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Spring 2017

**Spring 2017**

Seattle University

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# SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

MAGAZINE

## THE NEXT 25 YEARS

SHAPING THE WORLD OF  
TOMORROW THE JESUIT WAY



SU<sup>125</sup>

125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**EMERALD CITY  
GOES RED**



## SEATTLE AGLOW IN REDHAWK RED

For one night the Emerald City became “Redhawk Red.”

To commemorate Seattle University’s 125th anniversary, several landmarks in the city—most notably the Space Needle, Columbia Center and the Great Wheel, as seen from Kerry Park—were bathed in red light beginning at sundown on Feb. 4.

The lighting was part of “Seattle University Weekend,” as proclaimed by Seattle Mayor Ed Murray.



PHOTO BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO

## A PROMISING FUTURE

Q&A WITH  
THE PRESIDENT



President  
Stephen Sundborg, S.J.

As the 125th anniversary celebration winds down, President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., looks ahead.

### Q. AS YOU LOOK BEYOND THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY, WHERE DO YOU SEE SEATTLE UNIVERSITY OVER THE NEXT 25 YEARS?

**President Sundborg:** It is harder to envision Seattle University 25 years from now because of the fast pace of the changes we are currently experiencing in higher education, in our students, in technology, in the needs and opportunities of the world. I believe what is most important is that while being creative and flexible, we stick to the basics of Jesuit education, of the quality of the interaction of faculty and students, in the personalization of our education, in formation in values and in leadership. We must also ensure a community of diverse and caring learners. This will position us best for the next 25 years and beyond.

### Q. HOW DO YOU SEE OUR JESUIT EDUCATIONAL MISSION EVOLVING AND WHAT WILL BE THE ROLE OF FACULTY AND LAY PEOPLE?

**President Sundborg:** The future vitality of our Jesuit mission lies with lay leaders, faculty and staff who know and love our Jesuit way of education and bring to it their own life experience and commitments. The Jesuits will always be here to support and to help inform this development. But the leadership in Jesuit education at Seattle University will be in the hands of a much larger cohort of lay leaders in the Jesuit way of education.

### Q. HOW WILL A CHANGING STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC SHAPE THE FUTURE?

**President Sundborg:** Our students are quite different from what students of Seattle U were a decade ago and I expect they will be even more different 10 years from now. The impact of technology upon them is a major factor in how they think, communicate and learn. This change will increase. At the same time the world they live in and especially the world in which they will live out their vocations is so quickly changing in how global and interconnected it is but also in how contested and divided it is. Our challenge is to educate and form a generation of students, whom we are scrambling to understand, for a future we can barely imagine.

### Q. AS YOU REFLECT ON OUR 125TH ANNIVERSARY, WHAT SHOULD THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY TAKE FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE?

**President Sundborg:** What this anniversary convinces me we should take forward are a much broader and deeper engagement with our alumni, a consistent and clear messaging of our distinctive educational mission and a greater pride in who we are as a university.

### Q. WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION OVERALL AND WHAT THIS MEANS FOR SEATTLE U?

**President Sundborg:** Higher education is changing quickly and we are changing with it. I believe it is most important that we know our place and our way of education within the wider spectrum of higher education so that we adapt in the ways we should while not being disconcerted by forces that are not relevant to our kind of education. While it is easy to panic, it is more important to be prudent while being proactive. The challenge is less in “what” our Seattle University education will be and more in “who” will be able to take advantage of it among those who want this kind of education and who have shown that they deserve the opportunity from their dedication and accomplishments. I especially call upon our alumni to help us make possible for these students the kind of education they have experienced and have been so well served by in their lives and careers.

TABLE  
OF  
CONTENTS

04	PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	20	INTERNATIONAL STUDY
06	FOSTERING SCHOLARS	22	FUTURE OF SCIENCE
09	MATTERS OF FAITH	24	FUTURE OUTLOOK
10	INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE	28	ALUMNI FOCUS
12	CAREER OUTCOMES	40	ATHLETICS
16	FACULTY SPOTLIGHT	42	LAST WORD

VOLUME 41, ISSUE NUMBER 2, SPRING 2017

# SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

MAGAZINE

**EDITOR**

Tina Potter

**LEAD DESIGNER**

Anne Reinisch

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Dean Forbes, Yosef Chaim Kalinko, SU Athletics

**DESIGN TEAM**

Marissa Leitch, Terry Lundmark

**SENIOR WRITER**

Tracy DeCroce

**DIRECTOR | ADVANCEMENT COMMUNICATIONS**

Kristen Kirst

**125TH ANNIVERSARY MANAGER**

Kaily Serralta, '12, '17

**PRESIDENT | SEATTLE UNIVERSITY**

Stephen Sundborg, S.J.

**VICE PRESIDENT | UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS**

Scott McClellan

**ASST. VICE PRESIDENT | OFFICE OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT**

Susan Vosper, '90, '10

**VICE PRESIDENT | UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**

Michael Podlin

ON THE COVER: Student Jamie Sittisawassakul, '18, is the model for a futuristic take on what's ahead for Seattle University.

Seattle University Magazine (ISSN: 1550-1523) is published in fall, winter and spring by Marketing Communications, Seattle University, 901 12th Avenue, PO Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122-1090. Periodical postage paid at Seattle, Wash. Distributed without charge to alumni and friends of Seattle University. USPS 487-780. Comments and questions about SeattleUniversityMagazine may be addressed to the editor at 206-296-6111; the address below; fax: 206-296-6137; or e-mail: tinap@seattleu.edu. Postmaster: Send address changes to Seattle University Magazine, Marketing Communications, Seattle University, 901 12th Avenue, PO Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122-1090. Check out the magazine online at [www.seattleu.edu/magazine](http://www.seattleu.edu/magazine).

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PHOTO BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO

**CORRECTION**

In the winter magazine, the timeline on page 20 under "1958" should have read, "Elgin Baylor led the Chieftains to the NCAA National Championship game." The story in the same edition correctly noted Seattle U lost to Kentucky. The online version has been updated.



FEATURE

**FOSTERING  
SCHOLARS**

# THE MAKING OF A BRIGHT FUTURE

## A DECADE OF ADVANCING THE COLLEGE DREAMS OF FOSTER YOUTH

*By Tracy DeCroce*

Looking elegant in a black cocktail dress, Deanna Groshong, '14, stood before a room full of people who loved her. They were her village, she said. "Corny?" she asked. Not for a former foster child who grew up "...without a network or 'village' to offer the physical and emotional support necessary for growth and success."

Like many Washington state foster youth, Groshong aged out of the system when she turned 18. As so often happens for those in foster care, Groshong's dreams of going to college nearly slipped through her fingers. In her early 20s she was broke, living in her car and struggling to put herself through community college. Overwhelmed by the weight of it all, she broke down crying in the college's bathroom where a math professor found her and asked what was wrong.

Fate is how Groshong describes what happened next. When Groshong revealed that she had no parents, no way to finance her education and nowhere to turn for help, the professor—an SU alumna—had a solution. She referred Groshong to Seattle U's Fostering Scholars program, which provides full-ride scholarships and year-round support for current and former foster youth.

Today Groshong is a veritable success story, one of 34 Fostering Scholars graduates in the program's 10-year history. Last fall she returned to the university to join former and current scholars and Fostering Scholars founders, staff and donors to celebrate the anniversary of a program that has truly changed lives.





PHOTO BY JOSEF CHAIKALINIKO

(l-r) Fostering Scholars alums Deyadra Blye, '09, Deanna Groshong, '14, and Ray Powers, '13, are just three of the success stories of the program started by Lucio and Marta Dalla Gasperina.

"We've learned that anything is possible," says Groshong, who is pursuing a sales career while launching a private chef business. "The program became a self-fulfilling prophecy. You really can do something to change somebody, to lift them up."

## DECADE OF SUCCESS

Founded in 2006, Fostering Scholars was the first of its kind in the state and the first nationally among independent universities. More than 80 percent of scholars have graduated or are on track to graduate. They are excelling in grad school and careers including nursing, law, computer programming, counseling, social work and public policy.

Kevin Torres, '17, an international business major, says the program has afforded him opportunities he never could have imagined such as representing the Albers School of Business and Economics on a European Union study tour.

"Given the circumstances of growing up as a street kid, surrounded by poverty and broken relationships ... it was all too easy to define oneself as a negative statistic," Torres says.

Deyadra Blye, '09, of the first Fostering Scholars cohort, reflects on what the program has meant to her life. "In retrospect, the biggest part of the program is how it allowed me to unpack

what it meant to be in foster care and let it go," she says. "Knowing how to articulate where I've been and who I've been ... was pivotal for my personal development and shapes me as a professional."

The key to the program's success is "wrap-around" support, which covers all unmet college expenses including tuition, year-round housing, books, meals and health insurance. Program Director Colleen Montoya Barbano provides guidance and mentorship. Graduation day is particularly sweet.

"I see the entire story behind their diploma," Montoya Barbano says. "Their journeys, their successes, hopes and dreams come to life in that one moment."

## A DREAM COME TRUE

Fostering Scholars' founders Marta and Lucio Dalla Gasperina conceived of the program after Marta had a dream in which she was giving foster youth a campus tour. Today, the couple couldn't be happier with the program's achievements.



Deyadra Blye, '09



*“It’s fitting that this started at SU. The school has a mission to make the world a better place. This program is that mission put into action.”* —Ray Powers, ’13

“We are incredibly proud, like really proud parents,” Marta says. “We feel like each one of these students is our own. The opportunities Seattle U affords them is beyond our wildest dreams.”

The bond between the Dalla Gasperinas and the scholars was evident at the anniversary celebration. As scholars bubbled over with news of their lives, the Dalla Gasperinas beamed and prodded for details as any proud parent would.

“It’s wonderful to see how they stand tall. You see it in their eyes, in the stories they tell,” says Lucio, co-founder of the Tommy Bahama clothing company. “They’re going to go out and make a difference in the world.”

### PAYING IT FORWARD

Scholars say the program helped shape their sense of identity. Now capable young adults, they share a commitment to others and their communities—a value instilled by having others believe in them at a critical stage in their lives.

“We were lucky enough to have people invest in us,” says Groshong, who cooks Christmas dinner each year for scholars on campus. “We have to share our success.”

As Torres looks to graduation, he imagines using his business degree for good. “I can envision using entrepreneurship to drive social change.”

Blye, who recently earned a master’s degree in counseling from Loyola-Marymount in Los Angeles, aspires to work with former foster youth in a college-based program similar to Fostering Scholars.

And, in San Francisco, Ray Powers, ’13, a software engineer at Apple, tries to find ways “besides voting” to be civically active such as helping homeless populations through food bank donations and community service.

Powers says it is only natural that he and his peers would give back. They have learned by example.

“The Fostering Scholars program is built of people helping people they do not know,” Powers says. “It’s fitting that this program started at SU. The school has a mission to make the world a better place. This program is that mission put into action.”

## HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

There is an opportunity to secure the Fostering Scholars program in perpetuity. Efforts are underway to raise \$10 million toward a Fostering Scholars endowment. Thanks to a special group of donors, matching funds are available to double gifts of \$50,000 and greater. For more information, contact Katie Chapman at 206-398-4401 or email [chapmank@seattleu.edu](mailto:chapmank@seattleu.edu).



