  
 Lynne Moczynski Catanese '68  
 Dorothy Cellini '60  
 Marie Anna Han Chang '59  
 Shima Chayvet, CEH, M.R.M., '12  
 Donna Gagen Cianciulli '66  
 Reverend Ann Struthers Coburn,  
 M.Div., '72  
 Cognitive Marketing  
 Maria and Peter Cordovano  
 Paula Magliato Correale '70  
 Georgianna Girard Cote '82  
 Denise-Marie Coulter '88  
 Stephanie M. Coutros  
 Carlyn Rush Cox '56  
 Barbara Russell Craig '48  
 Rosemary Shea Croop, Ph.D., '71  
 Catherine Snyder Cymore '68  
 Lynn Cimiluca Daley '69  
 Patricia Dalm-Moreland '75  
 Maureen D'Andrea '69  
 Kasturi DasGupta, Ph.D.  
 Lillian Pinkasavage Davis '63  
 Carl DeRiso

Jane Heher Dibert '57  
 Theresa Banko Dietrich '51  
 Lisa M. Dille, Ed.D., '00  
 Laura Bonagura Dowd '69  
 June Doyle '59  
 Ellen Driber-Hassall, Ed.D., '79  
 Nancy Platt Dubrovsky '61  
 Jane Hopkins Dwyer '54  
 Election Fund of Assemblywoman  
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 Jean and Jay Entwistle  
 Mary R. Enyart '74  
 Joseph Ercolino  
 Jane Farrell-Beck, Ph.D., '63  
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 William Field, Ph.D.  
 Francis and June Fine  
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 Barbara Florimont '93  
 Andrew Fogarty  
 Kathleen Froriep, Ph.D.  
 Nadine Maciorowski  
 Fydryszewski, Ph.D., '77  
 Ronald Gaskill '81  
 Elizabeth Pfautz Gatsch '81 and  
 Joseph Gatsch '91  
 Eva R. Gimble  
 Marjorie Mingione Grady '64  
 Mary Ellen Griffin  
 Judith L. Gross  
 Barbara Lukachyk Hauser '00  
 Agnes Moore Higgins '39  
 Anne Tift Hitchner '64  
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 Marlena Yourstone Holm '83  
 Home Depot USA Inc.  
 Dorothy Horner Patchell  
 Walter Hrycenko '92, '01  
 Patricia Steiner Hunt '59  
 Karen Sala Ianniello '76  
 International Union of Operating  
 Engineers Local 68  
 Trudy Nacnodovitz Iwanski '70  
 Dorothy Donohue Jacobs '69  
 Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72  
 Jim and Sandy Keller  
 Maureen Maloney Kellman '70  
 Linda LeBlanc Kelly '65  
 Joan Reardon Kenneally '80  
 Dorothy Davis Kier '82  
 Mary Jane Koch  
 Mary Lou Szul Kramli '63  
 Audrey Knapp Kretow '92  
 Prasad S. Lakkaraju, Ph.D.  
 Jeanette Macri LaMonaca '58  
 William M. Laufer, Esq.  
 Law Offices of Joseph G. DiCorcia  
 Susan Arndt Leonard '68  
 Desmond Lloyd Sr.  
 Lomurro, Munson, Comer, Brown &  
 Schottland, LLC  
 Debra Hart Long '91, '96, '02

Patricia Hopkins Lukacs '67  
 Kelly Mabe '97  
 Gemma MacCarrick, Ed.D., '84, '93  
 Theresa Suchan Mackey '75  
 Jean Healey Mahoney '64  
 Claude Berhard Maignan '56  
 Kenneth Malagiere  
 Linda Monek Malayter '77  
 Kathleen Heitz Mancuso '10 and  
 Alfred Mancuso, Psy.D.  
 Rod and Lynne Marden  
 Nancy DeBartolis Marrow '88  
 Eugene R. Mason, Ed.D.  
 Patricia Bray Matonak '52  
 Ann Marie Matthews '96  
 Barbara Nulty Matthews '85  
 Sue Matthews  
 Chi-Ngoc Luc Mauterstock '70  
 Audrey R. Maxymuk  
 Patricia Lakatos Mayer '74  
 Gloria M. Mazziotti, M.A., '11  
 John McAuliffe †  
 Cynthia McCarthy  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael McDonald  
 Joanmarie McDonnell, RSM, '55  
 Kathleen Flaherty McGowan '59  
 Sheila McGrail '69  
 Donald Sr. and Merlyn McLelland;  
 Donna McLelland; Donald Jr. and Lisa  
 McLelland and Family; Debra and Jim  
 Knowlton and Family; and Dawn and  
 Jon Cillery and Family  
 Carmen McLeod-Chasan, M.A., '65  
 Tim McLoone  
 McLoone Management  
 Cathleen McQuillen, D.P.S.  
 Karissa Merkel '12  
 Yanci Pereira Merkel '04, '06  
 Dorothy D'Annunzio  
 Mongelli-Cardinale '59  
 Monmouth & Ocean Counties Building  
 Construction Trades Council  
 Deborah Munyer Moroney '02  
 Sharon Brahn Morris '68  
 Alfreda Moulard '78  
 Deirdre Mullan, RSM, Ph.D.  
 Eileen Smith Nolan '58  
 Elaine Ballance O'Connor '73  
 Susan O'Hara, Ph.D.  
 Jeanine Oliver, RSM, '70  
 Joan Evans Olson '67  
 Virginia Orbe '64  
 Mary Beth Barbre Otter, M.S.W., '69  
 Lorraine Baumann Palme '89  
 Frank Parks '89 and Ora Bragg Parks '95  
 Thérèse Petrillo  
 Ann Herron Purcell '52  
 Katherine Rodgers Raab '54  
 Carola Bergdolt Regan '63  
 Carol Rittner, RSM, Ed.D.  
 Patrick Robinson  
 Anne Southard Rose '65

Josephine Sulpizi Rosenberg '68  
Ann Ruth '72  
Nancy Lamb Ryan '68  
Maureen Sheehan Samaha '56  
Marilyn Tighe Schaad '56  
Bernadette Markey Schultze '57  
Jane Gilchrist Scorca '91  
Maria Scotto DiCesare '07  
Teresa Scotto DiCesare '10  
Catherine Brodeur Shahinian '85 and  
Toros Shahinian, M.D.  
Showtime Networks Inc.  
Laurine Jankowski Sibilia, M.A., M.Ed., '81  
Barbara Allan Simpson '58  
Faine Higgins Smith '67  
Lois Smith '61  
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Robert Stevens, Esq.  
Catherine Szap †  
Catherine Basso Szymanski '62  
Patricia A. Talone, RSM, Ph.D.  
Mary Beth Coccia Tarantino '79  
Mary Louise Schlechtweg Taylor '65  
Elaine Thompson, Ph.D.  
JoAnn Stecher Tier '95  
Corinne Ravizza Tillotta '63  
The Toa Reinsurance Company  
of America  
Ann Rauch Tomea '65  
Uniondale Public Schools—Art and  
Music Department  
Uproot Winery  
Edmund and Monica Sobieski Urban '74  
Anita Vandenbulcke  
Frederic and Marie Varlese  
Margaret Latanzio Ventrudo '66  
Frank J. Wagner  
Regina M. Ward, RSM  
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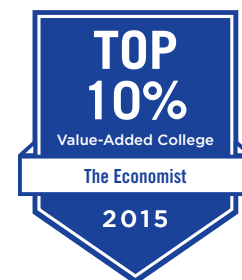
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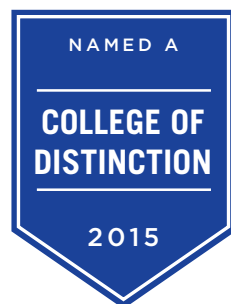
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# ALUMNI

## UNDERGRADUATE

Year	Amount	Donors	Percentage
'33	\$0	0	0%
'34	\$20,000	1	100%
'35	\$9,099	1	100%
'38	\$0	0	0%
'39	\$225	1	33%
'40	\$300	1	25%
'41	\$0	0	0%
'42	\$25	1	14%
'43	\$3,420	3	100%
'44	\$0	0	0%
'45	\$800	3	50%
'46	\$330	4	50%
'47	\$245	3	21%
'48	\$915	3	15%
'49	\$275	4	29%
'50	\$1,485	7	37%
'51	\$2,925	10	43%
'52	\$1,238	9	30%
'53	\$1,375	7	41%
'54	\$2,975	14	45%
'55	\$863	3	13%
'56	\$309,664	17	50%
'57	\$1,810	11	33%
'58	\$2,425	11	39%
'59	\$77,530	14	40%
'60	\$14,661	15	58%
'61	\$3,110	18	50%
'62	\$5,130	25	45%
'63	\$5,513	23	37%
'64	\$6,015	36	43%
'65	\$6,853	29	45%
'66	\$27,666	38	40%
'67	\$20,539	25	36%
'68	\$28,645	50	46%
'69	\$23,408	46	34%
'70	\$45,910	36	27%
'71	\$5,370	24	19%
'72	\$3,475	26	23%
'73	\$8,349	35	26%
'74	\$3,245	17	14%

# CLASS GIVING

## GRADUATE

Year	Amount	Donors	Percentage
'75	\$11,202	33	26%
'76	\$3,410	22	17%
'77	\$2,372	18	16%
'78	\$1,221	20	18%
'79	\$3,972	26	21%
'80	\$1,147	12	10%
'81	\$1,605	11	9%
'82	\$4,553	14	9%
'83	\$4,199	17	10%
'84	\$1,980	15	11%
'85	\$1,063	17	10%
'86	\$1,645	16	10%
'87	\$1,945	18	10%
'88	\$6,572	17	9%
'89	\$1,186	15	7%
'90	\$515	9	5%
'91	\$1,450	15	6%
'92	\$320	7	3%
'93	\$655	13	5%
'94	\$405	8	3%
'95	\$1,953	13	5%
'96	\$12,455	12	4%
'97	\$822	14	6%
'98	\$650	5	2%
'99	\$791	11	5%
'00	\$452	8	4%
'01	\$1,275	5	2%
'02	\$739	8	3%
'03	\$698	6	3%
'04	\$611	8	3%
'05	\$1,130	7	3%
'06	\$580	11	4%
'07	\$240	7	3%
'08	\$535	9	2%
'09	\$370	9	2%
'10	\$383	11	3%
'11	\$368	10	3%
'12	\$564	17	5%
'13	\$494	10	3%
'14	\$821	19	6%

