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# SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

**MAGAZINE** 



#### **INTO HEALTH CARE**

**OMA TURNS** 

**50** 

NURSING STUDENTS GET NEW REAL-WORLD TEACHING AID IN A HIGH-TECH, LIFE-LIKE PACKAGE

## REDHAWKS+RED UMBRELLAS=HOMECOMING! Under friendly skies, hundreds of Seattle U students, staff, faculty and alumni kicked off Homecoming events with the annual Red Umbrella Parade through campus. Representing the Homecoming Court is Graham Wielgos, '22, showing his Redhawk pride and leadership along the parade procession. Check out more scenes from this year's Homecoming with Being Scene on page 30. SEATTLE 02 SEATTLE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | WINTER 2020



**VOLUME 44. ISSUE NUMBER I. WINTER 2020** 

## **SEATTLE UNIVERSITY**

**MAGAZINE** 

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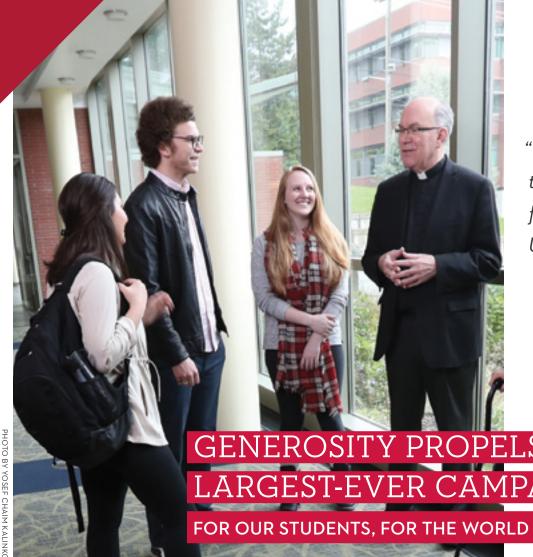
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"Thank you for believing in the transformative force for good that is a Seattle University education."

-Stephen Sundborg, S.J., president

As I start every day of my life with poetry, let me begin with some poetry about praying by one of my favorite poets, Mary Oliver:

"It doesn't have to be the blue iris, It could be weeds in a vacant lot. or a few small stones; Just pay attention, Then patch a few words together and don't try to make them elaborate, This isn't a contest but the doorway into thanks..."

Let me patch together a few words as a doorway into a big thank you to all of you for your generosity toward our largest comprehensive campaign ever, the Campaign for the Uncommon Good, which at its heart puts our students first.

I am filled with gratitude. You are the Seattle University family, cocreators in our work and mission. You know us best and you bring out our best. You are our most loyal, most committed friends. Youfrom alumni and staff to students and faculty-make us all who we are and give us hope and inspiration to dream and reach for all we can become.

Thank you for believing in the transformative force for good that is a Seattle University education. Thank you for believing in our students and in our Catholic and Jesuit education. Thank you for

challenging us to envision an even greater university that will make a much greater impact as it fulfills its mission.

And thank you for your unbelievable support for our campaign. It is because of this support that we are well on our way to reaching our \$275 million goal, which most benefits our students through the new Center for Science and Innovation, Scholarships and Jesuit Mission and Programs.

In the scriptures Jesus says, "Look, I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will share a meal together as friends." We have all heard a knock at the door of our hearts from God, from Jesus, from the young calling out for help and hope. May we continue to open the door of our hearts to these calls, these knocks, to welcome into our lives, our care and our generosity, the young, the yearning, the deserving. May we say "Come in!" with grateful hearts for all that has been so generously given to us.

Stephen Sundborg, S.J.

Fr Stew Sudloy of.

President

ON CAMPUS

#### **STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS**

2020-2025

# THF UIURF

#### A JESUIT UNIVERSITY OF DISTINCTION FOR A TIME OF CHANGE

#### Guided By and In Support of Our Mission:

"Seattle University is dedicated to educating the whole person, to professional formation and to empowering leaders for a just and humane world."

The mission, which puts students at the center of all we do and all we are as a university, underscores the new Strategic Directions for Seattle U, shaping its vision for the future. Here is a snapshot of the recently approved Strategic Directions and vision for 2020-2025:

Our Vision is to "be one of the most innovative and progressive Jesuit and Catholic universities in the world, educating with excellence at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels ..."

#### Core Elements of the Vision:

- Academically rigorous Jesuit education
- Inclusive excellence across all operations and programs
- Leading university for environmental sustainability
- Excellent student experience for all
- Partnerships for professional development of students
- Commitment to continuous improvement in every area
- Alumni actively engaged in the life of the university

#### **GOAL 1: REIMAGINE AND REVISE OUR CURRICULUM**

"We will comprehensively reimagine and revise our curriculum, including a review of our academic calendar, to deeply embed practices and qualities that make our education more distinctively Jesuit and empowering."

#### **GOAL 2: STRENGTHEN PROFESSIONAL FORMATION**

"Seattle and the Puget Sound region offer extraordinary opportunities to the university and its students. We will leverage and build upon this location and our connections."