Ray Powers, '13

## FOSTERING SCHOLARS BY THE

# NUMBERS

**34**

GRADUATES AS OF JUNE 2016

**80**

PERCENTAGE OF SCHOLARS  
WHO HAVE GRADUATED FROM  
THE PROGRAM

**19**

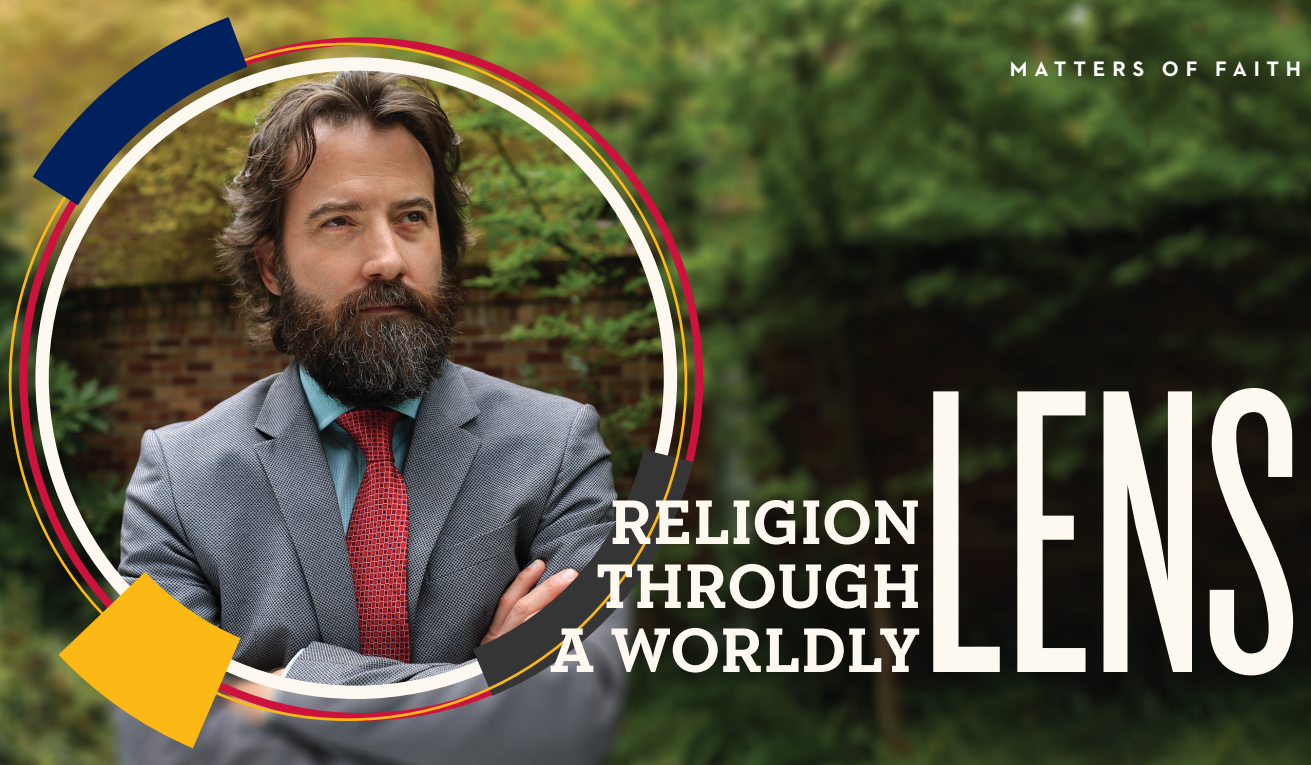
CURRENT SCHOLARS ENROLLED FOR  
THE 2016–17 ACADEMIC YEAR

**70**

PERCENTAGE OF FOSTERING  
SCHOLARS WHO ARE MAJORING  
IN PROGRAMS IN THE COLLEGE OF  
ARTS AND SCIENCES

**4**

SCHOLARS WHO ARE OR WILL  
PARTICIPATE IN EDUCATION ABROAD  
PROGRAMS THIS YEAR



# RELIGION THROUGH A WORLDLY LENS

By Tracy DeCroce

The School of Theology and Ministry's new Center for Religious Wisdom & World Affairs has a bold mission: convene religious scholars, leaders and practitioners to explore ways in which religious wisdom and the resources of faith communities can assist the analysis, diagnosis and community responses to complex societal problems. Every two years, the center will focus on a specific social issue such as rising inequalities, gender-based violence, human trafficking and unsustainable use of environmental resources.

The inaugural focus on homelessness began with a symposium in April 2017 that welcomed 15 scholars from across the country and abroad, representing a variety of faith traditions and disciplines. They met with local faith leaders and stakeholders who provided direction for their research projects back home. The scholars and practitioners will meet again next year to discuss how the research findings can be put into practice in the region.

Manuel Mejido, PhD, is the center's director who joined Seattle University last September. The former United Nations official brings to the position years of experience across the globe in academia, policy work and advocacy. In addition to serving as center director, Mejido teaches courses that examine the ethical and religious dimensions of social life.

Recently Mejido shared his vision for the center's work.

**Q: WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT YOUR NEW ROLE?**

**A:** The center will explore the best in faith-based and spiritually informed thinking about some of the major global issues causing human suffering, as well as the most effective social action flowing from that thinking. I'm excited about bridging the academic study of social issues with on-the-ground action and advocacy for the creation of a more just society.

**Q: THE CENTER HAS A DUAL APPROACH OF SCHOLARSHIP AND FAITH-BASED ACTION. HOW DO YOU ENVISION THAT PLAYING OUT?**

**A:** We want the scholarship to be relevant to local Pacific Northwest faith-based communities by linking the work of the center to local faith leaders. Toward this end, we're rolling out a network of religious leaders from different faith traditions interested in articulating interfaith positions around homelessness and other pressing social issues. This network will inform the scholars we invite to campus about the issues that are relevant to the Northwest. In addition, the network will enhance the skill set of religious leaders to serve as public intellectuals; provide an important resource for policy analysis and research; and support the School of Theology and Ministry's six graduate degree programs and community education efforts.

**Q: DO YOU FACE ANY UNIQUE CHALLENGES IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY, GIVEN THAT FEWER PEOPLE HERE ALIGN THEMSELVES WITH ORGANIZED RELIGION?**

**A:** Perhaps once considered an anomaly, the Pacific Northwest is rapidly becoming a pacesetter. Across the country, millennials are increasingly identifying themselves as spiritual, not religious, when compared to, say, Gen Xers and Baby Boomers. We are reimagining the role of religion in public life in this changing religious landscape.

**Q: WHERE DO YOU SEE THE CENTER HAVING THE GREATEST IMPACT OVER THE NEXT 10 OR 25 YEARS?**

**A:** Ten years from now we hope to be in a position to contribute to the national debate around religion in public life. And a quarter of a century from now we want to be poised to make a contribution to discussions around religion and development in Asia and the Pacific.

# A CULTURE OF INCLUSION

## SU'S FIRST CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER IS BUILDING ALLIANCES AND MUCH MORE

By Tina Potterf

As the university's first Chief Diversity Officer, Natasha Martin, JD, is committed to making Seattle University a place where everyone on campus feels "valued, welcome and safe" and where a culture of inclusion, equity and diversity is nurtured and actualized.


In addition to her work as Chief Diversity Officer, Martin is also an associate professor in the School of Law where her interdisciplinary expertise lies in employment discrimination, particularly the legal, cultural and behavioral dynamics that impact inclusion and equality in contemporary workplace environments.

The path leading to her new role began more than two years ago when Martin was co-chair of the university's Task Force on Diversity and Inclusive Excellence along with Alvin Sturdivant, associate vice president for Student Development. President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., appointed Martin as chief diversity officer and associate vice president for institutional inclusion after she served two years as co-chair of the task force.

"Part of the legacy of this work," says Martin, "is to create the culture of the future and growing our students to find their place. And to imagine a better world armed with the skills, cultural fluency and resilience to create it when they leave us."

Martin came to Seattle U, by way of Atlanta, 15 years ago to teach in the law school following nearly a decade of practicing law at a private firm and serving as in-house counsel for a national financial institution. The university's mission and "this idea that we are engaging both heads and hearts to make the world a better place" drew Martin to the university, she says. The SU mission reflected the familiar spirit of community she experienced while a student at Xavier University, says Martin. The value of pursuing an ethical life and vocation also resonated as hallmarks of her legal training at the University of Notre Dame.





*“Part of the legacy of this work is to create the culture of the future and growing our students to find their place. And to imagine a better world armed with the skills, cultural fluency and resilience to create it when they leave us.”*

*—Natasha Martin, JD, Chief Diversity Officer*

As the diversity officer Martin will oversee and guide Seattle U’s efforts to fully integrate inclusive excellence within the university’s strategic priorities and drive the vision, plan and action steps of implementation of recommendations from the task force for the entire campus community. The approach is data-driven, evidence based and incorporates the voices of the campus including those reflected in the campus climate survey conducted in 2015.

The results of the survey—and feedback among participants—illustrated that while most feel safe and welcomed on campus, there is a significant number of individuals who experience the campus quite differently.

For example, “underrepresented populations including women, faculty/staff/ students of color, LGBTQ and some religiously identified groups experience a less-welcoming climate,” says Martin.

Several factors contribute to such experiences, notes Martin, who points to one source identified in the climate survey—microaggressions. These are comments, behaviors or environmental conditions that convey derogatory or negative messages toward members of marginalized social groups, whether intentionally or unintentionally.

Microaggressions, like racial slights or gendered insults, can happen through brief casual daily interactions that over time can chip away at one’s confidence and sense of belonging.

Such atmospheric conditions and other forms of exclusion will undoubtedly factor into the creation of a bias response protocol being developed by the Martin-led Bias Response and Campus Climate Care Working Group that will represent a centralized approach to respond to campus incidents of bias. This may include support networks, restorative and repair practices and preventive measures.

While the strategic work of cultural change is complex, Martin says the university has a “really good foundation to build on.”

There are challenges, for sure, but she believes “we have an opportunity before us to align our Jesuit Catholic educational mission with the reality of the experiences of those who learn, live and work here.”

The aim of this work, says Martin, “is that SU become a place where there is no dichotomy between our values of diversity and inclusion and academic excellence.

“It’s really important to be intentional in our approach in order to facilitate sustainable cultural change.”

# CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

## LEADING IN AN EVER-EVOLVING EDUCATIONAL LANDSCAPE

By Tracy DeCroce

As superintendent of Vancouver, Wash. Public Schools, Steven Webb, '98 EDLR, has been recognized nationally for his dynamic leadership of a suburban district undergoing rapid urbanization. Webb deploys a community-based, “whole-system approach” that he believes represents the future of education.

“I see ‘community schools’ expanding throughout our state and across the country because the challenges we face are not at all unique to Vancouver, Wash.,” Webb says.

Webb, a graduate of the College of Education’s Educational Leadership Doctoral Program, was named the 2016 Washington state Superintendent of the Year and was among four finalists for national Superintendent of the Year. And for the third consecutive year, an SU graduate has been named a state Superintendent of the Year. Auburn Superintendent Dennis (Kip) Herren, '92, was the 2015 recipient and, following Webb, Gary Cohn, '85 MBA, head of Everett Public Schools, is the 2017 recipient.