Year	Amount	Donors	Percentage
'78	\$1,250	4	27%
'79	\$30	2	6%
'80	\$338	6	15%
'81	\$513	5	12%
'82	\$125	2	4%
'83	\$414	3	10%
'84	\$150	4	13%
'85	\$325	4	12%
'86	\$160	4	10%
'87	\$60	2	8%
'88	\$210	5	13%
'89	\$150	3	6%
'90	\$100	3	5%
'91	\$0	0	0%
'92	\$375	3	5%
'93	\$25	1	2%
'94	\$385	4	6%
'95	\$1,465	10	13%
'96	\$70	1	1%
'97	\$0	0	0%
'98	\$325	6	8%
'99	\$300	5	5%
'00	\$91	4	4%
'01	\$105	3	3%
'02	\$775	9	7%
'03	\$35	2	2%
'04	\$235	4	3%
'05	\$90	3	2%
'06	\$300	3	2%
'07	\$1,405	2	1%
'08	\$275	5	4%
'09	\$50	2	1%
'10	\$280	6	4%
'11	\$177	2	1%
'12	\$150	2	1%
'13	\$570	3	2%
'14	\$115	7	5%

## NON-DEGREE

Year	Amount	Donors	Percentage
'43	\$0	0	0%
'46	\$0	0	0%
'47	\$0	0	0%
'48	\$200	1	100%
'49	\$250	1	100%
'50	\$100	1	100%
'51	\$0	0	0%
'53	\$0	0	0%
'54	\$0	0	0%
'57	\$0	0	0%
'60	\$0	0	0%
'64	\$0	0	0%
'70	\$0	0	0%
'72	\$0	0	0%
'73	\$0	0	0%
'74	\$0	0	0%
'76	\$0	0	0%
'78	\$0	0	0%
'81	\$0	0	0%
'83	\$0	0	0%
'84	\$0	0	0%
'85	\$0	0	0%
'87	\$0	0	0%
'89	\$0	0	0%
'90	\$0	0	0%
'92	\$0	0	0%
'95	\$0	0	0%
'96	\$0	0	0%
'98	\$0	0	0%
'99	\$0	0	0%
00	\$0	0	0%
'01	\$0	0	0%
'02	\$0	0	0%
'03	\$0	0	0%
'05	\$0	0	0%
'06	\$0	0	0%
'07	\$0	0	0%
'08	\$10	1	33%
'09	\$0	0	0%
'10	\$0	0	0%
'11	\$0	0	0%
'12	\$150	1	25%
'13	\$0	0	0%



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**GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY**

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**THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY**

*The President's Annual Report & Honor Roll of Donors is an annual publication of the Office of Institutional Advancement.*



*It's a family affair: New trustee Megan Mulcahy Romano (left), who joined her father Robert E. Mulcahy III (right) on the GCU Board of Trustees, attended the investiture ceremony of Dr. Marbach with her parents. Ms. Romano's mother, Marie Therese Mulcahy (second from left), also attended as a delegate from the College of New Rochelle.*

## New Trustees Bring Vast Knowledge and Experience

In 2015, Georgian Court University welcomed four new members to the university's Board of Trustees with diverse experience in health care administration, government, philanthropy, and education.

**Steven G. Littleton**, executive vice president of Meridian Health and president of Meridian Hospitals Corporation, has worked in the healthcare industry for more than 30 years. He has also held leadership roles at Meridian's Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Southern Ocean County Health System (now Meridian's Southern Ocean Medical Center), and Sentara Hampton General Hospital in Hampton, Virginia. Mr. Littleton is involved in numerous professional organizations, including the New Jersey Hospital Association and New Jersey Council of Teaching Hospitals.

**Kerry Anne McGeary, Ph.D.**, senior program officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and Phyllis A. Miller Professor of Health Economics and director of the Global Health Institute at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, employs her background in health economics and health policy research to help the RWJF achieve its mission and to assist its researchers in promoting a culture of health. Dr. McGeary previously served as an active faculty member at Drexel University in Philadelphia, where she received the Academic Leadership Award from the LeBow College of Business in 2003.

**Megan E. Mulcahy Romano**, chief of staff at the New Jersey Turnpike Authority and at the Office of the New Jersey State Inspector General, is responsible for the daily and long-term administration and functioning of both entities. She previously served as the director of client services for the New Jersey Commerce and Economic Growth Commission and as a special assistant to the chief of staff for the New Jersey governor. Ms. Romano has also worked for several senatorial campaigns and worked in several capacities in the Washington, DC, office of former U.S. Senator Robert G. Torricelli.

**Julia Ann Upton, RSM, Ph.D.**, provost emerita and distinguished professor of theology at St. John's University in Jamaica, New York, has served St. John's in many capacities for 35 years. She served as provost for 12 years, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, and associate provost for teaching and learning in addition to her faculty position. Prior to St. John's, Sister Julia taught at several private Catholic schools at both the elementary and secondary level.

## Digital Stories Help Students "Unpack" after Global Travel

Junior Chloe Grady, who joined GCU's literary tour of Paris in 2015, grew up the child of an Air Force pilot and an art educator.

"I was the second grader who grew up in more art museums than Chuck E. Cheeses," she recalls in a video created for GCU's new digital storytelling initiative. "Of all the Parisian wonders I saw, none took away my breath like the Louvre. I was the first in my family to visit the place we all grew up admiring."

Those are the "moments of impact" that GCU Director of Global Education Programs Jennifer Summerhays wants students to "unpack" using digital storytelling.

Their two-minute presentations showcase profound experiences using voiceovers, video, and still photos—all carefully chosen.

"In large part, this is for the storyteller. Many of our life narratives are the same—they're universal—but when you dig deeper, that's where the magic happens," says Ms. Summerhays.

From the popular podcast "The Moth" to TED Talk devotees, storytelling is huge. "What we're seeing is a primitive practice in a modern way," says Ms. Summerhays, who is teaching students what she learned last summer at the Center for Digital Storytelling in Berkeley, California. "The world can be incredibly lonely at times, and stories have a way of connecting us."

Stories also move people to act differently or engage with the world around them.

That's what happened to GCU sophomore Matt Kuras, a business major and avid rock climber. He was studying abroad in Chile when he reached into his backpack one morning to discover his phone, wallet, credit cards, and money missing.

He was already familiar with this quote by well-known climber Yvon Chouinard: "The word *adventure* has gotten overused . . . to me, adventure is when everything goes wrong. That's when the adventure starts."

But that morning, the words offered new meaning.

"I grew more mentally and spiritually than ever before," he says on video. "I had to depend on people. I wasn't glued to my phone 24/7. I had to speak to people . . . in Spanish. My experience abroad changed me for the better."

@ Visit [georgian.edu/digital-storytelling-global](http://georgian.edu/digital-storytelling-global) to watch these and other student stories.



*In her video, Chloe Grady described the impact of visiting the Louvre.*



*Matt Kuras was in Chile when his wallet was stolen. It was a life-changing experience, he says.*

# Welcome to the New Georgian.edu

In August, more than a year of intensive planning, designing, writing, and editing resulted in the debut of the brand-new GCU Web site. Launched just before New Student Orientation, the redesigned site is designed to resonate with prospective students and their parents and to be a better resource for the current GCU community. The site utilizes a WordPress platform, a content management system that provides more flexibility and creative opportunities, as well as dynamic images; easier navigation; freshly written, updated, and search engine-optimized content; and our new GCU branding.

The new Georgian.edu offers streamlined, quick, and easy access to all that's great about GCU and resources for students, faculty, and the entire GCU community. You'll find everything you're looking for in fewer clicks. Plus, the site

is mobile-friendly with easy access from your smartphone or tablet.

"The process of building a new site from the ground up has been an extraordinary experience," says Web Administrator Richard Berardi, who led the redesign efforts. "We are pleased, however, that so many on campus were willing to share suggestions, content edits and information, and constructive criticism—all in an effort to build a site that puts prospective students and families first."

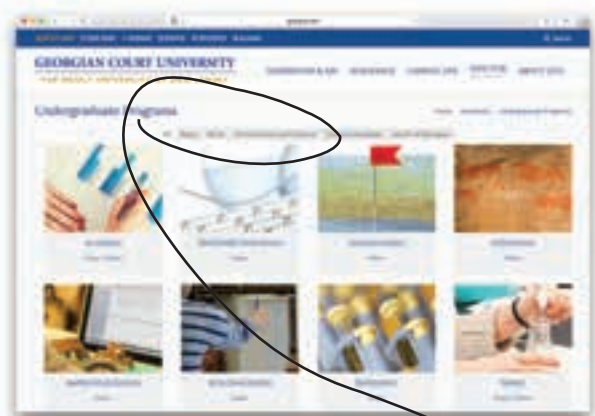
Check out the screenshots here, but to fully experience all that the new Georgian.edu has to offer, be sure to take your own tour of the site!

Direct links to all the info you need about GCU

Dynamic images



Events calendar with searching and sorting features



Sorting features for finding majors and minors

## The Results Are In!

Visits to GCU's "Apply" Web Page in 2015 increased more than 1,600% over the same three-month period in 2014, and the number of new visitors increased more than 1,400%.

### August 17–November 23, 2014

334 page visits

300 new visitors

### August 17–November 23, 2015

5,565 page visits

4,420 new visitors



# Social Media @ Georgian Court

Keep up with The Court by following Georgian Court University on social media.  
Let us know what you're up to by tagging, tweeting, and sharing with us!

## Take a look back at our favorite posts!

### On Tuesdays, the Students Take Over

Each Tuesday, we hand over the GCU Instagram account to a student to give us a glimpse into his or her day—what happens next is amazing!

Though every student who has participated has done an outstanding job, these three really tipped the charts! Here are our Top 3 Takeovers for this past semester.



*Tyler Chamra '18,  
Accounting Major*



*Nick Ciccone '18,  
Nursing Major*



*Brianna Marrone '17,  
Nursing Major*

### What's Going on at GCU?

From athletics and accolades to a presidential inauguration, World Cup fever, and everything in between, GCU's Facebook page provides a glimpse of what is happening on and off campus, with our students, alumni, staff, faculty, and friends! These are just a few of our favorite moments...



*#gcu15*



*#expandpossibility*



*#humansofgcu*



*#gcupride*

# COURT



« **Girls in Science and Technology.** For one week in July, female students from the Lakewood Public School District came to the GCU campus to have fun with science as part of the grant-funded Girls Involved in Science and Technology (GIST) program, led by Sarita Nemani, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics and chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Twenty-nine students in Grades 7–12 participated in hands-on learning activities focused on chemistry, biology, botany, forensics, physics, mathematics, and statistical data analysis. The students analyzed food dyes in Gatorade, studied the speed of sound with flutes, examined the anatomy of bones, and investigated the fat content of snacks.

**Making Their College Education Special.** College can be tough for any new student, but especially for those with learning disabilities and differences. That's where GCU's Academic Development and Support Center steps in to help, says Luana E. Fahr, LDT-C, who leads the center, which turned 25 last year. "Our model includes individual tutoring with a professional staff member, coaching in time management, testing strategies and study skills, and tracking of grades and performance in coursework," she wrote in a September 2015 article in *LD Source*, published by the Learning Disabilities Association of America. "Self-advocacy is greatly encouraged," she said, "as it is a major component of academic and personal confidence."

**New Program for Deacons.** GCU is partnering with the Diocese of Trenton to offer a series of challenging theological studies classes for men preparing for ordination as permanent deacons. Participants are taking five classes at GCU with more to be completed at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Lawrenceville. The program is part of an intense five-year period of study and preparation that includes spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation.