#### **GOAL 3: ENHANCE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE**

"We will build a campus environment that engages, enlivens and educates all students. We will value and celebrate the diverse identities that comprise our community. We will enhance the student experience by developing activities, programs and engagement opportunities that bring joy, school pride and spirit and human connection to their learning."

#### **GOAL 4: SUPPORT THE SUCCESS OF OUR COMMUNITY**

Because equity and diversity are integral to our character, values and excellence, and essential in" our education, we will prioritize inclusive recruitment, hiring and retention practices and provide the range of programs and learning opportunities that help all faculty and staff thrive in a diverse environment."

#### **GOAL 5: REPOSITION FOR CHANGE**

"We will build the strategic, institutional and financial capacity that undergirds the success of these Strategic Directions. We will link them to multi-year enrollment, tuition and aid strategies and comprehensive academic and financial plans that seek affordability and access for students to an education well worth it while assuring the financial viability of the university."

Read the full vision, goals and key initiatives at www.seattleu.edu/president/strategic-planning.

Watch for more news on the Strategic Directions and vision for Seattle University in the spring digital edition of Seattle University Magazine.

## SAVE THE DATE



#### **SU GIVES**

A dαy of giving. February 6, 2020



#### 35TH ANNUAL ALUMNI AWARDS

Honoring our alumni.
April 17, 2020



#### COMMENCEMENT

Celebrating the Class of 2020.
June 14, 2020



#### **UNCOMMON IMPACT TOUR**

Seattle U is coming to a city near you! Learn firsthand about the Campaign for the Uncommon Good and get up to speed on what's happening at the university from leadership. For information on these events, visit www.seattleu.edu/alumni.



**LOS ANGELES** February 20, 2020 BAY AREA March 26, 2020 **EASTSIDE PUGET SOUND** 

February 25, 2020

WASHINGTON

**TACOMA**February 27, 2020

SPOKANE



## 2020 CROSSCUT FESTIVAL

APRIL 30-MAY 2, 2020

Grammy Award-winning artist Macklemore. Former Seattle Seahawk wide receiver Doug Baldwin. Valerie Jarrett, one-time advisor to President Barrack Obama. These influencers and thought leaders were just a few of the great speakers and guests at last year's Crosscut Festival.

Start planning now for what's sure to be a who's who from the worlds of politics, news, sports, entertainment and more at the third annual Crosscut Festival, which will be back at Seattle University April 30-May 2.

Get more information, including ticket details, at www.seattleu.edu/crosscut-festival Use promo code: Alumni



#### SU MOVES UP IN LATEST RANKINGS

Several recently released college rankings recognize Seattle University's upward trajectory among the best universities/colleges in the nation, noting high marks for academics, career outcomes, service learning and sustainability.











#### SU MOVES UP IN LATEST RANKINGS

Several recently released college rankings recognize Seattle University's upward trajectory among the best universities/colleges in the nation, noting high marks for academics, career outcomes, service learning and sustainability.

#### WALL STREET JOURNAL INCLUDES SEATTLE U AMONG TOP 15% IN THE NATION

Seattle University improved its position in the latest Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Ed college rankings for 2020. The university moved up to #113 from #148 in 2019, which placed it in the top 15 percent of the 801 schools measured. Seattle U ranked #21 of 122 Western region universities.

#### U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

In U.S. News & World Report: Best Colleges 2020 rankings, Seattle U is now ranked among the top national universities for the first time after being ranked consistently in the Top 10 in the regional category. With the new ranking, Seattle U is tied for #139 among thousands of national universities.

#### COLLEGE FACTUAL

College Factual's 2020 Best Colleges ranking places Seattle University in the top 15 percent of colleges nationwide. Criminal Justice and Nursing ranked in the Top 5 percent, with several other academic programs in the top 10 and top 15 percentile. College Factual also noted that alumni who received undergraduate degrees from SU were among the highest paid in several fields.

#### BEST COLLEGE

For 17 years running, the Princeton Review has recognized Seattle University as one of the best colleges in the U.S. for undergraduate education, according to its Best 385 Colleges 2020 guide.

#### SEATTLE U A TOP GREEN COLLEGE

The Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges: 2019 Edition ranked Seattle University #21 in the nation in its latest publication examining the nation's most environmentally

of SU graduates are employed, enrolled in a full-time graduate program or engaged in postgraduate service within 6 months of graduation. -SU Class of 2018 "First Destination Survey"

#### COSTCO SCHOLARS

The Costco Scholarship Fund Breakfast marked its 20th anniversary with more than 1,700 guests helping to raise more than \$5 million for scholarships. The annual breakfast supports underrepresented students at Seattle University and the University of Washington.

In 2000 Costco co-founders Jim Sinegal and Jeff Brotman joined with Seattle University and the UW to create scholarships for highly qualified underrepresented students to make college more accessible and fill the financial gap. The College Success Foundation administers the Costco Scholarship Fund.

Since 2000, the event has raised more than \$55 million for students.