Webb credits Jesuit Catholic teachings with helping to form his leadership style. “SU’s core mission grounded my leadership within a framework that focused on community, on transformation and building agency in people and communities to create a more just and humane world,” he says.

Vancouver’s achievements with Webb at the helm are notable. In 2008, he inherited a 24,000-student school system dealing with difficulties more often associated with large urban districts. Within a diversifying student population, more than 80 languages are spoken and the number of English language learners doubled in the past decade. Students qualifying for federally subsidized meals reached a peak of 57 percent and the number of homeless students increased by 500 percent to nearly 1,100. As a result of the Great Recession and state budget cuts, the district faced up to \$25 million in budget shortfalls during the first several years of Webb’s tenure.

He addressed student achievement gaps by alleviating the detrimental effects of poverty he saw as barriers to learning. Webb established an Opportunity Zone comprising the district’s highest-poverty neighborhoods. To help the effort, he engaged a broad coalition of stakeholders—students, parents, teachers and staff, community partners and public policy-makers. What began with 22 community partners in one Vancouver community school has grown to more than 750 partners across multiple sites today.

Within the Opportunity Zone, public, private and nonprofit organizations assist children and families through 18 Family-Community Resource Centers (FCRC) that donate clothing, food and school supplies to meet basic needs. The FCRCs also facilitate early learning opportunities, afterschool programs and parent engagement activities.

“Educators have known for many years that poverty can make it much more difficult for students to experience success in school and become future-ready graduates,” Webb says. “This was a way for us to reduce or remove barriers to learning.”

In just five years, from 2010 to 2015, on-time graduation rates increased from 64 to 80 percent, with African-American and Latino students making the greatest gains. The community-based investment paid off financially as well.

“For every dollar the district pays to staff these centers, we net an estimated \$4 return on that investment through partner contributions,” Webb says. “We’re closing achievement gaps and we’re getting more kids across the finish line, prepared for college, careers and life.”

Despite Webb’s undeniable success in Vancouver, on a broader level he says the educational landscape gives him reason to be both encouraged and wary. He is heartened by how the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), a revision of the No Child Left



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVEN WEBB

*“SU’s core mission grounded my leadership within a framework that focused on community, on transformation and building agency in people and communities to create a more just and humane world.”*

*—Steven Webb, '98, superintendent*

Behind Act adopted in 2015, promotes local innovation and addresses equity issues.

At the same time, he “like many of my superintendent colleagues across the country,” is cautious about the push to direct more public money to private vouchers and charter schools. In general, he would prefer to see more state and local control and “less federal overreach,” he says.

“To promote equity and excellence in public education, we need to invest in our struggling schools, as we’ve done in Vancouver, and not take away vital resources,” he says. “If we were fully committed, as a nation, to improving student outcomes, our time, talent and treasure would be better spent on addressing poverty.”

Looking ahead, Webb believes that education in the next 25 years will be influenced greatly by global change forces.

“Public education will continue to serve as the cornerstone of democracy, playing an even more significant role in the development of a well-informed citizenry.”



PHOTO BY DEAN FORBES

The murals by artist Andrew Morrison (pictured) tell the story of the Coastal Salish people through historical and modern imagery.

# HONORING HISTORY AND NATIVE PRESENCE

## MURALS DEPICT NORTHWEST NATIVE AMERICANS—PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

By Tracy DeCroce

It took artist Andrew Morrison just two weeks to paint the larger-than-life portraits capturing the cultural touchstones of Northwest Native Americans on the walls of the Student Center's Cherry Street Market. The three commanding murals, done in grey and white, evoke a continuum of time, telling the story of the coastal Salish people through carefully chosen historical and modern imagery.

"It's a reminder that we are still here, that we share these lands and spaces," says Associate Professor Christina Roberts, PhD, one of the project organizers. "Through these murals we honor a history that is past and take a collective step into the future by strengthening existing relationships and building new ones."

The idea for the art project sprang from conversations among those at the center of Seattle University's Indigenous Initiative. Along with Roberts, Pat Twohy, S.J., Tricia Trainer, '01, and her husband,

Trustee Steve Trainer, wanted to increase the visibility of Native Americans.

"It's part of a larger vision we have for our initiative ... that honors the native presence and voice here at Seattle University," says Father Twohy, who has spent more than four decades with Northwest Native peoples. "We'd love to have a university that welcomes native students and affirms who they are."

The Trainers turned to Morrison, a Seattle-based Native American artist, to commission



*“Through these murals we honor a history that is past and take a collective step into the future by strengthening existing relationships and building new ones.”*

*—Christina Roberts, PhD, associate professor*

the work as a gift to Seattle U. Roberts, Morrison and Tricia walked the campus before choosing the walls of the dining area as their canvas.

“I wasn’t prepared for the power of it,” Twohy says, of seeing the murals. “They knocked me backwards. They’re so strong. I’m going to go back and sit there because I feel like I know everyone in the paintings.”

The three murals, each 14 feet wide and up to 17 feet tall, represent different eras in the region’s Native American story: the early history of Native Americans in the Northwest, a more recent history and the future.

Morrison painted them in the afternoons and evenings, watching the portraits respond to the changing light. The Seattle-born Apache/Haida native said the completed works filled him with “tremendous optimism.”

Organizers say bringing the murals from concept to completion was a collaborative process—even the group decision about which portraits to feature. They also credit the university, particularly Tom Lucas, S.J., rector and curator, and Lara Branigan and her Facilities team, with quickly facilitating the project.

“This art has such a strength and message for the betterment of all people,” says Tricia Trainer. “I think people will want to be around them and see their strength and carry it forward.”

Read more about the messages and subjects of the murals at [www.seattleu.edu/news](http://www.seattleu.edu/news).

## ELEVATING CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

By Tracy DeCroce



When Associate Professor Christina Roberts, PhD (pictured), considers the future of Seattle University and its namesake city, her thoughts center on elevating the contributions of indigenous people. It’s about listening to and learning from those of Native American ancestry and respecting “the sacred relationship” the Coast Salish people of our region have with the lands and water upon which we all depend.

That is why Seattle U has established the Indigenous People’s Institute (IPI) with Roberts serving as director and Diane Tomhave as program coordinator. The institute aims to affirm the sovereignty of indigenous people by elevating the contributions of its artists, writers, scholars and elders while creating a supportive community for SU Native American students who may feel culturally isolated.

One of IPI’s first public programs featured historian, writer, feminist and author Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. The daughter of a landless farmer father and half-Indian mother, Dunbar-Ortiz spoke about her fifth book, *Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States*.

IPI grew out of indigenous initiatives over the past five years that created a campus-wide support network for indigenous students. The institute provides a voice for people who may feel forgotten even in conversations about inclusion and multiculturalism and for people whose communal tribal culture doesn’t fit the mold of American individualism, Roberts says.

“We need to raise awareness about the origins of our country,” she says. “At one point, we were all tribal people.”

IPI collaborates across campus, including Athletics, the Native American Law Students Association and the Center for Indian Law and Policy.

In 2016, Seattle U formally recognized the second Monday of October as Indigenous People’s Day. President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., marked the occasion by challenging the university community to honor its relationship with Native people of today.

As Father Steve wrote, “...we must do more than simply look back on this shared heritage. We must confront with openness and honesty those instances in which we, as a university, have not lived up to the ideals of our mission in our engagement with Native peoples. And most important we must, in a spirit of hopefulness, move forward as a campus community toward becoming ever more inclusive, affirming and compassionate.”



# HUMAN RIGHTS CRUSADER

*"I appreciate Seattle U's focus on global engagement and supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable members of society."*

*—Tom Antkowiak, law professor*



PHOTO BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO

## Affable and kind, Seattle University Law Professor Thomas Antkowiak doesn't necessarily fit the image of a warrior. But it's an appropriate description of the director of the School of Law's International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC) who is shaping the next generation of legal advocates.

Since 2008, Antkowiak has overseen a docket of IHRC cases involving torture, wrongful conviction, arbitrary detention and protection of ancestral lands.

In a recent, highly publicized victory, IHRC helped to free Nestora Salgado-Garcia, a grandmother with ties to Renton, Wash., who had been arbitrarily imprisoned in Mexico for three years while being denied due process. Salgado was arrested in 2013 after leading a legally permitted indigenous police force to defend local residents against drug cartels in her hometown of Olinala, Mexico.

Last October Salgado-Garcia visited Seattle University to thank IHRC and Antkowiak for helping to win her freedom.

"You were my support," she said, speaking through tears. "You were the back-up of my case. That's how I felt about it and that's how it was perceived by other people, even worldwide."

IHRC centers its work on Latin American, African and U.S. litigation involving international law. It partners with in-country legal counsel, human rights organizations and NGOs on cases that appear before prestigious world bodies.

It's an arena Antkowiak knows well. Before coming to Seattle U, he served as a senior attorney for the Inter-American Court of Human Rights of the Organization of American States, special assistant to Costa Rican President and Nobel Peace Laureate Oscar Arias and director of the Access to Justice Program at the Due Process of Law Foundation.

Ricardo Lagunes, a veteran human rights attorney in Mexico who has partnered with IHRC on several cases, says IHRC's involvement lends persuasive credibility.

"It is very important what a legal clinic in the U.S. will say about international standards," Lagunes says. "The judge or court takes very seriously what the clinic says. So it's very important for my cases to have the counsel of the legal clinic."

Former student Craig Peters, '16, says the clinic experience "afforded me opportunities to do very real and critical work that I believe has incredible social value" that he now applies to his practice at a private Seattle firm that advises and represents Washington school districts.

Phillip Schwarz, '15, says he became more "sensitive to different cultures and to people whose first language is not English and who are from other countries." That awareness guides his work at a California law firm that specializes in elder law, veterans' affairs and people with special needs.

Samantha Pearlman, '15, was part of an IHRC team representing indigenous people in Nicaragua in opposition to a massive canal that would decimate their ancestral lands. She is one of many students who describe their experience working with Antkowiak and IHRC as a highlight of their law school education.

"He encouraged me to work harder, dig deeper on issues and produce some of my best work," says Pearlman, now a judicial law clerk at the Washington State Court of Appeals. "It was very helpful to have a professor with real experience in international human rights law who was so accessible."

Garret Oppenheim, '08, worked with Antkowiak on several cases, even accompanying him to Costa Rica to litigate one of them. Now pursuing a master's degree in environmental science, Oppenheim says, "Tom taught me how to be a professional. He is so committed to what he is doing."

Antkowiak says that serving as IHRC director is his "dream job," one that combines three of his professional passions—working on cases he cares about, engaging with students and conducting research. Seattle U's Jesuit Catholic mission offers fertile ground for each of these efforts.

"I appreciate Seattle U's focus on global engagement and supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable members of society," Antkowiak says. "I really respect the Jesuit approach and Seattle U is a wonderful environment. It's a great match."

Antkowiak recently published his first book, *The American Convention on Human Rights: Essential Rights*.

# 125 YEARS

## TOP 10 IN THE WEST

—*U.S. News & World Report:  
Best Colleges 2017*

Seattle U has earned a spot in the *U.S. News* Top 10 for more than a dozen years among regional universities in the West. SU ranks #2 in the West for its commitment to undergraduate teaching. Additionally, the *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* ranks SU in the Top 20 among all universities in the West.