« **Play Ball!** Mary Williams, associate athletics director for compliance and student-athlete welfare, worked with athletes, coaches, and student volunteers to pilot a College Unified Sports program, an outgrowth of the Special Olympics. About 10 New Jersey colleges and universities participate in the program, which pairs college volunteers with unified sports athletes. The goal is to promote "social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences." GCU Basketball Club chairwoman Gina Ellatar brought on seven GCU students to play ball in the GCU Wellness Center with about a dozen special athletes, ages 14 to 31, during the spring.

# SHORTS

**Giving Thanks.** More than 275 students, faculty, and donors gathered in the Casino for GCU's Annual Scholarship Brunch on October 18. Supporters like Eugenia M. Palmegiano, J.D., Ph.D., '60 connected with students benefiting from their gifts to GCU. "Education transforms individual lives," said Mellissia Zanjani, Ph.D., CFRE, GCU vice president for institutional advancement, "and I am constantly amazed by the grace of our donors, faculty, staff, and alumni." (Read more about Ms. Palmegiano on page 37.) »



**New Graduate Certificate Focused on Mercy.** In May, GCU launched its new graduate GCU Certificate in Mercy Spirituality program. Mary-Paula Cancienne, RSM, Ph.D., assistant professor of religious studies/theology, and Johann Vento, Ph.D., professor of religious studies/theology, lead the new online, 18-month study of the Catholic Mercy tradition. The digital offering, which incorporates academic coursework, spiritual reflection, retreats, and more, is ideal for people in the helping professions and is designed to help participants see the world around them through the eyes of those who depend on their work.

**Conference Calls.** National experts on topics from dissent during World War I to breakthrough technology in neuroscience were among the many conference guests who visited GCU during 2014–2015. Scott H. Bennett, Ph.D., professor of history and chair of the Department of History, Geography, and Political Science, organized a scholarly meeting commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War I. The event drew authors and experts from around the world, including keynote speakers Harriett Hyman Alonso and Mother Jones co-founder Adam Hochschild. In addition, nationally known researchers, practitioners, and authors Lori A. Russell-Chapin, Ph.D., and Theodore J. Chapin, Ph.D., joined Richard Ponton, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology, during "Neuroscience: The New Frontier for Mental Health Professionals," a conference hosted by the GCU M.A. in Clinical Mental Health program. Geraldine Velasquez, Ph.D., professor emerita of art and design, coordinated "Why Design Matters," featuring world-renowned illustrator Barbara Nessim, Asbury Park design guru and trendsetter Jenna Zilincar, and Ogilvy Commonwealth Vice President for User Interface and Marketing Trends Skot Kremen. The graphic design conference was co-sponsored by GCU and the Jersey Shore Public Relations and Advertising Association (JSPRAA).



« **GCU Student Teachers Rock!** Georgian Court University alumna Joan Garyantes '15 landed a 2015 New Jersey Distinguished Student Teacher Award for her work as a student teacher at Belmar Elementary School. Joan, who was a Communiiversity student at Georgian Court studying elementary and special education, was one of 15 graduates recognized by the state for excellence in student teaching. In the last seven years, several GCU students have received the award including Joan, Charlee Bassillo '14, Lauren Nesso '13, Genevieve Kotzas '10, and Gina Candle '09.



# GCU Salutes the Sisters of Mercy

Over a century ago, seven Sisters of Mercy made their way to Jersey City and, by today's standards, lived in less than optimal conditions. Their sacrifice and contributions, however, paved the way for what would become a community of Mercy Sisters living and serving throughout the mid-Atlantic region, and their work would become the foundation for Georgian Court University.

"Their legacy continues," says Evelyn Quinn, M.S.W., M.Ed., '74, vice president for mission integration, during GCU's observance of National Catholic Sisters Week 2015. "That's the future of Mercy. The call is great, the joys uncountable. The future of Mercy is secure because our students are washed in Mercy."

Georgian Court marked its first NCSW observance on March 10 with a special Mass and a luncheon held in honor of the Sisters of Mercy.

"At Mass, we were told that God is 'author of all things Mercy,'" says Lindsay Taft '15. "Well, if God is the author, then the Sisters of Mercy are surely the pen. They are vessels of His blessings, putting forth God's mission to all they encounter."

The entire GCU community turned out to thank the Sisters at Mass and at the luncheon in the Mansion. Tribute after tribute, they credited women religious for their influence and impact through education, social services, health care, ministry, and more.

The day also marked the screening of *Sisters of Mercy Share Their Stories*, an oral history video produced by GCU students and Mary-Paula Cancienne, RSM, Ph.D., assistant professor of religious studies/theology.

The project, part of the NCSW effort led by St. Catherine's University in Minnesota, includes well-known women religious like social justice advocate Theresa Kane, RSM, and others, like GCU's own Diane Szubrowski '68, donor relations volunteer.

"My passion is for people and relationships—I long to empower people to find their own passion and have purposeful lives that are sharing and caring," says Sister Diane.

"Our lives are centered in God," offers Ivette Diaz, RSM, who has served as a pastoral associate, clinical therapist, and as a coordinator for medical teams on international service trips. "Foremost, we are women of prayer and women of service. Our service comes out of our prayer life and our desire to serve God's people."



Clockwise from top left: Sisters Helen Neder '67; Dorothy Lazarick '67; Diane Szubrowski '68; Marie Cook, Ph.D., '64; Mary Catharine Sullivan '55; Rosemary E. Jeffries, Ph.D., '72; Mary-Paula Cancienne



Sister Maureen Christensen '72 (left), co-director of the Upper Room Spiritual Center, spoke with Kerrin McCarthy '15 (right), one of the GCU students who helped produce *Sisters of Mercy Share Their Stories*.



Junior Lisa Gravato, who also helped produce *Sisters of Mercy Share Their Stories*, took a selfie with Sister Diane.

@ Visit [http://bit.ly/GCU\\_SoM](http://bit.ly/GCU_SoM) to watch *Sisters of Mercy Share Their Stories*.

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Visit [georgian.edu/plannedgiving](http://georgian.edu/plannedgiving) for more information.

# In Remembrance of M. Christina Geis, RSM, '49

By Suzanne Pilgram, Associate Professor Emerita of Art

*Editor's Note: Sister Christina Geis, who was an accomplished artist, administrator, author, creator, educator, lecturer, leader, researcher, scholar, and traveler, served God as a Sister of Mercy for 80 years until her passing in April at age 95. She taught for 23 years in the Metuchen, Camden, and Trenton dioceses. In 1957, she was appointed chair of the Department of Studio Art and Art History at Georgian Court College. She was also responsible for the placement of the then-college and its campus on the National Register of Historic Places. She wrote a detailed book, Georgian Court: An Estate of the Gilded Age (1982), which depicts the rich art and social history of the former owner of the university property.*



Sec1:17



Sister Christina at the 1985 dedication of the M. Christina Geis Gallery

day, I am exceedingly grateful to Sister Christina because she hired me in 1981, thus beginning for me a career in art education, my halcyon days. She proved to be a wonderful mentor, colleague, and friend whose advice was usually great, and her encouragement always helpful.

If you look at any of Sister Christina's watercolors, you'll immediately notice the beautiful colors—the abundant blues and greens, with flashes of red, yellow, and orange. These pictures link us to the beauty of the Georgian Court campus, which is part of Sister Christina's legacy. Whether we enjoy the environment in solitude or with others, we ought to be grateful for people, such as Sister Christina, and those who work today to maintain and enhance the ever-changing, yet singularly beautiful, environment of Georgian Court University.

It is an honor for me to offer a few reflections about the Sister Christina I knew and admired, though I am mindful that Sister Christina preferred working behind the scenes. As many of us are aware, the Department of Art, the architecture of the Gould estate, as well as the maintenance of the Georgian Court grounds, were under the watchful eyes of Sister Christina. While small in stature, she was formidable in all that she did. She exhibited great patience as she worked steadily and meticulously toward meeting all commitments, and inspired her students and colleagues to achieve the same level of excellence.

In appreciation for her years of commitment to the Department of Art, the campus art gallery was officially named the M. Christina Geis Gallery in 1985. Unbeknownst to most people, such an action caused her considerable discomfort because she disliked being thrust into the limelight. Some years after her retirement, however, when she returned to the campus for a visit, she seemed delighted to see her name attached to the gallery. In truth, no one deserves recognition more than Sister Christina for her dedication to and work for Georgian Court.

I have attempted to create at least an impression of a person very dear to many and appreciated by many, many more. To this



# Giving is Good

On Tuesday, May 5,  
Georgian Court University  
held its second annual  
Day of Giving Campaign.  
How did the results break down?

1,504%

Increase in Donations from  
2014 Campaign

1,278%

Increase in Number of Donors  
from 2014 Campaign

71

Alumni Donors

115

Number of Donors

\$45.14

Average Gift

\$5,191

Amount Raised

Donors included alumni, faculty and staff, students, parents, and friends. We raised more than \$5,000 in support of the Sister Rosemary E. Jeffries, Ph.D., '72 Endowed Scholarship, which was generously matched by an anonymous donor. The Day of Giving Campaign, with outreach through social media, e-mail, phone calls, and tables set up on campus, represents our most successful single day of giving event. Thank you to everyone who participated!



# GCU Soccer Gains National Attention

*By Christopher McKibben*

**G**eorgian Court University men's and women's soccer stepped onto the national stage this fall as both Michael Clarke and Lizzy Kroon earned selection to the 2015 NCAA Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) All-America Teams.



*Lizzy Kroon*

Lizzy, a CCA All-American Third-Team selection, is the lone Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) representative on the list and becomes the first member of the GCU women's squad to earn All-American status since Kelly Lyons received Third-Team recognition back in 2009.

The Bayville, New Jersey, native adds this honor to her collection of accolades that includes: First-Team All-CACC, CACC Player of the Year, CCA All-East Region First Team, and National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) All-East Region Second Team. The goal-scoring sophomore topped the conference with 18 goals, 43 points, and 92 shots. She also placed fifth overall with her seven assists, leading the Lions to the 2015 CACC regular season title.

Lizzy now owns 29 goals in 40 career games, after pacing the Lions to the nation's sixth-best scoring offense (3.15 goals-per-game) this season.

Joining Lizzy on the All-CACC squad were: Casey O'Connor (2015 CACC Defensive Player of the Year, First Team) Morgan LaDuca (First

Team), Rachel Marino (First Team), Tayler Bramley (Second Team), and Tori Capestro (Second Team).

Lizzy also dazzled off the pitch, earning a place on the 2015 College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District Women's Soccer Team while being named the CACC's Student-Athlete of the Month for November.

In men's soccer, Michael Clarke made history when he became the program's first All-American with an Honorable Mention nod. This is in addition to becoming the first-ever GCU men's soccer All-Region Second-Team selection a year ago, and the university's first male soccer student-athlete to be named an All-Region First-Team selection this fall.

The Essex, England, native enjoyed a stellar junior collegiate campaign as he topped the conference with 17 goals, tying him for eighth in the national rankings. Michael also set the CACC standard with 36 total points, while placing fourth with 54 shots.



*Michael Clarke*

Also an All-CACC First-Team selection in 2015, Michael posted three multi-goal efforts, including two hat tricks and an incredible five-goal effort in a 6-2 defeat of visiting Goldey-Beacom College back on October 6.

The all-time leading scorer in program history, Michael has netted 35 career goals along with nine assists and 79 points.



*CACC Women's Soccer Coach of the Year Jim Moore*

In other news, the CACC announced that GCU's James Moore is its 2015 BSN Sports Women's Soccer Coach of the Year.

Coach Moore and Assistant Coach Amy Stainton led the Lions to their best season as an NCAA Division II program (since 2002) with a perfect 11-0-1 mark vs. conference foes and a stellar 15-3-2 record overall while outscoring their opponents by an incredible margin of 63-12. The win total is the program's highest since Georgian Court won 19 regular-season contests as a member of the NAIA back in 1995.

Compiling a roster that consists of six All-CACC players, as well as the 2015 Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year, GCU held opponents to a miniscule 0.59 goals-against average, which included 12 shutouts.

"I am very lucky to have such wonderful players who worked so hard to make this season successful," says Coach Moore. "I also need to thank my assistant coach Amy Stainton, who has given so much for the betterment of this program; we wouldn't be in this position without her."

Coach Moore notes that "it is truly an honor to be recognized by my colleagues in the CACC with this award, which is a wonderful acknowledgement of the time that so many have put into the season."

# GCU Lions Welcomes Four New Coaches

*By Christopher McKibben*

The Georgian Court University Office of Athletics and Recreation needed a rush order on name tags in 2015 as the Lions introduced four new head coaches during the year. GCU welcomed Nicole Degenhardt (softball), Mickey Hover (men's lacrosse), Brian Reese (men's basketball) and Amy Rizzo (women's lacrosse) to the staff.

Coach Nicole Degenhardt joins the Lions after leading NCAA Division III College of Saint Elizabeth softball since 2012. The former North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) Coach of the Year also served as the floor general of the Saint Elizabeth women's basketball team since 2011.

A former three-sport athlete at Felician College (now University), Coach Degenhardt earned All-CACC honors in softball and volleyball before graduating in 2011 with a degree in mathematics education/special education. Upon graduation, the Secaucus, New Jersey, native taught high school and middle school mathematics in Wood-Ridge, New Jersey, before accepting the position of associate athletic director/recruiting coordinator at Saint Elizabeth.

Coach Mickey Hover is the Lions' initial men's lacrosse head coach as GCU prepares to make its debut this spring. He played a vital role in the launch and development of the men's lacrosse program as an assistant coach at Gwynedd Mercy University (2008–2012) and joins the Lions after two seasons as head coach at Immaculata University in Immaculata, Pennsylvania. A member of NCAA Division III and the Colonial States Athletic Conference (CSAC), the Montgomery High School, New Jersey, graduate increased the Might Macs' roster size by 86 percent over two years with the addition of 39 student-athletes. His squad excelled in the classroom as well, posting the second-highest team GPA among conference teams in 2014.

Coach Hover is a 2008 graduate of Southern New Hampshire University (Northeast-10) where he received his undergraduate degree in sports management. He earned a master's degree in

elementary education from Gwynedd Mercy in 2013 and also played professional lacrosse with the New Jersey Jesters and Philadelphia Wings.

Coach Brian Reese comes to GCU after serving as an assistant coach at Monmouth University since 2011 under Head Coach King Rice, his former teammate at the University of North Carolina under legendary Head Coach Dean Smith.

Coach Reese, who won a national championship with the Tar Heels in 1993, played in 134 games during his four years,

averaging 8.3 points and 3.3 rebounds per game, while shooting over 50 percent for his career. He was the 40<sup>th</sup> player in UNC history to score at least 1,000 points in his career, finishing with 1,113. His best season was UNC's national championship year of 1992–1993, when he averaged 11.4 points and 3.6 rebounds per game to help lead the Tar Heels to their third NCAA title.

After graduating from UNC in 1994, Coach Reese spent the summer and preseason with the Milwaukee Bucks. He also played professionally in Austria, Belgium, the Dominican Republic, England, Finland, Iceland, France, Korea, Taiwan, and Puerto Rico.

Coach Amy Rizzo, the fourth head coach in program history, joins the Lions after leading fellow Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) member, Caldwell University, for its initial two women's lacrosse seasons of 2014 and 2015.

Before coming to Caldwell, Coach Rizzo served as an assistant coach at Adelphi

University in 2011–2012, helping the Panthers reach the NCAA Division II Tournament and capture their third consecutive Northeast-10 Conference title.

A native of Jackson, New Jersey, Coach Rizzo attended Long Island University in Brooklyn, New York, where she earned all-Northeast Conference honors four times and became the program's all-time leading scorer with 185 goals and 249 points. She received a bachelor's degree in management and marketing in 2007, and earned a master's degree in marketing from LIU in 2010.

*Softball Head Coach  
Nicole Degenhardt*



*Men's Lacrosse Head Coach  
Mickey Hover*



*Men's Basketball Head Coach  
Brian Reese*



*Women's Lacrosse  
Head Coach Amy Rizzo*

# GCU Athletics Debuts Turf Field for Soccer and Lacrosse

By Christopher McKibben

**G**eorgian Court University athletics marked another milestone this past summer as the Lions debuted its new turf field complex. The project consisted of a 103,917-square-foot conversion of the soccer and lacrosse grass field within the university's track & field complex and is considered an investment in the university's growth.

"The new turf field brings exciting opportunities to Georgian Court," said then-GCU President Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72. "The GCU Lions have a rich history of record-breaking seasons and competitive championships among our women's teams, and with the continued inclusion of new men's sports, the turf field will be a definite asset for all student-athletes."

"A turf field is a tremendous incentive when it comes to the recruitment of collegiate soccer and lacrosse student-athletes," said GCU Director of Athletics and Recreation Laura B. Liesman. "The new field is a welcome addition to the Georgian Court campus and the top-quality athletic venues we currently provide."

The university also expects the turf field to improve scheduling consistency. In previous seasons, teams have lost practice and playing days because of heavy snow or rain-soaked fields. As New Jersey winters sometimes drag into early spring, coaches have even run drills in the parking lot to make up for lost practice time.

"It was crucial to develop a playing surface that can withstand the year-round rigors of our NCAA Division II men's and women's soccer and lacrosse squads, as well as the unpredictable offerings of Mother Nature," added Ms. Liesman.



Manasquan-based Suburban Consulting Engineers and FieldTurf of Auburn Hills, Michigan, managed the estimated \$700,000 installation.

For decades, the GCU Lions have won conference championships and achieved record-breaking seasons in women's lacrosse, soccer, basketball, cross country, softball, tennis, indoor and outdoor track & field, and volleyball. With the coed transition in Fall 2013, the Lions built upon their strong women's program by adding men's soccer, basketball, cross country, and indoor and outdoor track & field. The Lions continue to expand with the addition of men's lacrosse, which is scheduled for a Spring 2016 start.

The GCU athletics program currently has nearly 225 student-athletes and is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II and the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC).



## KEEP UP!

Catch all of the 2015-2016 GCU men's and women's basketball action, even if you can't make it to a game. Our recently upgraded Web cast allows fans to watch live and to view archived high-definition game footage. Plus, our newly added play-by-play audio broadcast at [ESPNWilliamsport.com](http://ESPNWilliamsport.com) gives you, our worldwide fan base, a chance to follow the Lions from *anywhere!*

**Need more information?**  
E-mail [cmckibben@georgian.edu](mailto:cmckibben@georgian.edu) or  
call 732.987.2683.

Here's how:

**GO** to [GCULions.com](http://GCULions.com) to visit the team schedule pages.

**LOOK** for the BoxCast video link or audio link associated with the game and tune in!

**LISTEN** at [ESPNWilliamsport.com](http://ESPNWilliamsport.com) on your computer or smartphone.

**READ** news, stats, and daily game recaps at [GCULions.com](http://GCULions.com).





*Playing for The Court in the NAIA National Basketball Tournament in the early 1990s*

## Basketball Alumna to Be Inducted into Inaugural CACC Hall of Fame

*By Christopher McKibben*

The Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) is proud to announce that Georgian Court University basketball legend Carol Walters has been included in its six-member 2015–2016 Hall of Fame Class, which is the inaugural class in conference history.

Ms. Walters enjoyed a legendary career for the then-Georgian Court College women's hoops program and still ranks as the school's all-time leading scorer with 2,885 points. The mark has stood for 24 years since her graduation in 1991. She was twice named the CACC Women's Basketball Player of the Year and earned First-Team All-Conference honors three times. Ms. Walters' accolades weren't limited to the CACC, as she also made her mark at the regional and national levels. She was named the most valuable player of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) District 31 three times and was also a three-time First-Team All-District honoree. Ms. Walters was also named an NAIA Third-Team All-American twice. She was inducted into the GCU Athletic Hall of Fame on February 8, 2003.

CACC Commissioner Dan Mara and Georgian Court University will honor Ms. Walters on January 30 during halftime of the Lions' women's basketball contest vs. Post University, which coincides with GCU's annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day celebration.

In existence for more than 50 years, the CACC features a wonderful past, exciting current achievements, and a bright future. The newly formed Hall of Fame celebrates the tradition of the league, its historic moments, and the individuals who shaped those memories. The CACC is an NCAA Division II Conference composed of 14 institutions in Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. The member institutions are Bloomfield College, Caldwell University, Chestnut Hill College, Concordia College (N.Y.), Dominican College (N.Y.), Felician University, Georgian Court University, Goldey-Beacom College, Holy Family University, Nyack College, Philadelphia University, Post University of Waterbury, University of the Sciences, and Wilmington University (Del.).

## Basketball Scores Hall-of-Famer Keynote Speaker for Tip-Off Dinner

*By Christopher McKibben*

The 2015 Georgian Court University Men's and Women's Basketball Tip-Off Dinner took place on Saturday, October 24, in the historic Casino on the GCU campus. The Lions enjoyed a night of dining and celebration, along with a silent auction.

A "must" for any basketball fan, the evening served as an opportunity to meet and greet GCU head coaches (and former NCAA greats) Brian Reese and Jasmina "Jazz" Perazic, as well as their coaching staffs and rosters, as the Lions prepared to kick off an exciting season of hoops.

This year's keynote speaker was none other than Women's Basketball Hall-of-Famer Theresa Grentz, who currently serves as head coach at Lafayette College. Formerly at Saint Joseph's University in Pennsylvania, Rutgers University, and the University of Illinois, Coach Grentz made numerous appearances in the

NCAA Tournament. She also manned the sidelines for the U.S. National Team, including the 1992 Olympic squad that earned the bronze medal in the Barcelona games.

A member of both the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame and Naismith Hall of Fame, Coach Grentz is a past recipient of the WBCA National Coach of the Year Award, as well as the Carol Eckman Award and Joe Lapcick Character Award. She was also voted Atlantic-10 Coach of the Year on four separate occasions.