## HIGH EARNERS TOP RANKED IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

—*U.S. Department of Education*

In Washington state, Seattle U is #2 among all colleges and universities—and #1 among non-trade schools—for highest-earning graduates.

## #1

## PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN THE NORTHWEST

—*The Wall Street Journal/Times  
Higher Education College 2016*

The university is the top ranked independent university and #2 overall in the Northwest with high marks for producing successful graduates, investing in the student experience and fostering student success.

## TOP 25 IN THE U.S. BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Several Albers business programs are in the Top 25 in the nation, including finance, accounting and the Executive MBA, according to *U.S. News*. And 92% of undergraduate seniors are placed in a job or career-related activity within six months of graduating.

## TOP 40 IN THE U.S. SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Seattle University College of Science and Engineering is ranked #31 among all engineering schools in the U.S., according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

## TOP 5% IN THE U.S. LIBERAL ARTS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

College Factual puts SU in the top 5% for highest paid graduates in liberal arts/sciences and humanities and computer and information science.

# OF RAISING OUR OWN BAR

## BEST COLLEGES 2017

—*The Princeton Review*

When it comes to high quality education, Seattle University is consistently ranked one of the best in the U.S. Only about 15 percent of America's 2,500 four-year colleges are profiled in the Princeton Review's *The Best 381 Colleges* guide.

## "BEST AND MOST INTERESTING SCHOOLS"

—*Fiske Guide to Colleges 2017*

A rich campus life located in the heart of a city pulsating with innovation and creativity, Seattle U has much to offer students. The selective guide considered 2,200 four-year colleges in the U.S., Canada and Great Britain and placed SU in the top 14 percent.

## AMONG TOP PRODUCERS — OF — FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

—*Chronicle of Higher Education*

For the fourth consecutive year—and the seventh time in the past decade—Seattle University is regarded as a top producer of Fulbright awardees. The prestigious program sponsors participants in areas including the sciences, business, public service, government and the arts.

## PRESIDENTIAL HONORS

In 2012, Seattle U received the White House's highest recognition for service learning. The university also has been on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the past four years. Four out of five students do service—nearly 3x the national average.

## BEST CATHOLIC COLLEGES IN THE U.S.

According to College Factual, Seattle University is #17 for "Best Colleges Affiliated as Roman Catholic" nationwide.

## 67% INCREASE IN ALUMNI GIVING

Alumni giving from FY15 to FY16 increased 67% in total contributions. In FY16, \$11,552,907 was donated compared to \$6,919,839 in FY15. More than \$41M in financial gifts from 6,800+ donors was raised to support students and the university in FY16.

# THE BUSINESS OF ETHICS

Q&A WITH JEFFERY SMITH | BOEING FRANK SHRONTZ CHAIR IN PROFESSIONAL ETHICS,  
PROFESSOR OF MANAGEMENT AT ALBERS

**What makes our Center for Business Ethics at Albers distinctive or stand out among other business schools?**

**Smith:** Some Jesuit universities have centers dedicated to ethics and some deal with ethics in business. But we join Loyola Marymount University as the two West coast Jesuit universities that have centers dedicated exclusively to business ethics. We are also distinctive because we have many faculty who actively publish in the field of business ethics and corporate responsibility. There are four full-time faculty who have dedicated roles in the field of business ethics. In this respect SU is a 'pillar' in that the center is symbolic of a deep commitment to the study of business ethics and the role that ethics education can play within a business school.

**What are ways the center partners with business leaders and visiting scholars in the promotion of ethical business practices?**

**Smith:** The center sponsors Albers Ethics Week, a unique program where dozens of business and professional leaders from the Seattle area visit classes to speak during an intensive, weeklong program. Guests visit classes across all disciplines (economics, accounting, finance and management, not just ethics) to explore ethical issues in business, drawing upon their

personal experience and expertise in their industries. This gives students real-world examples of the impact and day-to-day significance of ethics in professional life.

**Looking to the future, what role do you see the center playing not only at Seattle U/Albers but also on a larger scale?**

**Smith:** Beginning in 2017-2018, the center will sponsor a faculty fellows program. These fellows will be appointed to complete their research and serve the center by working with students through directed studies, composing of case studies and commentaries, as well as developing curricula. The fellows will work with the center's graduate assistants in their research and begin to form the "public face" of the center.

**How does the center advance the mission of the university?**

**Smith:** The center furthers the university's mission in two important ways. First, it injects the study of values and human problems in to professional education. In this manner, the center is crucial to the professional formation of our students. Second, the center brings those in the world into the classroom. Learning is not just theoretical but intimately practical for our students.



## GLOBAL BUSINESS

What are the driving economic factors in the European markets? Or the value of information technology in business management in Latin America? These are just some of the topics that Albers students can explore through short-term education abroad courses and study tours.

These faculty-led international immersions, which on average last around a week to 10 days, provide business students the chance to network with classmates on a deeper level while gaining a more global perspective of the world of business.

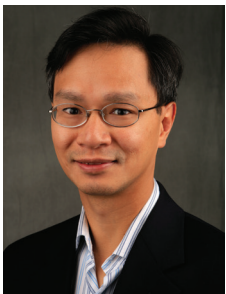
This year, students have the opportunity to study in China, Italy and the European Union. Last December participating business students went to Guatemala.

## IMMERSION LOCATIONS

WHERE ALBERS STUDENTS CAN LEARN ABOUT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS



\* 2016-17 Immersion Trips



*“The Albers short-term study tours to Cambodia and Vietnam provide an opportunity for students to participate in international service-learning projects with landmine survivors and victims of Agent Orange/dioxin. Seeing poverty firsthand and doing something about it through service learning is transformational for many. Students may approach business decisions with a greater understanding of their impact on poverty in the developing world.”*

*—Quan Le, associate professor/economics, who leads some of these immersions abroad*



# INNOVATION



*“Employers seek independent learners with engineering-related experiences outside of their prescribed course work.”*

*—Rich Bankhead,  
“Innovator in Residence”*

PHOTOS BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO

By Tracy DeCroce

Inside Room 210 of the Bannan Building lies the future of electrical and computer engineering (ECE) education at Seattle University’s College of Science and Engineering (CSE).

The new Francis Wood, S.J. and Nick Arvanitidis, PhD Innovation Lab has specialized equipment not found anywhere else on campus. There’s a laser cutter that could, for example, cut the pieces for a robot chassis on which a student might mount gearboxes, motors and microcontrollers. Using the lab’s 3D printer, students could then fabricate the necessary fixtures to hold various sensors. All assembled, the completed project might be a robot or some other student design.

Amid it all, bringing a high-voltage energy all his own, is Richard Bankhead, SU’s first “Innovator in Residence.” As he sees it, the lab offers much more than the sum total of its super cool parts.

“It’s a safe space for students to come in and learn by doing,” Bankhead says. “The big idea is that for students to be successful in any coursework, prior experience is paramount to understanding the material.... The difficulty in electrical and computer engineering is that you are learning about things that can’t be seen. Our goal is to help students engage and see some of the things that are hidden to them.”

To illustrate his point, Bankhead, a chemical engineer, pulls out a littleBits Kit and clicks together Lego-like circuit elements. By changing the order, he can produce light or

sound or alter their amplification. For many students, these littleBits could be their first step in manipulating the invisible tools of the trade.

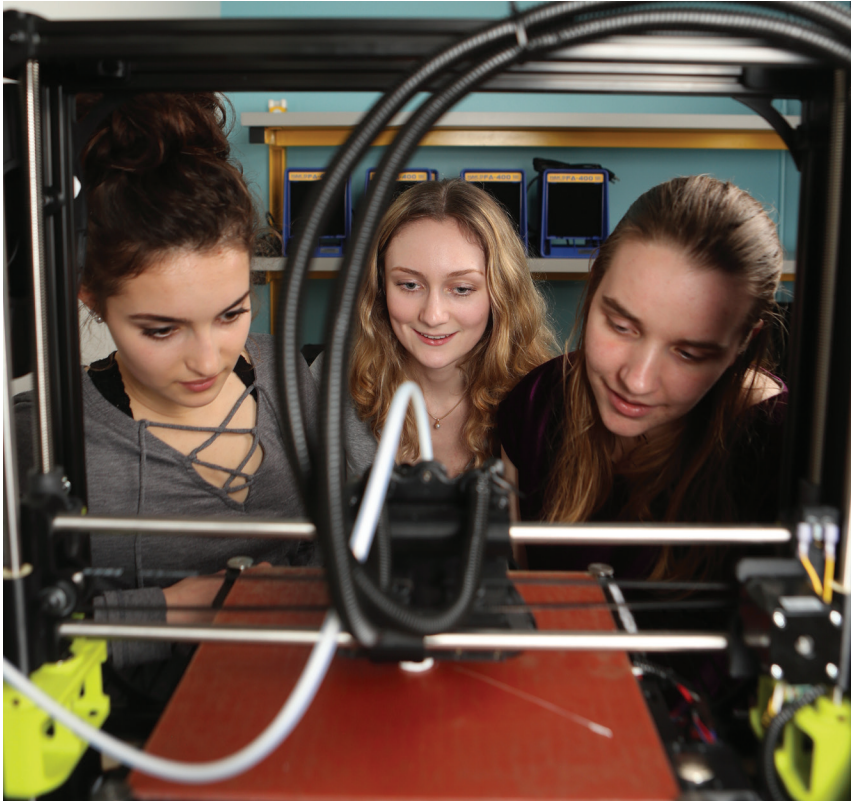
The Innovation Lab, which opened earlier this year, draws inspiration from the national “maker movement,” a technology-based subculture that creates do-it-yourself projects.

Maker spaces engage a “touch-screen generation” that has little experience with mechanical devices—things that used to give young engineers a tactile reference point for how things work, Bankhead says.

What makes SU’s lab different from those at other colleges and universities is how it’s embedded within the ECE department and how it will align with departmental

# IN ACTION

THE FUTURE OF ELECTRICAL AND  
COMPUTER ENGINEERING AT SU  
LOOKS BRIGHTER THAN EVER



*The Innovation Lab expands experiential learning and connects students with the latest technologies. It gives students the opportunity for hands-on use of emerging technologies, experimentation, innovative idea prototyping and hardware development in wireless communication, robotics, intelligent systems, the Internet of Things, Cyber-Physical Systems, human-machine interaction and assistive technology.*

instruction,” says Gary Fernandes, ECE department laboratory manager.

ECE Department Chair and Associate Professor Agnieszka Miguel says the lab gives students the opportunity for hands-on use of emerging technology and hardware.

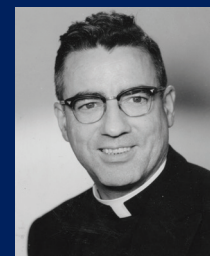
“The lab is a collaborative studio space for both informal, project-driven, self-directed learning and projects that will be integrated throughout the curriculum,” Miguel says.

Bankhead envisions first- and second-year students using the lab to augment their textbook-heavy physics and math coursework. Having the chance to “play” in the lab will help them engage with the demanding subject matter and provide a context for what they are learning.

For juniors and seniors, Bankhead sees the lab offering something different—the chance to develop their own projects or work on senior design projects. That experience gives students an edge when applying for internships or jobs because they can demonstrate their knowledge by talking about self-initiated projects that they have worked on.