The former star center at Immaculata College is one of the pivotal characters in the 2009 film *The Mighty Macs*, which chronicled her team's extraordinary success. Coach Grentz's book, *Lessons Learned While Playing a Child's Game*, was made available for sale (with autographs) at the dinner.

### Did You Know?

Georgian Court student-athletes' Academic Success Rate (ASR) is 93%, placing GCU 11<sup>th</sup> among more than 300 NCAA Division II schools and 22 percentage points higher than the national average!\*

*\*ASR represents student-athletes who graduate within six years of initial college enrollment; reflects 2014 data.*

# Globe-Trotting Alumna Passes on Love of History and Culture

By Tara M. Strickland

Put your finger on a spinning globe, and chances are that the country you point to is one Eugenia M. Palmegiano, J.D., Ph.D., '60 has visited. In fact, Dr. Palmegiano has been to more than 150 countries (out of 195 currently acknowledged by the United States). That makes it safe to say the professor emerita with a focus on transnational history was more than qualified to teach at St. Peter's University in Jersey City, one of the first four schools (and one of less than 30 currently) to achieve nongovernmental organization status with the United Nations.

"Technically, I'm retired," Dr. Palmegiano said wryly during an October interview at St. Peter's. "But everybody keeps telling me that the 'R' on my chest means returning."

Dr. Palmegiano, who ran her university's NGO for 20 years, was back on campus to meet with UN representatives. While she no longer teaches, her nearly 50-year tenure at St. Peter's is marked by great accomplishment. She received the university's Senior Research Professor Award and the Johnson Award for Excellence in Teaching as well as the New Jersey Department of Higher Education Faculty Recognition Award and a Fellowship on the Academic Profession and the New Jersey Independent College Fund Dedicated Professor Award. She also served as director of the Honors Program and director of faculty research and sponsored programs and has won several grants to support her own research and teaching.

Specializing in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century British press, Dr. Palmegiano has written six books and more than 40 articles and papers. She is a member and past president of the American Journalism Historians Association and a member of the American Historical Association.

But none of these achievements are surprising when you learn that she was the first woman to receive a Ph.D. in History from Rutgers University.



*One thing Dr. Palmegiano looks for when she travels to a new place is housing. In Papua New Guinea, the villages had cottages relatively close together. But there were no fences, and doors were invariably open, proving how much trust there was among neighbors.*

I came back. Then I was able to finish, fairly quickly," she said, adding that she then became a faculty member at St. Peter's.

She wrote her first book, putting her on the path to tenure. But never one to rest on her laurels (and also being a very young Ph.D. graduate) she decided to go to law school because, she said, "I thought I would never last in academe."



Dr. Eugenia M. Palmegiano

Dr. Palmegiano said she "loved law school—intellectually, it's really wonderful," but for her, practicing her specialty in corporate law was "so deadly dull."

"You just file endlessly boring forms, and I said, 'Back I go to the academy.' I came back to St. Peter's and didn't leave."

For decades, she was dedicated to sharing her extensive knowledge of both academic and personal accounts of history with her students, and in 2011, Dr. Palmegiano was inducted into Georgian Court's Court of Honor, which recognizes notable alumni.

Dr. Palmegiano, who had to challenge others to obtain her graduate education, is committed to helping others pursue their dreams. She recently completed funding of an endowed scholarship that will be awarded annually to an undergraduate GCU history major who intends to pursue graduate study in history. This fall, the inaugural merit-based award was awarded to senior Amanda Earle '15.

Amanda met Dr. Palmegiano at the Scholarship Brunch on October 18, an annual event that brings donors and scholarship recipients together. The meeting had a tremendous impact on Amanda, who learned firsthand of Dr. Palmegiano's degree first at Rutgers.

"I found that to be so amazing," said Amanda. "I had a minor in women's studies, so anything having to do with female firsts really excites me! I was so happy to be the first recipient of this scholarship because I felt like I had such a connection with Dr. Palmegiano."

But the scholarship went far beyond the personal connection for Amanda, who had received the news of the scholarship only days after suffering a financial setback that threatened her academic plans.

"It truly was a miracle. I wasn't even planning on finishing my college degree, even though I only had one semester left," said Amanda, who graduated in December. "I didn't think I'd be able to afford it."



*In Papua New Guinea, that trust and cooperation was also evident in the way men worked. Several families typically fished together using a longboat to go further out, clearly rejecting competition in favor of common sense.*

## Dr. Palmegiano on . . .

### Giving Back

"Isn't that our job as adults—to leave a better world?"

### Her Next Countries to Visit

"For starters, Bhutan. I really think I would like to do that fairly soon. There are places that I would love to go but increasingly, I suspect will not be possible for any of us to go to. . . . I would also like to see Mongolia. There are very few places left in Asia that I have not seen. . . . But the really hard continent to do is Africa. There are 52 countries, and I've done almost half."

# REUNION WEEKEND 2015

*On June 5, the Georgian Court University Alumni Association welcomed more than 140 alumni back to The Court to be reunited with classmates, friends, and family. It was an action-filled weekend, beginning with Friday's cocktail hour in the Mansion.*

Saturday's lunch in the Wellness Center was, by far, the most popular event of the weekend with 128 attendees. At lunch, the Reunion Committee presented Rosemary E. Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72, outgoing president, with the 2015 Alumni Service Award. Mary Bowman Halpin '66, chair of the Reunion 2015 Committee, also introduced biology major Samantha Kuntz, who shared her poignant story of overcoming obstacles encountered as a former foster child, being a student as a single mother, and maintaining a high GPA. Ms. Halpin noted that if 100 people in the room donated \$2 each, GCU's alumni participation rate would increase by a full percentage point and help us continue to raise scholarship funds to support deserving students like Samantha. As a result, more than \$2,000 was raised at the lunch, and our alumni participation rate increased. Afterward, alumni joined faculty and staff as they broke off into "Campus Open House" lectures and presentations. Many stayed to enjoy dinner, parting ways on Sunday morning after a quick continental breakfast. Alumni had the opportunity to see nearly every corner of campus, and most importantly, delight in fun and fellowship with one another throughout the weekend.



(Left to right): Brenda Wolski Lane '65, Loretta Giammalvo Zupa '65

@ Visit [alumni.georgian.edu/reunion2015](http://alumni.georgian.edu/reunion2015) to see more photos from Reunion 2015.

A promotional graphic for the 2016 Reunion. It features a background image of a statue of a man, likely a historical figure associated with the university, set against a green, leafy background. The text is overlaid on the image in a white box.

**REUNION** June 3-5  
*2016*

Join your fellow alumni for a weekend of Georgian Court traditions and new events such as a porch party and farewell brunch. Check your mailbox in the spring for your invitation.

We look forward to seeing you soon!  
[alumni.georgian.edu/reunion2016](http://alumni.georgian.edu/reunion2016)

GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY  
THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY





*(Left to right): Marjorie Murphy Hale '68, Alumni Association president; Keri Tarantino Carlton '99, Alumni Association vice president; Linda Orlando '07, GCU trustee; Mary Casey Nebus, Ph.D., '69, Alumni Association director; Nancy Lamb Ryan '68*



*(front): Marjorie Murphy Hale '68, Alumni Association president; Mary Bowman Halpin '66, Alumni Association director; Beverly Milyo '69, '83; Dorothy Donohue Jacobs '69, Alumni Association director (back): Dawn DeBatt '01, Mary Casey Nebus, Ph.D., '69, Alumni Association director; Christine Stibler Gorman '95, Christina Georgas '11, Alicia Warnsdorfer Somers '95, Alumni Association director*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JUBILARIANS!



On September 12, 2015, three Sisters of Mercy—Ann Byrnes '70 (left), Janice Edwards '70 (right), and Katherine Cairone '64 (seated)—celebrated 50 years at their Golden Jubilee in the Mount Saint Mary Chapel.



Mary Martha Harcar '54 celebrated 75 years as a Sister of Mercy.

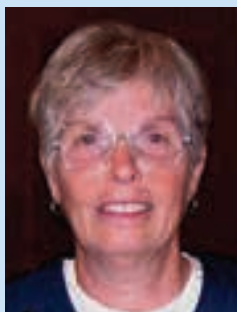
Sisters of Mercy celebrating 60 years in 2015 are:



Mary Terena Gentili '70



Mary Karina Haywood '70



Dorothy Jancola '69



Joanmarie McDonnell '55



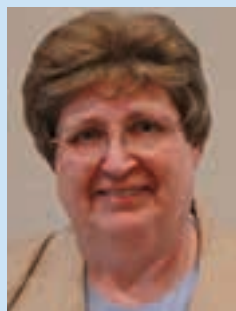
Mary Marjorie Smith '69



Mary Catharine Sullivan '55, GCU archives volunteer and former professor of world languages (Spanish)



Diane Szubrowski, '68, GCU donor relations



Mary Jane Veldof '67



### Meet Jennifer Shufan, Director of Alumni and Donor Engagement

Ms. Shufan, GCU's new director of alumni and donor engagement, oversees alumni relations and is placing special emphasis on philanthropic engagement and increasing the alumni participation rate. She also serves as a liaison with the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

"Never have I worked at a school with such a deep and personal concern for our students and alumni," she says. "That inspired me from the moment I stepped on campus and continues to drive me in my new role."

Ms. Shufan joined GCU as a major gift officer in late 2014, and is a career professional in fund-raising and nonprofit management. At San Diego State University, she supported the university's establishment of a philanthropic foundation. She later managed annual fund efforts and related events for the University of California—San Diego and was a liaison between the health sciences volunteer boards and leadership. Later, she conducted research and strategic analysis for fund-raising efforts at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC Medical and Health Sciences Foundation. Beyond higher education, she has worked with religious, arts, and social services organizations.

She is excited about putting her experience to work in support of GCU's Alumni Association.

"I'm always exploring ways to enrich the lives of our alumni," she says. "My goal is to identify and provide opportunities that resonate with alumni—opportunities that draw on their skills and talents to create mutually beneficial relationships between them and The Court."



## A First Meeting—March 26, 2015



Jennifer Shufan, GCU director of alumni and donor engagement, with Roseanne Hill O'Brien '64 (front) and Mary Anne Hartigan Schrank '59 (back left)

These two alumnae live within blocks of one another and recently had the opportunity to meet for the very first time over lunch at the Midtown Tap and Tearoom in Albany, New York.

## Alumni & Employee Gathering—September 26, 2015



(left to right): Cindy Lisowski '83, '95, '06, director of data management/prospect research; Jill Vannella '86, '10, former technology support specialist/help desk and database software support; Katherine Lynch '87, '02, former student activities director and assistant basketball coach; Shelley Lynch Wasilewski '73, '95, former director of alumni affairs; Patricia Clarke '91; Mary Estelle, former manager of payroll; Debra Emery '98, former head basketball coach and director of athletics; Helen McGrath, former switchboard operator; Alexis Jankowski '03, '07, assistant director of conferences and special events; Louise Wootton, Ph.D., GCU professor of biology; Erin Myers Wirzburger '06, former conference services coordinator

Several Georgian Court alumni, many of whom are current or former employees, gathered at Otto's Sports Bar in Ocean Township, which is co-owned by Debra Emery '98.