“Employers seek independent learners with engineering-related experiences outside of their prescribed course work,” Bankhead says.

The Innovation Lab was made possible by a generous lead gift from Electrical Engineering alumnus Nick Arvanitidis, '63. Arvanitidis, the 2009 Alumnus of the Year, said Fr. Wood “was the heart and soul of engineering” and had an early influence on his life.



The late Francis P. Wood, S.J., served as chair of Seattle U’s Department of Electrical Engineering for 25 years, from 1959 to 1984.

Father Wood was notable for taking summer jobs in the industry, first with the Bonneville Power Administration, then with The Boeing Company, where he did work in control systems for jet airliners. As an educator he was known for his rigor in the classroom and was both feared and revered by many students.



FEATURE

**FUTURE  
OUTLOOK**

# THE FUTURE STARTS HERE



*Information and quotes compiled by Tracy DeCroce*

## **SEATTLE U IS AT THE INTERSECTION OF INDUSTRY AND INNOVATION**

Predicting the future might be a fool's errand. But in the Puget Sound region, many of today's trends around job growth, housing and higher education have enough traction that imagining the next five, 10 or even 25 years is more within the realm of actuality than guesswork. A few things seem certain: Growth will continue at a dizzying pace with another million residents expected to settle in the region by 2035; and cost-of-living will continue its upward trajectory in response to pressure on housing, transportation and infrastructure. On the jobs front, the expectation is that the region will continue to be the place for high-paying positions in a range of industries. On the flipside, the challenge may be finding employees with the right skill set to fill those jobs.

So how is Seattle University, as it celebrates its 125th anniversary, positioned to meet the needs of the region? The answer: quite well. The university's strategic priorities lay out a plan to "seize the opportunities" before us by leveraging—in new ways—Seattle U's deep roots within this innovative urban city and the larger global community. As the university progresses and adapts, its Jesuit Catholic mission will remain a vital guide and, some say, more critical than ever in a world that is ultimately unpredictable.

“Seattle U has done a great job at preparing me for my career and my life. The connections the schools have to companies and alumni are so helpful.”

—Oshian Coates, '17 (pictured left), Electrical Engineering with Computer Specialization

## FUELING A THRIVING ECONOMY

In the next five years, the majority of job openings in Washington state will require postsecondary education or training, according to a 2016 report by the Washington Roundtable and the Boston Consulting Group.

200%

The employment rate is almost 200 percent higher for those with a bachelor's degree compared with those who don't have one. (Source: *The Best Schools Magazine*)

TOP 5%

SU ranks in the Top 5 percent in the U.S. for highest paid graduates in liberal arts/science and humanities and computer and information science. (Source: *College Factual*)

740,000

Projected number of job openings in WA over the next five years.

35%

Percentage of “Career Jobs”— Washington jobs in the next five years that require higher skills and offer salaries ranging from \$60,000 to \$100,000.

45%

Percentage of “Pathway Jobs”— Washington jobs with salaries of up to \$45,000 and a route to career jobs in the next five years.



**DEAN ALLEN**  
CEO, McKinstry, Chair,  
Seattle University  
Center for Science and  
Innovation Task Force

“The Seattle area has reached a tipping point where we'll soon be one of the 10 hubs in the world driving innovation. Our growth is very much concentrated in STEM fields. STEM and health care are where the high preponderance of excellent paying jobs are being created. The leaders we train at SU have command of these domains. But they also know how to lead with purpose and impact and cutting-edge companies are interested in doing things with purpose. That is how SU is going to fill that demand as the area continues to grow.”



**MAY MCCARTHY, '85**  
Entrepreneur, angel  
investor, business  
consultant, Advisory  
Board, Innovation and  
Entrepreneurship Center  
(Albers)

“Many of the new technology entrepreneurs are coming out of large companies like Amazon, Google, Facebook, Microsoft or health care IT such as the Fred Hutch and other life science research companies to start their own businesses. ... By delivering quality graduates who are ready to make innovative contributions to the growth and mission of these businesses, Seattle U will be the school that more employers look to when hiring new employees.”



**DAVE SABEY**  
Chairman and President,  
Sabey Corporation and  
Sabey Data Centers  
Co-chair, Seattle University  
Comprehensive Campaign

“Our world is being disrupted at a speed it's never been in history. The difference between Seattle University and other institutions is its Jesuit focus around transcendentals—honor, faith, trust, humanism and community. As we live in a world that is being rapidly recast by technology, SU gives us a fundamental understanding of how important our humanity is by giving us those core compass points.”



## URBAN DENSITY

Seattle U's 10-Year Facility Plan promises affordable living in the heart of the city with new housing for 700 students. Seattle U's new Residence Hall (above) is slated to open in 2018.

## INTERSECTION OF INTEGRATION AND INNOVATION

Seattle University of the future will serve an interconnected world. Streetcars and rapid transit will connect the university to downtown Seattle, its neighborhoods and the suburbs. Expanded on-campus student housing will create more of a centralized community.

A sense of integration will drive the student experience—integration of the university with the region, integration

with local employers, integration with the global community and integration of academic disciplines.

Most notably, a new Center for Science and Innovation (CSI), scheduled to open in 2021, will pivot the orientation of Seattle U's educational experience by ensuring more robust connectivity between the sciences and humanities.



### MICHELE MURRAY, PHD

Vice President, Seattle University Student Development

"There's no doubt people are price-sensitive and the cost of education is outpacing people's ability to pay. This presents an opportunity for Seattle U to differentiate itself. It's not the hard skills that people develop through their SU education that differentiate us, it's the soft skills—the ability to meet others where they are, to be in conversation when conversation is difficult, to understand that relationships matter. ... Our enduring Jesuit values are needed more than ever locally and globally and they are setting our students apart."



### #2 BEST CITY FOR GRADUATES

Seattle is the #2 Best City for Graduates for job market, affordability, average income and percentage of young people (CNBC).



### FINANCIAL AID SUPPORT

87 percent of SU undergraduate and 27 percent of graduate students receive scholarship aid.



### NEW TYPE OF BUSINESS DEGREE

The Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA) program in the Albers School of Business and Economics is the first of its kind in the Northwest.

### TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS THROUGH 2021

- Software App Developer
- Registered Nurse
- Accountant and Auditor
- Sales Rep, Wholesale and Manufacturing
- General and Ops Manager
- Elementary School Teacher
- Computer Programmer
- Management Analyst
- Computer Systems Analyst
- Electrician

### AMONG TOP EMPLOYERS OF RECENT SU GRADUATES

- Alaska Airlines
- Amazon
- The Boeing Company
- Ernst & Young
- Harborview Medical Center
- Microsoft
- Nordstrom
- PACCAR
- Physio-Control
- Seattle Children's Hospital
- Swedish Medical Center
- T-Mobile

### AMONG TOP SU INTERNSHIP LOCATIONS

- Amazon
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- The Boeing Company
- City of Seattle
- Expedia
- Harborview Medical Center
- Puget Sound Energy
- Russell Investments
- Seattle Children's Hospital
- Seattle City Light
- Swedish Medical Center



## **SHIFTING DEMOGRAPHICS**

Seattle University will continue to anticipate industry trends and respond with changes to its coursework and offerings for non-traditional students.

- By 2020, the number of students nationally who are 25 and older is projected to be nearly double that of younger students. (Source: National Center for Education Statistics 2013 report.)
- Nationally, by 2021, the college-bound student population is expected to have 42% more Hispanic students, 25% more African-American students and 4% more white students. (Source: National Center for Education Statistics 2013 report.)
- At SU, minority students represent 52 percent of SU's student population in 2014-2015, making it among the most diverse of the 28 Jesuit universities in the U.S. (Source: Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities)
- Seattle U's School of New and Continuing Studies offers a bachelor's degree for working adults in Digital Technology and Cultures.

*“Liberal arts education will be an increasingly important avenue for training professionals who are also great citizens of our country and the world. Many of our alumni have become major leaders in almost any profession you can imagine. And the intersection of technology and the liberal arts has tremendous promise for the future.”*

*—David Powers, PhD (pictured),  
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences*



PHOTO BY YOSIE CHAIM KALINKO

## THE GIFT OF

# TRANSFORMATION

## COUPLE'S GENEROSITY WILL BENEFIT FUTURE OF STEM EDUCATION

By Tracy DeCroce

It's a sunny morning in Seattle's Magnolia neighborhood and Mary and Pat Welch's guests are early. "I haven't made the coffee yet," Pat apologizes, as he fills the pot with water and Mary slices homemade zucchini bread. Before long there is laughter. With jabs and hoots, the couple compares their Seattle U undergraduate experiences when Mary, '69, '76, was a campus leader and Pat, '69, a serious student. Back then, their longest interaction was at graduation when Mary presented Pat with an academic award.

Much has happened in the five decades since. Pat and Mary reconnected years later at St. Patrick's Church. They married in 1976, had three children and spent many years in Seattle before relocating to New England. During that time, their engagement with their alma mater was limited.

So how is it that they recently made the largest gift of their lives to the College of Science and Engineering (CSE) to help realize the new Center for Science and Innovation? Pull up a chair and pour a cup of coffee as Mary and Pat tell you all about it.

## DIVERGING PATHS COME TOGETHER

Pat Welch grew up in Seattle's Madrona neighborhood, the second of eight children and graduated from O'Dea High School. His parents, a Seattle firefighter and homemaker, emphasized that "if you were going to do anything it had to be through education," Pat recalls. Mary Hermann, the only child of a Seattle policeman and full-time mom, grew up across town in Greenwood and graduated from Blanchet High School. For her, "college was not a given, but encouraged." She chose Seattle U, she says, in part to stay close to home.

As freshmen, Mary and Pat both enrolled as science majors. Before the year was out, Mary changed her major to English and became active in campus leadership. Pat, who lived at home and had little campus involvement beyond intramural sports, approached his studies like an Olympic competitor, choosing a major with a high degree of difficulty—physics—and hitting his marks.

Several years later, Mary became a Seattle U admissions officer. She also earned a master's degree in guidance and counseling from the College of Education.

Having earned his master's degree in physics from the University of Washington, Pat was working toward his doctorate when he "realized that job prospects at the time were not encouraging." He switched gears, earning his MBA from the UW and relocated across the country to work for the Ford Motor Company. In 1974, he returned to Seattle for a job at Weyerhaeuser and reconnected with Mary.

## RETURNING TO THE SU FOLD

As Mary and Pat built a life together, their connection to Seattle U became tangential. Pat's career, including positions with GE Capital, National Life of Vermont and CIGNA Healthcare, eventually took them to Vermont and Connecticut. They supported the university as President's Club donors but otherwise directed their volunteerism and philanthropy to their local community.

Their children grew up and started their own lives. When Pat retired, the couple returned to Seattle.

One day, they received a call from the then CSE dean who invited them to come and see what was happening at their old college. They liked what they saw.

They became CSE donors and members of the Dean's Advisory Council. Mary is also a university Regent.

As a former biology major, Mary feels proud to help empower female students to succeed in traditionally male-dominated fields.

"I love meeting the young women students in science and engineering. When I was at SU, those options didn't exist for young women except for a few brave souls," says Mary.

## TRANSFORMATIVE OPPORTUNITY

For many years, Mary and Pat have underwritten summer research scholarships—the kind of opportunity that gives



Mary Welch, '69, '76, and Pat Welch, '69

students "a leg up when it comes to employment or grad school," Pat says.