## Class of 1966 Annual Gathering—September 30, 2015

(left to right): Susan Flynn Fornatale, Mary Bowman Halpin, Pat Casey Teefy, Bess Healey Mulvihill, Mary Kenny Folan, Ginger Brown Moran and Beth Healey DiTolla.

Friends from the Class of 1966 held a mini-reunion at the Parrish Art Museum in Southampton, New York.



## Calling All Decades—June 18, 2015

(seated): Ed Laubach; J. Lorraine Oklamcak Laubach '54; Beverly Milyo '69, '83 (standing): Cheryl Ruszczyk Schmid '76; Steve Schmid; Alicia Warnsdorfer Somers '95; Shelley Lynch Wasilewski '73, '95, former Georgian Court director of alumni affairs; Jennifer Uhl Romeo '95

Alumni from the Middlesex County area of New Jersey gathered to "kick off" the start of summer and the end of the school year. They enjoyed a wonderful dinner and conversation at Ria Mar in South River.



### ● 1930s

**Gertrude Turner Mahon '35** recently celebrated the joyous occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 2, 2015, with her family. In September, with much sadness, she mourned the passing of her daughter Elizabeth, affectionately known as Betsy. Gertrude's son Billy and his wife, Trish, live in Aberystwyth, Wales. Their children are both at school—Eoin is at Cambridge studying linguistics and Aoife is at Bristol University studying French and German. Gertrude's son David and his wife, Gina, live near Gertrude and have four children: Sarahfaye teaches biology at Paramus Catholic High School; Timothy is a lieutenant at the FDNY; Emily spent 2014 in Japan teaching English; and Hilary lives in Maryland and works for the National Institute of Health.

### ● 1950s

**Caroline Lewis Curran, LCSW, '50** and her husband, Norman, celebrated 60 years of marriage in November 2014.

**Adelaide Ruggiero Roberts '57** played a concert, *One Piano, Four Hands*, with Matthew Odell, narrated by Marie Duane at the Rose Hill campus of Fordham University, on October 30, 2014.

### ● 1960s

**Mary Lou Reese LoVecchio '62** was one of five painters invited to participate in an exhibit of watercolors at Gallery Seven in Maynard, Massachusetts. She has also exhibited at two other venues in Concord, Massachusetts. For the past seven years, she has been active in the Daughters of Abraham: Women's Interfaith Book Group and she presently serves as a member of its steering committee.

**Virginia Johnson Dahill '63**, a retired elementary teacher who taught reading for the Perth Amboy Board of Education, was inducted into the National Association of Professional Women 2015–2016 VIP Woman of the Year Circle for her demonstrated leadership in education. She is also actively involved with the Waretown Historical Society in Ocean Township.

**Patricia McFadden Dombal '63** and her husband, Bob, are the proud grandparents of twins. Robert Riley and Blake Ashleigh were born November 2, 2014, to their son, Jonathan, and his wife, Charlene.

### ● 1970s

**Mary Shamus Zehrer, RSM, '70** retired in June 2014 from Our Lady Star of the Sea School in Atlantic City after 46 years as an educator, 38 years of which she served as the school's principal.

**Helen Hanna Casey '71**, the president of Howard Hanna Real Estate Services, ranks as the most powerful woman in the residential real estate industry according to the Swanepoel Power 200 ranking.

**Valerie Prevosto Maher '72** and her husband, George, are the proud grandparents of Edward Andrew Maher, born on March 13, 2014.

**Gayle Spear Cratty '73** and her husband, Tom, and their children Jason and Jennifer were among the "Unsung Heroes" honored at the People of Distinction Humanitarian Awards for their family's commitment to their community through volunteerism.

**Shelley Lynch Wasilewski '73, '95's** grandson Ryker Michael was born August 23, 2015, to her daughter Amy and son-in-law Chris Kovacs.

**Evelyn Saul Quinn, M.Ed., M.S.W., '74's** granddaughter Hazel Elizabeth was born June 21, 2015, to her daughter Caitlyn and son-in-law James Pictenger.

**Superior Court Judge Marlene Lynch Ford, J.S.C., '76** has been named to head the Ocean County vicinage of state Superior Court.

### ● 1980s

**Violeta Peters, RN, '80**, was awarded the Earl Thomas Teasley Humanitarian Award on June 1, 2015, by the Monmouth County Human Relations Commission for community service. Violeta came to the United States from Puerto Rico when she was nine, and began working as a junior volunteer at Monmouth Medical Center when she was in high school. She went on to become a registered nurse through Fairleigh Dickinson University, received her bachelor's degree from GCU, and then returned to FDU for a master's degree. In 2003, Violeta became the CEO of Acute-Care Health System; in addition to her other accomplishments, she helped establish the Specialty Hospital of Central Jersey in Lakewood. She is the president of the Latino American Association of Monmouth County, has served on local and county school boards, and has been a delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

**Elizabeth Pfautz Gatsch, RN, '81** and her husband, **Joseph Gatsch '91**, were married in 1988. After a nearly 20-year career with BASF Corporation, she left to pursue another dream—to become a registered nurse. Elizabeth worked in oncology as a research nurse and then returned to school for a graduate degree (M.S.N.) to become an adult-geriatric nurse practitioner. She graduated from Gwynedd-Mercy University in August 2014. She currently lives in Berks County, Pennsylvania, and works in an internal medicine practice in Lancaster County. Her memories of Georgian Court are the best and some of the most wonderful times of her life!

**Mary Cranwell '82, '97**, GCU director of conferences and special events, received the Jack Thornton Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Collegiate Conference and Events Directors—International (ACCED-I) at their annual international conference in March 2015. The award recognizes an individual for distinguished service, devotion, and dedication to the collegiate conferencing profession and to ACCED-I. The recipient must exhibit strong leadership, visionary and mentor qualities; possess strong professional ethics and principles; and contribute in positive ways to furthering the goals and objectives of ACCED-I.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE.  
GET INVOLVED.  
SHOW YOUR TRUE BLUE.**

Visit [alumni.georgian.edu/volunteer](http://alumni.georgian.edu/volunteer)  
for more information.



**Marcianne Hansen Moe '84** (bottom right) and her cousin **Cristina Field Tregillies '89** (back row, center) gathered with parents, aunts, uncles, and many cousins at Georgian Court for the 66<sup>th</sup> annual picnic for the family of the late Mary Joseph Cunningham, RSM, '53, former GCU vice president for administrative services.

**Theresa McDermott Gordon '83**'s son Ben is studying engineering at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

**Nicolena Nazzaro Muzur '83, '06** has been named principal of Ridgeway Elementary School in Manchester Township, where she had previously been the district's elementary curriculum coordinator.

**James Hauenstein '88** is the principal/president of Mater Dei Prep in Middletown. Prior to this he was the assistant superintendent of the Toms River Regional School District.

**Maryellen Klements '88** accepted a position with Healogics as safety director. She has relocated to Bradenton, Florida, where she purchased a home and is enjoying the sunny days with her boyfriend, Geoff, and their two cats.

## ● 1990s

**Maureen O'Rourke-Hemhauser '90** joined Peapack-Gladstone Bank as a senior vice president and chief compliance officer in February 2015, where she is responsible for overseeing the bank's compliance, bank secrecy act, OFAC, and anti-money laundering programs. Maureen earned a

bachelor of science degree in accounting from GCU and has worked in the financial services industry for 25 years, most recently at FIS Global as senior compliance manager for established and de novo financial institutions throughout New Jersey and New York. She is also an active member at Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church, where she has taught religious education for over 10 years.

**Elisa Ferrante Riis '90** is a kindergarten teacher for the West Virginia School for the Blind in Romney.

**Marguerite Defilippo Halloran '91, '14** is the new director of religious education at St. Joseph Parish in Toms River. She has been in religious education for more than 30 years and was a public middle school teacher for 35 years. Marge and her husband, Walter, have two daughters.

**Carol Walters '91** has been selected as one of the six-member 2015–2016 inaugural class of the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Hall of Fame. Carol had a legendary basketball career at Georgian Court and still ranks as our all-time leading scorer with 2,885 points. She was twice named the CACC Women's Basketball Player of the Year, earned First-Team All-Conference honors three

times, was the most valuable player of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) District 31 three times, was a three-time First-Team All-District honoree, and was an NAIA Third-Team All-American twice. Carol was also a member of the inaugural class of GCU's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003. She will be honored at Georgian Court on January 30, 2016.

**Theodora Christofi Sergiou '92** was recently included in *NJ Monthly's* list of the Top 25 Leading Woman Entrepreneurs and Business Owners. She was also celebrated as an Extraordinary Woman of Achievement by the Professional Women in Construction–New Jersey Chapter. Theodora is vice president of Nicholas Pools Inc., as well as a GCU lecturer in marketing and management.

**Denise Wiseman Lewicki, CPA, '94, '00** is the president of Lincoln College of New England in Southington, Connecticut. She had previously served as the school's vice president for administration and finance.

**Stacy McCormack Costa '96, '01** owns School Answers Academic Success Center in Colts Neck, which serves K–12 students who have learning problems or just want a boost up in a highly competitive learning environment.

**John Ravally, Ed.D., '96** is the superintendent for Franklin Township Schools.

**Dorothy Morris Guerrasio '97, '08** is the new director of religious education at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Hightstown. Prior to this, she served at St. Mary of the Lake Church in Lakewood, and the Church of Saint Denis in Manasquan. Dottie and her husband, Peter, have two daughters.

**Tara Jacques '97, '03** received the 2014 Ernie Kiehne Outstanding Volunteer Award for her dedicated service as an emergency medical technician (EMT) in New Jersey.

**Kimberly Casey '98** is a deputy sheriff for San Diego County in California.

**Lu-Ann Russell '98** was promoted to senior director of conference services and special events at Monmouth University.



## ● 2000s

**Charles Gates '00** is the new director of religious education at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Red Bank. Prior to this, he was in campus ministry in Red Bank Catholic High School. He previously worked on Wall Street for nearly 30 years. He and his wife, Patricia, have two sons and four grandchildren. Their son **Andrew Gates '04** is also a Georgian Court alumnus.

**Courtney Shaw Eidel '01** has been named the chief administrative officer for Community Options, Inc., a national nonprofit organization that provides housing and employment support to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In this role, she will be responsible for information technology, quality assurance, training, grants, and development. Courtney started with the company in 2010 as the senior director of human resources and was promoted to vice president of human resources and quality management in 2011.

**Nikima Barnhill Muller, CMC, CMR, '01** recently earned her certification as a certified municipal registrar (CMR). She continues to serve as acting township clerk of Mount Holly Township and is working towards her certification as a registered municipal clerk.

**Linda Arena Sorrentino '01**, her brothers Marc and Maximo, and their mother, Melissa, have been hired by BOND New York, a full-service real estate brokerage firm with seven Manhattan offices.

**Julianna King Williams '01** is the director of special projects at Association Headquarters, Inc., Moorestown, an association management company.

**Lisette Bethea '02** received her master's degree in educational administration from the College of New Jersey.

**Jennifer Feidt '02** is the assistant director of the Bradford Creative and Performing Arts Center (BCPAC) in Bradford, Pennsylvania.

**Melissa "Missy" Krupp '02** completed her Master of Arts in Instructional Technology at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey in December 2014. This is her second master's degree—the first is a Master of Arts in Teaching from Marygrove College.

**Helena "Joy" Wade '02** is the owner of Be The Difference, L.L.C., which specializes in inspirational T-shirts.

**Kristen Stashek, M.D., '04** is an assistant professor of gastrointestinal pathology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Fiah Gussin '05, '06**, GCU trustee, was appointed to the Trenton Board of Education; she is serving a three-year term that began in September 2014. She is the director of the Division of Recreation for the city of Trenton.

**Mary Mewherter Workman '05** is the new director of alumni relations and annual giving at Broward College in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

**David Ytreboe '05** is the new director of Pupil Services for Stafford Township Schools.

**Leslie Bridge '06**, who teaches biology, was selected as the 2015 Point Pleasant Beach High School Teacher of the Year. She also received this distinction in 2003.

**Victoria Applegate '07** is a sales representative for National Protection Service.

**Kelly Edinger Filler '07, '11** was honored as one of the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce's 2015 Citizens of the Year.

**Timothy Knipper '08** was named one of 12 national recipients of the Maytag Dependable Leader Award for his volunteer efforts with Boys & Girls Clubs. The award included a \$20,000 grant to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hudson County to provide educational scholarships to club members.

**Jennifer Stock-Riley '08** is a medical technologist at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune.

**Ellen Trevelise Sweeney '08, '11** is the primary therapist at Princeton House Behavioral Health.

**Heather Walker '08, '10** is coaching volleyball for the Northern Chill Volleyball Club in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada.

**Danielle Boyarsky Dehn '09** is the Northeast regional controller for Hearst Television Inc. in Mendham, Massachusetts.

**Alison Szymanski '09** was selected as the Educational Services Professional of the Year 2014–2015 at the Thomas G. Connors School in the Hoboken School District. Alison taught fifth- and sixth-grade special education at the school before becoming the response to intervention (RTI) specialist at both Connors and the Salvatore R. Calabro School. RTI is a multi-tier approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and behavior needs. Alison completed the Orton-Gillingham certification in multi-sensory reading at Fairleigh Dickinson University and is currently finishing coursework at Fairleigh Dickinson for a master's degree.



**Tanya Dinova '08** studied model community-based efforts to preserve Bornean species along the Kinabatangan River in Sabah (East Malaysia), during the summer of 2014, on the island of Borneo. Tanya, a park naturalist at Monmouth County Park System in Tinton Falls, took the graduate course in pursuit of her master's degree from Miami University's Global Field Program. Most recently, she studied what it takes to save species in the wild and engaged with local partners in Hawaii to develop and test site-specific methods of community engagement to sustain ecological and social health. (Read more about Tanya on page 24.)



**Barbara Zeman '09** teaches physics at the Dwight Morrow High School–Englewood Initiative, an alternative school for high-risk students.

## ● 2010s

**Regina Betz '10** is the marketing coordinator for marketing and community relations at the Queens University of Charlotte.

**Alyson Fischer '10** was appointed the director of health, physical education, and athletics for Lawrence Township Schools in January 2015. Prior to this, she was the assistant principal at Lawrence Township High School and a history teacher at Jackson Memorial High School.

**Adriane Gullotta-Gsell, Ph.D., '10** was a featured teacher in the Diocese of Trenton's Catholic Charismatic Renewal Women's Conference. A member and reader at Holy Cross Parish in Rumson, Adriane is a licensed psychologist who utilizes cognitive behavioral therapy and Christian counseling in her Red Bank practice. She is a Third Order Carmelite Lay Religious and a Commissioned Lay Ecclesial Minister (CLEM) with a master's degree in theology. She serves as a consultant to the diocesan Department of Pastoral Care and is one of the key presenters at pastoral care training workshops. She frequently speaks at church or diocesan gatherings on psycho-spiritual issues with the goal of building up the Body of Christ. She was also a speaker at the women's rally presented by the Catholic Women of Zion at Holy Family Church in Lakewood. Adriane has been married for 38 years and has two adult daughters.

**Karisa Terzian '10** has been hired by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to work in the Denver Airport.

**David Zwirz '10** was named the boys' head basketball coach at Jackson Liberty High School.

**Christina Georgas '11** started her own vegan and botanically based health and wellness business with Arbonne International. She was also recently given the opportunity to teach young adults in modeling and personal development at Barbizon in Red Bank. In addition, Christina still works as a program coordinator at the Small Business Development Center at Brookdale Community College, models formal wear for Elegant Bridal Productions, and is still very active with her church and in her community with various nonprofits.

**Samantha Glassford '12** earned a master's degree in English literature from Monmouth University in May 2014. She is now an English instructor at Brookdale Community College.

**Nicole Chaffer Lane '12** works at the Northern State Correctional Facility in Newport, Vermont, as an interventionist in their Risk Reduction Program.

**Sheri Silversmith '12** and her husband, **Adam Silversmith '14** have two children, Kyle and Kelly. Sheri is the program administrator for the Township of Jackson Senior Services Center. Adam is the division manager for Toms River Youth Services, as well as the CEO of Advanced Behavior Consulting, LLC.

**Brittney Brunson '13** is an assistant behavior analyst for the Building Bridges program in Neptune.

**Stacey Meissner O'Connor '13** received the 10<sup>th</sup> Legislative District's 2015 Excellence in Education Award, presented by New Jersey Senator Jim Holzapfel and Assemblyman Greg McGuckin. Stacey is a first-grade teacher at Manchester Township Elementary School.

**Jennifer Toslu '13** is the social services coordinator at Devereux PA Adult Services in Berwyn, Pennsylvania.

**Amy Berry '14** was appointed head coach of Jackson Liberty High School's girls volleyball team. She is also a personal trainer at Retro Fitness in Jackson.

**Victoria DePaolo '14** is a high school English teacher for the Keansburg School District.

**Samantha Lombardi '14** was a 2014 Teach for America Corps member. She was sent to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to teach second grade at Academy Central Elementary School, and later took over teaching fourth grade.

**Patricia Schaad '14** is a financial management analyst within the Naval Acquisition Career Center's Naval Acquisition Development Program (NADP) at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in Lakehurst.

**Kathleen Palese Blazewicz '15** is the new principal of All Saints Regional Catholic School in Manahawkin. Prior to this, she was at Holy Family School in Lakewood for 37 years, where she served as a classroom teacher, technology coordinator, assistant to the principal, technology director, coordinator of the middle school, and science teacher.

**Lisa Glassford, BCBA, '15** passed her BCBA exam and is now employed as a behavior analyst and assistant with Brain Builders, EPIC Health, and Beautiful Minds Behavior Analysis.

**Leah Peavy '15** is working in the finance department at Dr. Reddy's Laboratories in Princeton, which is an international pharmaceutical company based in India.

## Alumni Benefits

Being a Georgian Court alum has its privileges! All our alumni have access to:

- a lifelong professional e-mail address
- the Office of Career Services for résumé writing, interview skills, career testing, and job postings
- online career development tools
- professional development programs and continuing education units
- GCU library access
- free attendance at home GCU athletic events
- health, life, and long-term care insurance
- discounted property/casualty insurance
- use of the Dorothy Marron University Community Chapel for your wedding
- use of historic campus for wedding photos

Contact the Office of Alumni and Donor Engagement at 732.987.2298 or [alumni@georgian.edu](mailto:alumni@georgian.edu) for more information.

SEND YOUR ALUMNI NEWS TO  
the Office of Alumni and  
Donor Engagement,  
900 Lakewood Avenue,  
Lakewood, NJ 08701-2697  
or [alumni@georgian.edu](mailto:alumni@georgian.edu).

## Engagements

**Tara Jacques '97, '03** and Owen Kelly

**Laura Monzo '07** and Larry Doremus

**Jenne Castellini '10** and  
Nicholas A. Bergamo

**Nicholas Fargione '11** and  
Leann Rampulla

**Amanda Nichole Dilger '12** and  
John Phillip Bosmans Jr.

**Lauren Magaw '13** and  
**Philip Williams '13**

## Weddings

**Elizabeth Battista '71** and  
Joel R. Gooch, M.D.—1/28/15

**Gina Polverino '81** and  
Alfred Baietto—8/29/15\*

**Kathleen Yaede '01** and  
Sean Hoerster—2/15/14\*

**Stephanie Clougher '05** and  
Scott Nase—10/17/14



*Shelby Pagnotta '06 and Wes Rayner*

**Kate Cronin '07** and  
Brian Thomas—1/17/15\*

**Caroline Gaitens '07, '14** and  
Robert Velasquez—3/27/15\*

**Julie Posa '09** and  
Jonathan Ruch—10/10/15

**Michelle Hoffman '10** and  
John Zummo—10/11/14\*

**Kaitlyn McCallum '10, '14** and  
Nicholas Tassillo—10/4/14\*

**Joanna Barbuscio '11** and  
Michael Beese—5/11/14\*

**Deanna Glowzinski '11** and  
Devrin Vivino—8/15/14\*



*Rebecca Wolgast '12 and  
Domenick Davino '12—10/13/13*

**Corrin Dwyer '13** and  
Christopher Higgins—10/18/14\*

**Shaina Marotta '13** and  
Tyquan Euston—5/9/14\*

**Alisa Moretti '13** and Paul Naia—2/24/14

**Erin Sutura '13** and  
Kevin Bradshaw—8/8/15\*

*\*Wedding held in the Dorothy Marron  
University Community Chapel on the campus  
of Georgian Court University*

## Children

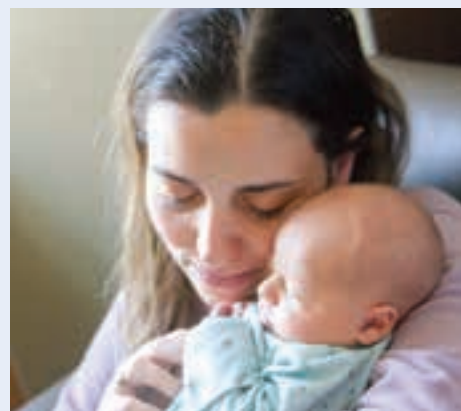
John and **Amy Henwood Kostyz '01**—  
Leigha, born 11/26/14, joins sisters  
Abigail, Rebecca, and Julianna

Paul and **Jessica Brown Greenberg  
'02**—Adam Jay, born 5/11/15, joins  
Ethan and Norah

**Amy Winkle '02** and Michael Smith—  
Elias, born 11/25/14

Elyse and **Peter J. Brum '03**—  
Laden Chase, born 11/2/15, joins  
brother Garrett Neil