Now they have taken a leap forward with a transformative gift that reflects their belief that the new center will advance the university's exceptional STEM education.

"Science and engineering are tremendous building blocks for logical thinking that is valuable in many professions," Pat says. "The region needs more quality people with that training and if they come with a Jesuit background that is very positive."

Underlying the practical impetus for their gift is a personal connection to the college that goes back generations. Mary's uncle, Ernest Bertin, S.J., was a beloved Seattle U chemistry professor from 1957 to 1982. Their gift is as much a way to honor his contributions as it is to take the college forward.

But the greatest driver of their gift is knowing what it will mean to future generations of students. Mary is overcome with emotion when she thinks about how they are helping countless students make a strong start in life.

"The thought that a student in the future can accomplish something remarkable because of what we are doing now, that's very powerful."

# HOMECOMING A BLAST

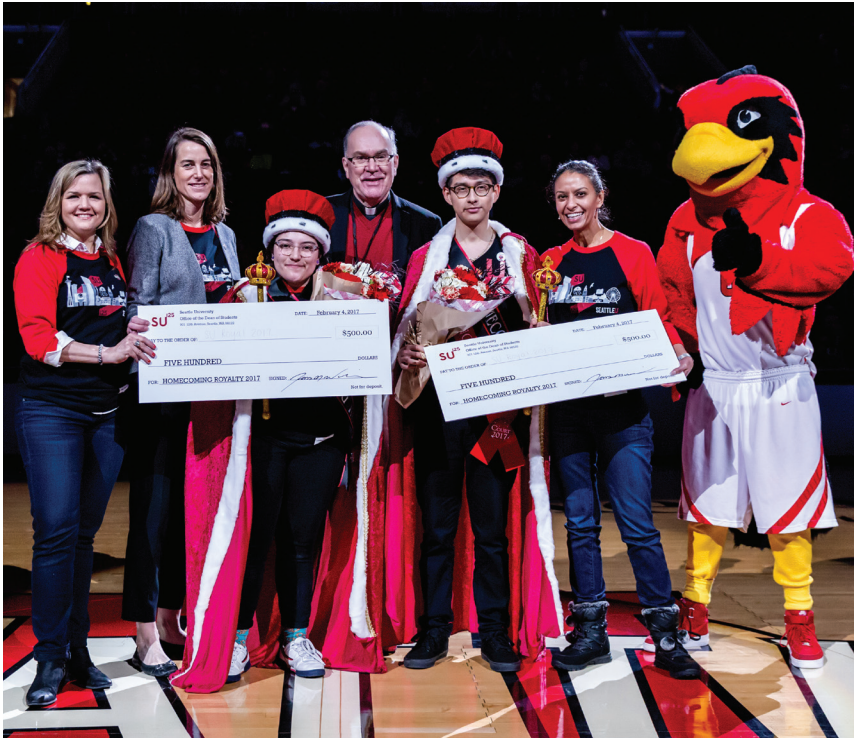
## THE TRADITION LIVES ON.

Homecoming at Seattle University brought together a lot of Redhawk pride with a parade, Homecoming royals, community service projects, a rally and men's basketball to cap off an exciting few days.



PHOTOS BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO







## PUBLIC SERVICE AND PHILANTHROPY IN DAVID BLEY'S DNA



By Tracy DeCroce

David Bley, '80 MPA, is reflecting on what drew him to public service and philanthropy nearly four decades ago. "All human beings are a product of their time, place and family," says Bley, director of the Pacific Northwest Initiative at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Bley grew up in a northern Chicago suburb in the 1960s. Greatly influenced by his politically engaged family and their Jewish values rooted in social justice, his teenage years were marked by the civil rights movement, Vietnam War protests and the 1968 Chicago riots.

In his role at the Gates Foundation, those early experiences still color his worldview as he works toward ensuring that low-income youth and children of color will prosper in our region's growing economy and that our region will benefit from their contributions.

"Our region is an engine for the future economy across the globe. Yet, very

*"Our region is an engine for the future economy across the globe. Yet, very few of our jobs are going to kids raised here."*

*—David Bley, '80 MPA, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*

few of our jobs are going to kids raised here," Bley says.

Bley came to the Gates Foundation in 2007 by way of "serendipity," he says, as a champion for local issues: poverty, economic opportunity, neighborhood revitalization and affordable housing. His current role was influenced by past experience that includes working for Enterprise Community Partners, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle, Fannie Mae, former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In directing the Gates Foundation's Pacific Northwest Initiative, he is responsible for shaping the regional

agenda for the world's largest foundation. With a 23-person team and an annual budget of approximately \$60 million, he directs community-based strategies focused on supporting stable families, great schools and strong communities in Washington state, as well as high-quality early learning nationwide.

A typical day involves meeting with community partners to "co-develop" strategies. The foundation's "Road Map Project" illustrates how Bley collaborates with community partners such as nonprofit organizations, public schools, state funders and local families. The project has an ambitious goal: Double the number of South King County and South Seattle students who are on track to graduate from college and begin careers by 2020,

# FUTURE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PHOTO BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO

and close the opportunity gap for low-income students and children of color.

“The path out of poverty is educational attainment and we’ve created a bridge from crisis to an educational pathway,” Bley says. “We’ve created a community around this... (and) a positive environment in which to tackle these issues.”

Early in his career, Bley was working as a community organizer for a tenants’ union when he enrolled in Seattle University’s College of Arts and Sciences to pursue a Master of Public Administration. While here, he was awarded a fellowship to work as a White House management intern. Seattle U enabled him to fast track his degree to take advantage of the opportunity.

His relationship with Seattle U continues today as a parent, volunteer and donor. He serves on the Seattle University Youth Initiative Advisory Board. At the Gates Foundation, Bley has been a key partner

in Seattle U’s initiatives to alleviate homelessness, a priority shared by the foundation.

“There is a high personal alignment between Seattle University and me,” Bley says. “I would never have gone to SU if I didn’t think it provided a great education. The bonus was the Jesuit tradition and its focus on community values, which overlap with my Jewish values.”

After 10 years at the Gates Foundation, Bley is as energized as ever. He continues to be driven by the social justice values that are “part of my DNA.” For someone who takes the long view of history, the lessons he learned as a child remain integral to his unwavering commitment to social justice.

“A well-educated populace knows its history and knows that with the right response, we can solve our problems,” Bley says. “That’s the history of America.”

## A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT **DAVID BLEY**

### WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

My oldest son. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was deployed to South Korea. He was raised during the era of 9/11. He has a sense of duty to defend our country against terrorism.

—Bley has three sons. The eldest graduated from Matteo Ricci College. His middle son is enrolled in the Albers School of Business and Economics and his youngest attends Seattle Preparatory High School.

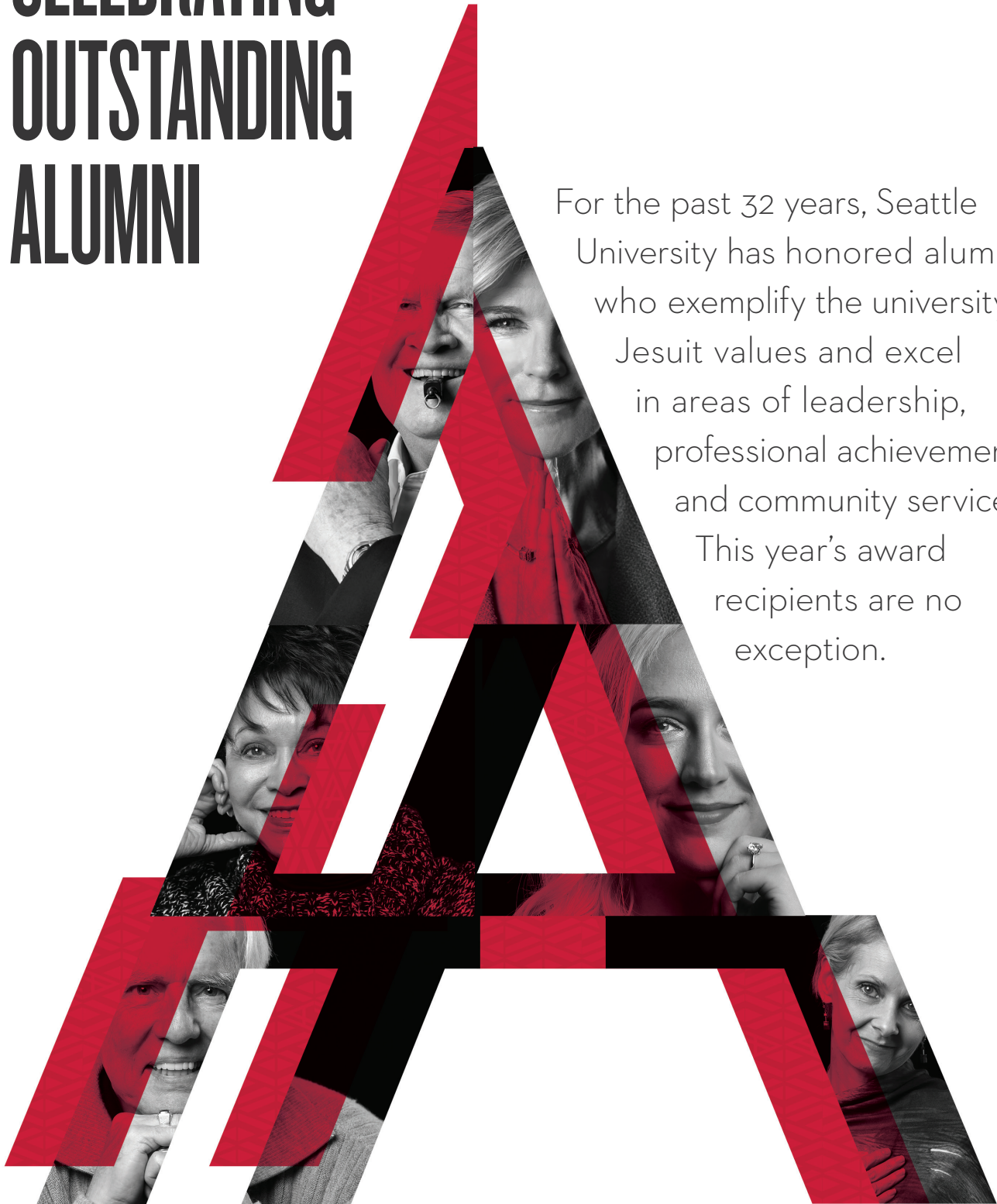
### WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR FREE TIME?

I’m an introverted person with an extroverted job. I need quiet activities to clear my head. I read books and listen to music—Chicago Blues, jazz, classical.