Cory and **Krista Gilbert Kuncio '04**—  
Kayden Michael, born 11/12/14



*Robert and Theresa Passarelli  
Zacchia '04, '08—Nicolo Andrea, born  
5/11/15, joins sister Adriana Marina*

**Kevin Ford '05, '10** and **Jeanette Moro  
Ford '08**—Selena Antoinette, born  
9/1/15, joins brother Aiden Manuel

Joe and **Erin Myers Wirzburger '06**—  
Maxim Kenneth, born 11/17/14, joins  
sister Lily

Sarah and **Christopher Rossi '07**—Sage  
Catherine, born 2/16/15, joins brother  
Liam Gregory



*Remy and Ramona Diaz Pimental '10—  
Zion Marcos, born 5/25/15*

**Rosemarie Fabrizio '11** and Stephen  
Murray—Julianna Marie, born 9/14/15

Joseph and **Jennifer Carbonaro  
Fichner '11**—Aria, born 9/29/14

Muriel Higgins Siccardi '39  
 Eileen Vorbach Petullo '41  
 Georgette Schule Koenig '42  
 Gloria Miller Schraeder '42  
 Hazel Estell Snow '42  
 Alice McHugh Sexton '43  
 Mary Ann Fluehr Murphy '47  
 Josephine Badenhausen Conte '48  
 Patricia Scherer Gove '48  
 Patricia Mooney Denison '49  
 Mary Christina Geis, RSM, '49, sister of  
 Mary Geis, RSM, '54  
 Joan Iskyan Mulcahy '49  
 Victoria Pappaylion Freyer '50  
 Dorothy Rohan Berry '51  
 Mary McCloskey Marshall, U.S.A.F.  
 (Ret.), '53  
 Mary Jeannette O'Brien, RSM, '53  
 Theresa Becker Simmons '53  
 Mary Immaculate Conway, RSM, '54  
 Maura Elizabeth Parker, RSM, '55  
 Kathryn Jiampetti Bruno '57  
 Katherine Geller '57, formerly  
 Sister Mary Sienna  
 Mary Franey, RSM, '58, sister of  
 Mary Shaun Franey, RSM, '56  
 Myrna Power Klaassen '58  
 Claire Morrish '58

Mary Madonna Vona, RSM, '60, aunt of  
 Mary Lou Kosmoski Kline '84, '95  
 Marilyn Torromeo Biondi '62  
 Dorothy Dillon McGrath '63  
 Eleanore Grainda Woodring '63  
 Mary Ann Rutkowske Knight '65  
 Gretchen Hermann, RSM, M.D., '67  
 Mary Theresa Kilcomons, RSM, '68,  
 formerly Sister Mary Rosita  
 Patricia Ziegler Bilby '69  
 Victoria Klingler Craven '69  
 Dana Jamison Farkas '69  
 Patricia Pagnani Grace '69  
 Margaret Fischetti McCoy, J.D., '69  
 Claudia McCormack-Sibree '70  
 Peter Damian Mitchell, RSM, '71  
 Judith Rodgers Reese '71  
 Teresa King Gray '73, formerly  
 Sister James Mary  
 Carol Durek '74  
 Kelli McCarty Giuliano '75  
 Dorothy Echegaray Vicens '77  
 Mary Black '79, mother of Lu Anne Black  
 Meinders '81, '98  
 Zita Cullinan Hornidge '79, grandmother  
 of Julie Cimochoowski Bossow '99, and  
 Jennifer Cimochoowski Bismarck '99  
 Susan Oliver Porter '79

Marie Martz Parry '80  
 Susan Curtin '82  
 Elsie Armstrong '83  
 Nettie Wallach Hurdus '83  
 Patricia Cooney King '85  
 Robert Nagle '86, brother of  
 Louise Nagle Muth '90  
 Frank Gibson '87  
 Anna LaPaglia '88  
 Betty McCauley McCord '89  
 Linda Lensky Tiso '91  
 Dorothy Belbey '92  
 Joanne Roziewski McEvoy '93  
 Daniel O'Connor '93, husband of  
 Linda O'Connor '88  
 Regina Kapalski Stevenson '94  
 Bruce Hoffman '95  
 Kathy Staub, Ph.D., '95  
 Ellen Stanford '96  
 Brenda Hansen Laird '97  
 Teresa Cassin '01  
 Ronald Swayze '05, husband of  
 Helene Stroik Swayze '86  
 MaryClare DiMaggio '15  
 Dennis Branen, student  
 Jessica Hulsart, student  
 John Holland, former School of  
 Business adjunct



## 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.





# #GCUPRIDE

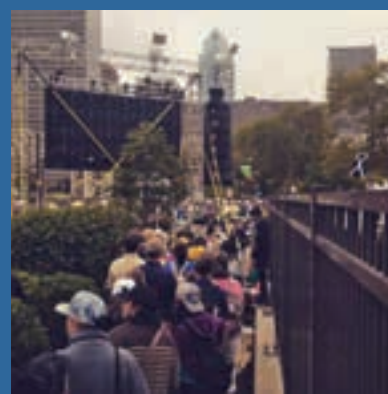
Students, faculty, and staff at Georgian Court are filled with #GCUPRIDE! These were some of our favorite #GCUPRIDE user-generated Instagram photos from the past year.



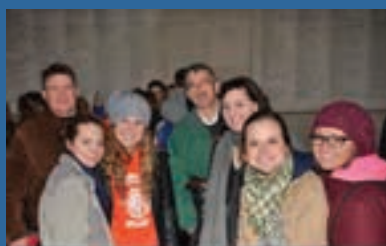
*Maureen Kotusky, staff assistant in the Department of Psychology and Counseling, showcased the McAuley Heritage Center in late autumn.*



*Olivia Zitarosa '19, secretary of the Student Government Association (SGA) Executive Board, shared her image of new GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., with the SGA.*



*Caelin McCallum '15 shared her perspective while waiting to take Communion at the Papal Mass in Philadelphia.*



*Amanda Earle '15 captured the excitement of our GCU students as they traveled abroad to France.*



*Head Coach Mickey Hover gave us a first look at the new men's lacrosse team.*

However far you travel from The Court, we know you're always filled with #GCUPRIDE—so show us! Tag Georgian Court in your photos wherever you are—just don't forget to use the hashtag #GCUPRIDE, and for an added bonus, wear your GCU gear! Who knows? Your picture could end up in the next magazine!

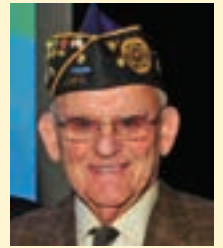
# Calendar



Danny Kaye



Pennsbury Manor, one of the mansions along the Delaware Photo: Shuvaev, via Wikimedia Commons



Alan Moskin

## January 31 • 2:30 PM

National Capital Alumni Reception  
Washington, DC  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## February 10 • 7:00–9:00 PM

*Awake: The Life of Yogananda* Screening

## February 20 • 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

Alumni Association Board Meeting  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## February 23 • 8:30 AM–6:30 PM

New York City Musical Tour

## February 27 • 11:30 AM

West Coast Florida Alumni  
Chapter Event  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## February 28 • TBA

East Coast Florida Alumni  
Chapter Event  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## March 3 • 1:00 PM

History of English Tea

## March 4 • 6:30 PM

Hector Berlioz and the  
Fantastic Symphony

## March 14 • 6:30 PM

Danny Kaye: A Fun-Filled Retrospective

## March 18 • 6:30 PM

Frida Kahlo: Vibrant Paintings,  
Vibrant Life

## March 21 • 9:00 AM–7:00 PM

Mansions along the Delaware Day Trip

## March • TBA

New England Alumni Chapter Event  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## April • TBA

New York City Alumni Reception  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## April 2–3 • 11:00 AM

Nanny Rose School of Etiquette

## April 3 • 11:00 AM–3:00 PM

Mercy Sunday at Mount St. Mary  
Mass & Luncheon  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## April 7, 14, 21, 28 • 7:00–9:00 PM

A Dose of Poetry

## April 8 • 6:30 PM

Paul Cézanne

## April 9 • 11:00 AM–4:30 PM

Fifth Annual Wellness Expo

## April 9 • TBA

Women's Soccer Alumni Game  
Athletics & Recreation  
732.987.2695

## April 10–16 • Library Hours

Library Book Sale

## April 12 • 6:00 PM

Headline Speaker: Alan Moskin

## April 16 • TBA

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Women's Lacrosse  
Athletics & Recreation  
732.987.2789

## April 19 • 1:00 PM

New Jersey Greenwich Tea Party

## April 22 • 6:30 PM

Gustav Mahler: The Man and His Music

## May 1 • 11:00 AM

Springtime at The Court with the  
GSP Orchestra

## May 1 • 7:30 PM

Spring Dance Concert

## May 10 • 6:00–9:00 PM

Holistic Health Spring Conference

## May 16 • 11:00 AM–7:30 PM

Annual Scholarship Golf Classic  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## May 19 • 5:00 PM

Graduate Commencement

## May 20 • 10:30 PM

Baccalaureate Mass

## May 20 • 2:00 PM

Undergraduate Commencement

## June 3–5

Reunion Weekend  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
[alumni.georgian.edu/reunion2016](http://alumni.georgian.edu/reunion2016)  
732.987.2454

## June 4 • 9:00–10:30 AM

Alumni Association Board Meeting  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## June 11 • 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Caregiver Retreat

## June 16 • 9:30 AM–6:00 PM

*Riverdance* in Philadelphia

## September 10 • 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

Alumni Association Board Meeting  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## October 16 • TBA

Scholarship Brunch  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## November 10 • TBA

NJEA Convention & Alumni Reception  
Atlantic City Convention Center  
Alumni & Donor Engagement  
732.987.2454

## Making a Lasting Tribute

From serving on the University Council and chairing the GCU Gala, to introducing others to The Court and taking courses themselves, Tom and Betsy Ferguson's devoted support of Georgian Court students, programs, and leadership has been unwavering. Mr. Ferguson, chairman emeritus of Ogilvy CommonHealth, even helped Georgian Court to achieve our highest-grossing Golf Classic as our 2014 honoree.

When they heard that Rosemary Jeffries, RSM, Ph.D., '72 was retiring in 2015, they wanted to provide a meaningful tribute to the service she had given Georgian Court over her 14-year tenure as president. Knowing about her passion for art, they committed \$100,000 to arts programming to fuel that same love in current and future GCU students.

Mrs. Ferguson, CEO of American Flavors and Fragrances and president of Skyler Brand Ventures, returned to GCU this fall in continued pursuit of her degree. She appreciates Sister Rosemary's commitment to her professional development and is excited to continue her path to graduation.

"Tom and I are thrilled to give back and propel future graphic art students in the same way Sister Rosemary drove me to continue on my educational journey."

If you would like to make your own lasting tribute to honor an individual, group, organization, special occasion, or in recognition of a special event, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at [advancement@georgian.edu](mailto:advancement@georgian.edu) or 732.987.2232. More information is available at [alumni.georgian.edu/TributeProgram](http://alumni.georgian.edu/TributeProgram).