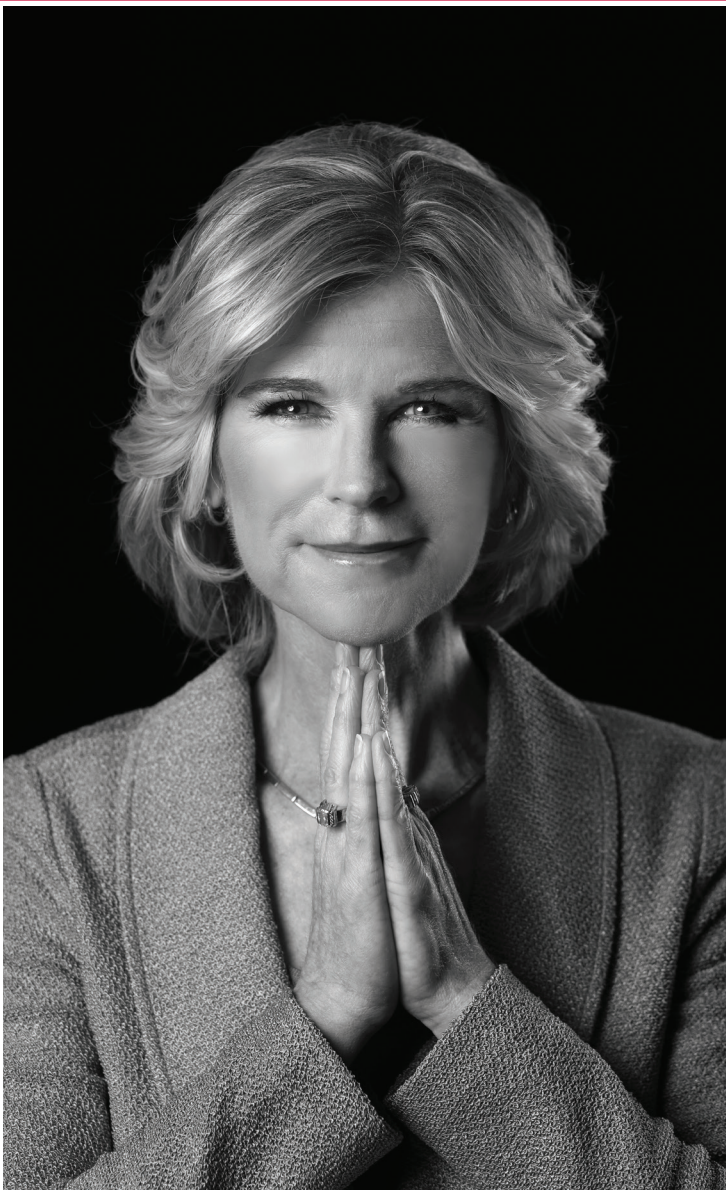
### WHAT BOOK MADE A LASTING IMPRESSION ON YOU?

*Hiroshima* by John Hersey. I read it when I was 13. It still sticks with me today.

# CELEBRATING OUTSTANDING ALUMNI



For the past 32 years, Seattle University has honored alumni who exemplify the university's Jesuit values and excel in areas of leadership, professional achievement and community service. This year's award recipients are no exception.



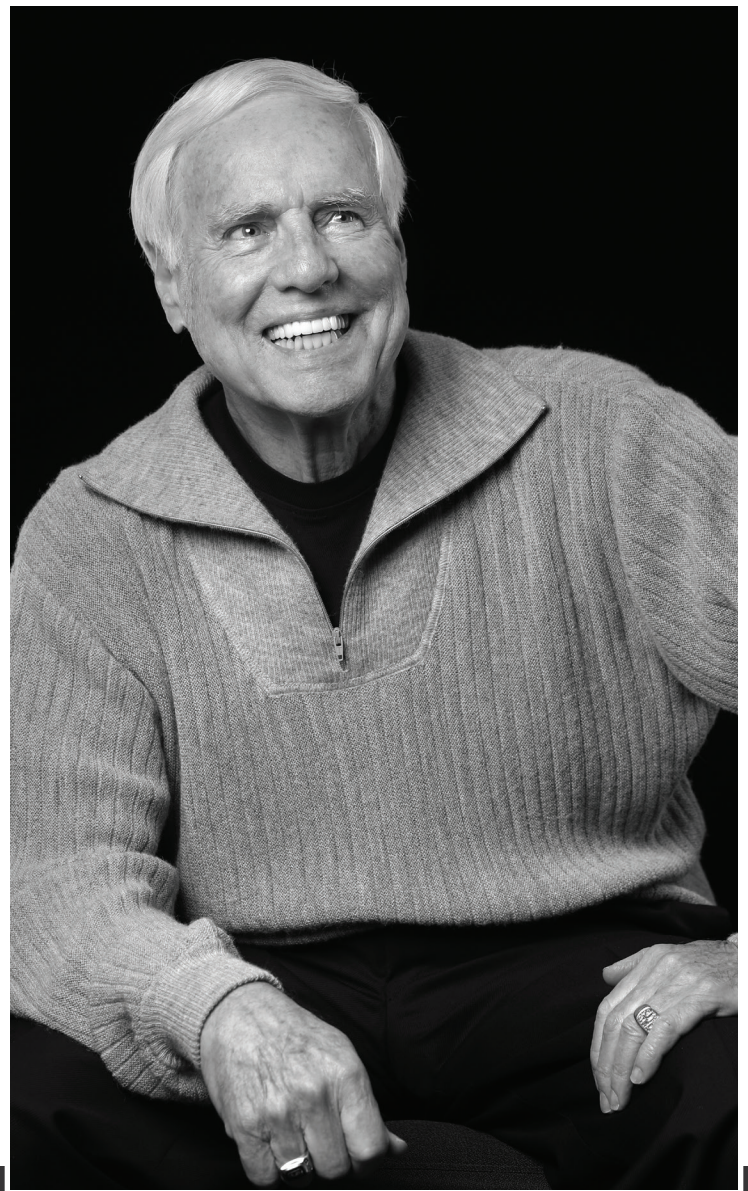
**ALUMNA OF THE YEAR**  
MAY MCCARTHY, '84

A best-selling author, speaker, university lecturer, angel investor and philanthropist, May McCarthy is the co-founder of seven successful companies. Board member and past chair of Seattle U's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center in the Albers School of Business and Economics, McCarthy devotes countless hours to the Albers Business Plan Competition and additionally, serves on various business, charitable and university boards. Sharing her knowledge to elevate prosperity and freedom for all is her passion.

**UNIVERSITY  
SERVICE AWARD**

JIM DYKEMAN, '61

Jim Dykeman has shown his profound commitment and loyalty to Seattle University by serving as chairperson of the President's Club and on the Board of Regents, Board of Governors and the Dean's Leadership Council for the College of Arts and Sciences. Mentoring students is one of Dykeman's favorite activities, as is connecting people and ideas together. He is most proud of the impact he's had in raising funds for the Lee Center for the Arts.



PHOTOS BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

### CAROLYN RONIS, '00, '03 JD

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Carolyn Ronis is changing the world. Out of concern for the Chibok girls kidnapped by Boko Haram, she founded the International Coalition for the Eradication of Hunger and Abuse (ICEHA). Her mission is to improve the plight of children caught in areas devastated by war and extreme poverty through a sustainable, preventative approach. ICEHA provides them with safety, basic services and the tools and the resources needed for healing and self-sufficiency.



## **PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT**

### JIM JORGENSEN, '65

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Jim Jorgensen worked for 30 years as a vice principal, principal and athletic director while officiating California high school and college sports. He served as NCAA commissioner for the Northern California Athletic Conference and on the National Association of Sports Officials. Recently he was inducted into the California Interscholastic Federation Hall of Fame. Jorgensen is on the Board of Regents, in the President's Club and a past member of the Board of Governors.



***DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD***

**MARILYN GIST, PHD**

Marilyn Gist, PhD, is professor of management and associate dean of Executive Programs for the Albers School of Business and Economics. An internationally recognized scholar in self-efficacy and leadership in management, she is an inspiring teacher and visionary capable of transforming leaders. Gist developed the Leadership Executive MBA and under her management, the Executive MBA programs have been ranked among the best in the nation.

***OUTSTANDING RECENT ALUMNA***  
**ALEXANDRA KENNEDY, '08**

Alexandra “Ally” Kennedy, the founder of Alexandra Kennedy Immigration Law, PLLC, is a tireless advocate for undocumented immigrants and their attorneys. The firm’s goal is to keep families together through the use of the U.S. immigration system. She is most proud of the national organization she created, Association of Mother Immigration Attorneys (AMIGA), which supports attorney mothers who “do it all” as mothers, lawyers and business owners.



# CARE FOR A MORE HUMANE WORLD

## COLLEGE OF NURSING ALUMNA EXPANDS HEALTH CARE FOR HIV/AIDS PATIENTS IN AFRICA

By Tina Potterf



*“So much of Med25’s work is based off of Seattle U’s mission that I valued the most: equality, human rights and social justice and how you can use business for good in the world.”*

*—Rebecca Okelo, ’07 RN, ’15 LEMBA*

Then a Seattle University nursing student, Rebecca Okelo, ’07 BSN, ’15 LEMBA, was forever changed by a junior year service trip to Ghana where she witnessed advanced-stage AIDS patients being denied routine medical care. “I was devastated by what I had seen,” Okelo recalls. “I came back and had no idea what I could do about it.”

Back home she put together a business plan around setting up a nonprofit to bring desperately needed health care to a corner of the world where many children and adults were living with HIV/AIDS. That nonprofit, Med25 International, was born and a decade later, what began as one small clinic in Ghana is today a multifunctional health center, nursery, vocational school and orphanage that has helped thousands of patients and families. And what started in Ghana has expanded into Kenya where Okelo and Med25 established an outpatient clinic that offers a range of services including preventative care, immunizations, prenatal care, treatment of malaria, waterborne illnesses and pneumonia and care for HIV/AIDS patients.

Today, the clinic treats more than 1,800 patients per month, with 70 percent of care free and other services costing only a nominal fee. All of which is financed without ongoing foreign aid. According to Okelo, this is possible through community established income-generating businesses. In 2011, Med25 completed market surveys and found that the greatest need in the region for a social business was a mortuary. While others were skeptical at first, says Okelo, listening to the community paid off. Just 20 months after the mortuary opened, the entire project in Mbita was 100 percent locally sustained and foreign aid was no longer needed.

“This community-driven project has significantly improved access to health care in this area,” Okelo says. “Now the community has access to quality and affordable health care and the means to sustain the project locally for years to come.”

While Med25 was creating social enterprises in communities of need, Okelo wanted to further her business education to support her work. She returned to Seattle U to complete the Leadership Executive MBA Program, graduating in 2015.

“I returned to Seattle U for my MBA because I knew I wanted SU’s values as the foundation for my business education,” she says. “So much of Med25’s work is based off of Seattle U’s mission that I valued the most: equality, human rights and social justice and how you can use business for good in the world.”

Following the success of the Kenya project, MED25 went through a strategic planning process to determine the best way to have a greater impact in more communities. A big step to accomplish this was to become part of VillageReach, another Seattle-based nonprofit organization and a global health innovator that develops, tests, implements and scales new solutions to critical health system challenges in low-resource environments.

“VillageReach and Med25 are both working to provide quality health care to the most underserved communities in Africa,” Okelo says. “By becoming a program within VillageReach’s portfolio, we will benefit from their expertise in bringing an innovative idea to scale and having a greater impact in more communities”.

While this transition is new, projects are already being evaluated in countries where VillageReach is currently working, including the Democratic Republic of Congo and Malawi.

Okelo credits the role her Seattle U education had in helping shape what has become her life’s work.

“Seattle U has absolutely been the catalyst in what Med25 has become ... and what it is today.”

To learn more about Med25, contact Rebecca Okelo at [rebecca.okelo@villagereach.org](mailto:rebecca.okelo@villagereach.org).



PHOTO BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO



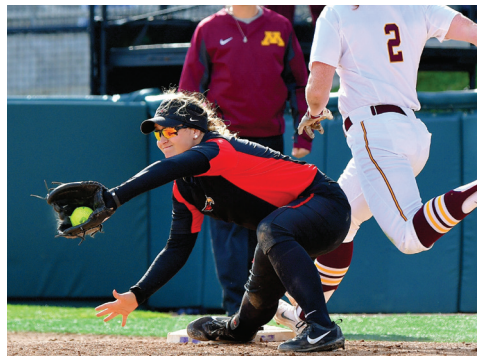


# STRONG TEAMS

START WITH

# STRONG INDIVIDUALS

Seattle University student-athletes excel on and off the field (or court). There have been several team and individual WAC titles—and numerous academic accolades—that reflect the athletic and scholastic prowess of our Division I teams and players, from soccer to basketball, baseball to track-and-field.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SEATTLE U ATHLETICS

# MEET OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., calls Seattle University's new Director of Athletics Shaney Fink "a dynamic leader."

Fink, who came to Seattle U from the University of San Diego (USD) where she served most recently as Senior Associate Athletics Director and a Senior Woman Administrator, says she is "looking forward to building on the foundation of success at Seattle U and engaging the entire community to work together to fulfill the bold vision for Seattle University athletics."

At USD, Fink was responsible for day-to-day operations and management of 17 NCAA Division I teams and 450 student-athletes.

To her new role Fink brings an impressive resume. She served as the West Coast Conference representative on the NCAA Legislative Council and as the Pioneer Football League representative on the NCAA Legislative Council Football Championship Series Subcommittee from 2011 to 2015.

As a member of the West Coast Conference Executive Council, she chaired the Academics, Legislation & Compliance Cabinet and Senior Woman Administrators.

During the 1999 season Fink assisted the Torero volleyball coaching staff, helping USD to a 23-6 record and second round finish in the NCAA Tournament.

Additionally, Fink participated in the NCAA Pathways program after completing the 2015 NACWAA Executive Institute in Kansas City in 2015. In 2013 she was named NCAA Division I FCS Administrator of the Year by NACWAA.

## SOLID POSTSEASON FOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

It was another strong regular season—and impressive showing in post-season WAC play—for women's basketball, which finished the WAC tournament in second place. This earned the team an automatic berth in the Women's National Invitation Tournament, where they faced Wyoming in the first round, falling 68-52.



## SOCCER STARS GO PRO



David Olsen



Kyle Bjornethun

Two alums of men's soccer have gone pro. Kyle Bjornethun, '17, and David Olsen recently signed professional soccer contracts—to play in the United Soccer League—for the 2017 season.

A fourth-round pick in this year's MLS SuperDraft, Bjornethun signed with "T2" and was a starter in the season opener on March 25. Olsen, who was a member of the Seattle Sounders Academy, signed with

Seattle. In the "S2" opener on March 26, Olsen played the entire match upfront.

Both Bjornethun and Olsen made their marks as Redhawks. Bjornethun was a two-time WAC Defensive Player of the Year and WAC Rookie of the Year as a freshman. Olsen led the country in goals in 2015—with 16—and played a pivotal role in the team making it to the NCAA Sweet 16 tournament in 2015.

SPIRITUAL CENTER OF CAMPUS  
 ← MARKS →  
 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

## CHAPEL OF ST. IGNATIUS CONTINUES TO SHINE

Twenty years ago, Seattle University's Chapel of St. Ignatius—designed by Steven Holl—opened its doors on Palm Sunday, promising to provide a gathering place for prayer and liturgy. Since then, it has blossomed into an extraordinary place of worship—and developed into something much more. The small gem, with its beacon-like colored lights glowing in the darkness at night, has grown into a magnetic symbol of Seattle U. A part of the university's core identity, the chapel is a world-recognized architectural landmark. It's the hub of a vibrant spiritual community with weekly Masses for students and the larger SU community and an open-hearted, meditative space.

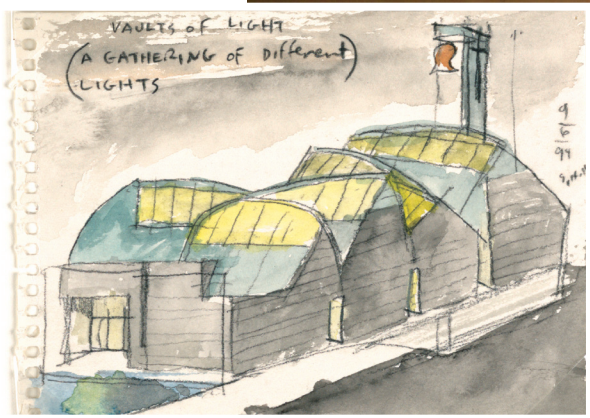
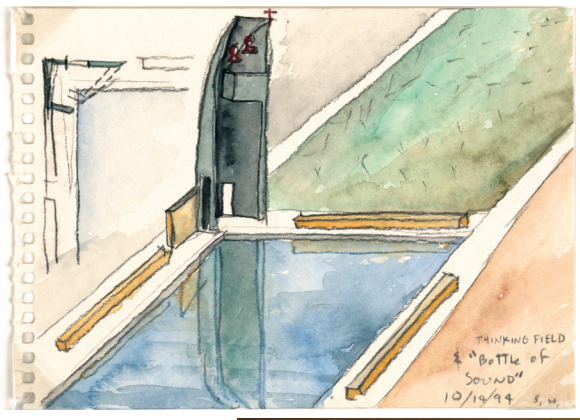
In 1991, then-president William Sullivan, S.J., announced his plans for a chapel on campus dedicated to the founder of the Jesuits, St. Ignatius. The university hired Holl, a Bremerton-born, internationally acclaimed architect, to lead the project. He was captivated by Ignatian philosophy and challenged by the notion of how to translate light and darkness into a sacred space.

The concept had two meanings. It reflected the Ignatian idea of "discernment," the sorting through of internal light and darkness—St. Ignatius termed them "consolations and desolations"—to achieve clear purpose in decision-making.

More than a physical landmark, the chapel has become part of the university's identity. It embodies the university's Jesuit mission, reaching out to the non-Catholic community with interdenominational services and events. Living up to Holl's vision of a "gathering of lights," the chapel is open to people of all faiths.

Over these past two decades, the chapel has evolved into a living place and vibrant home for a community that spans SU and its surrounding world—with more than 40,000 annual visitors.





PHOTOS BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINKO | ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEVEN HOLL, USED BY PERMISSION, COURTESY OF THE COOPER HEWITT, SMITHSONIAN DESIGN MUSEUM; DRAWING, CHAPEL OF ST. IGNATIUS, SEATTLE UNIVERSITY; EXTERIOR VIEW WITH THINKING FIELD AND "BOTTLE OF SOUND", OCTOBER 14, 1994; DRAWING, EXTERIOR VIEW OF THE CHAPEL OF ST. IGNATIUS, SEATTLE UNIVERSITY; VAULTS OF LIGHT (A GATHERING OF DIFFERENT LIGHTS), SEPTEMBER 6, 1994

# A NEW HOME

## **FRESH CONTENT**

Seattle University Magazine has a new home online—[www.seattleu.edu/news](http://www.seattleu.edu/news)—where you can download and view articles (plus web extras) from the latest issue along with news from around campus. Check it out today.

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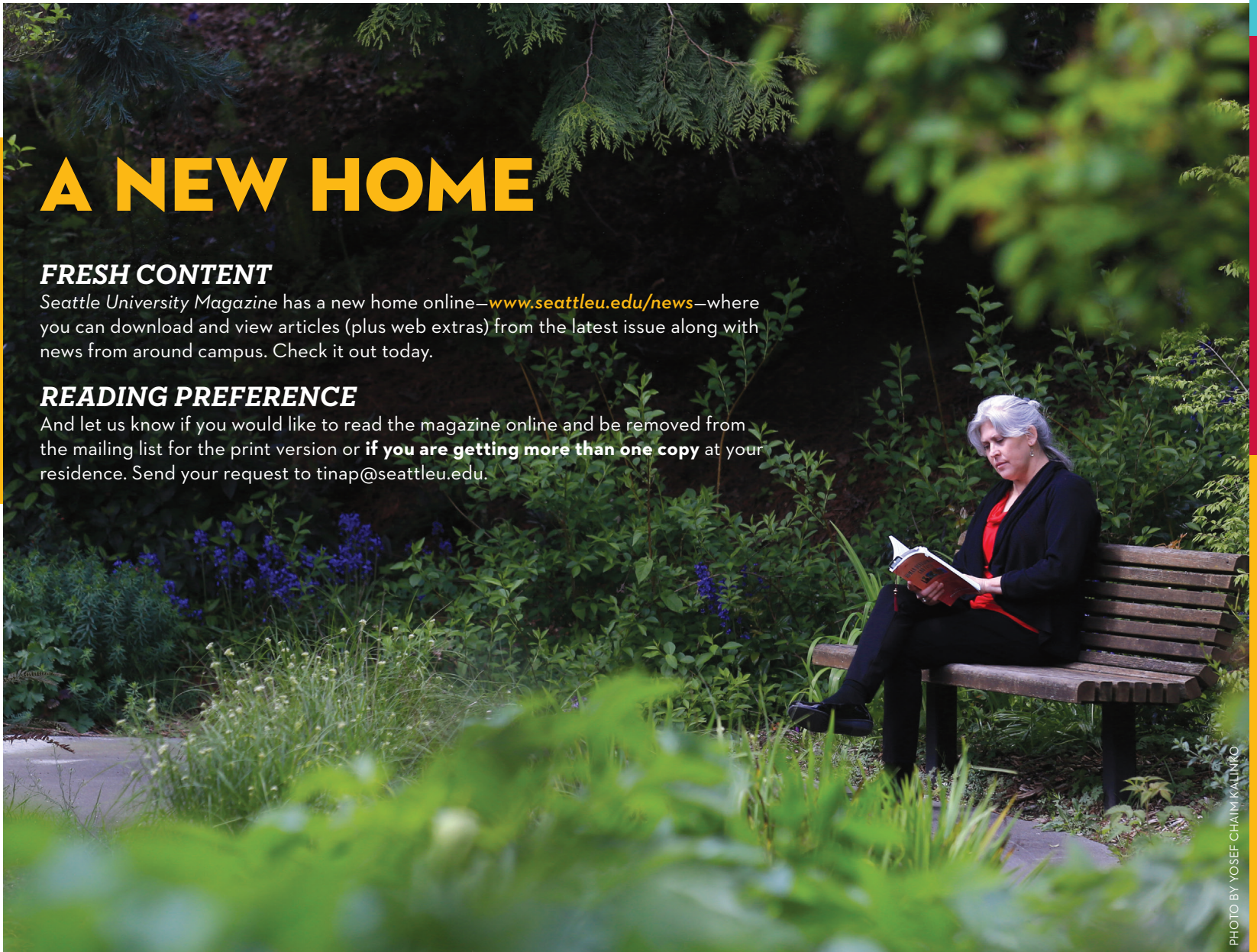


PHOTO BY YOSEF CHAIM KALINIKO