#### A SEATTLE U EDUCATION A STRONG RETURN ON INVESTMENT



Is a college education a good investment? That question has been asked repeatedly of late, however, in this age of Gen Z students and their Gen X parents-looking over their shoulders at potential debt-the question is more ubiquitous than ever.

Using data from a recent groundbreaking report by Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce called "The First Try at ROI"—ROI is "return on investment" it's clear that a Seattle University education is worth the cost. Consider these findings:

- After accounting for the cost of completing an undergraduate degree, the years invested in finishing the degree instead of working full time and the interest costs of student loans, a typical Seattle U undergraduate will benefit financially over their career by well more than \$1 million.
- This puts Seattle U in the top 7 percent of the more than 4,500 public and private schools the Georgetown report gathered data on and represents almost \$275,000 above the average 40-year net present value for all the private institutions measured.

Read more about the findings at www.seattleu.edu/newsroom.

#### HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON & CHELSEA CLINTON DISCUSS NEW BOOK

#### A HISTORY OF 'GUTSY WOMEN'

Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and her daughter Chelsea Clinton were on campus last fall for a talk based on their co-authored book, The Book of Gutsy Women: Favorite Stories of Courage and Resilience.

The Book of Gutsy Women, the first book the mother-daughter duo has written together, highlights women trailblazers who have inspired them throughout their lives.

The College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Theology and Ministry and Elliott Bay Book Company sponsored the event at Campion Ballroom.





## Putting the Gare into Health Care

By Allison Nitch

n infant patient slowly wakes up from a nap and acclimates to the room with eyes blinking and legs kicking. A health care professional leans over the crib and speaks soothingly to the baby when he

begins to cry in a rhythmic and repetitive pattern. If you're familiar with a tiny human's distinctive movements and sounds, observing this scenario with a life-like infant simulator can be a bit surreal. But these technologically advanced simulators are proving vital in the teaching labs for student nurses.

Such is the case with the College of Nursing's Clinical Performance Lab (CPL). Backed by substantial support from donors and community partners, the CPL has provided cutting edge training for future nurses since 2005. In 2019, the CPL announced the happy news that through the generosity of two new donors, its "family" of life-like simulators grew—now to five—with the arrival of the world's most advanced high-fidelity neonatal patient simulator.

"We know from scientific literature that simulation is an incredible bridge between theory and clinical practice," says Dr. Carrie Miller, CPL director and assistant professor at the College of Nursing. "It is a teaching modality that allows our students to practice in a very

safe, standardized and structured environment. We want them to learn in a realistic environment and then go out into the clinical environment and be safe practitioners."

The terms "high" or "low" fidelity indicates how life-like the simulator or manikin-is. A high-fidelity manikin blinks, speaks, reacts and creates facial expressions. The donated infant model-branded by Gaumard® Scientific Company as Super Baby Tory®—is also capable of producing all manner of fluids that a human baby does.

"Baby Tory® can provide immediate feedback in the form of physiologic data, such as labored breathing, and emotional indicators of comfort or distress," says Dean and Professor Kristen Swanson.

"A big part of simulation is creating as realistic of a human experience and interaction as possible. This allows students to insert themselves into a believable situation," says Zoe Haywood, CPL operations coordinator.

Following extensive off-site training and conferences, a simulation technician operates the simulator from a control room with a one-

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-Dr. Carrie Miller, CPL director/assistant professor at the College of Nursing

eattle U is sculpting the future nurses that will be delivering pivotal care.
We thought, 'how cool would it be if our financial support can impact a generation of future nurses for years to come?"

-Jim Kilpatrick

way mirror. The infant manikin is hooked up to vitals and monitors to provide live reactions, so "students are seeing how their actions affect the baby, instead of just playing pretend with a doll," says Haywood.

To simply describe the idea of simulation, Haywood likes to apply a sports analogy. "Consider lecture classes within CPL as drills or scrimmages. You can lose during a scrimmage but it's okay—just like how a mistake can be made on a simulator but everything is fine," she says. However, once a student moves on to a clinical environment with real patients, "that's the equivalent of a real game" with much on the line.

Every student enrolled in the College of Nursing passes through the CPL's doors, located near campus within James Tower at Swedish Cherry Hill Medical Center, which translates to approximately 400 learning opportunities per week. Different scenarios are created that mimic real-life clinical settings, like a school nurse's office in the pediatric suite, and manikins are assigned varying identities, that in turn enhances the realism of simulated learning.

#### **ASSESS & ADDRESS THE SITUATION**

Per the standards of best practices, students arrive in scrubs and are prepped for the simulated case they're about to enact.

The most common complication seen in newborns is respiratory distress. "This is something we absolutely cover in simulation," says Dr. Miller. Students learn how to not only respond, but also how to manage the problem and to recognize future complications of respiratory distress such as cardiac issues.

Students also train in the art of effective communication by mastering the people skills necessary to interact with parents of newborns, medical providers and health care team members. Other training topics include administering medication, what types of side effects to look for and why particular medications are used.

"The infant simulator supplements student learning in ways to care for childbearing and childrearing families," says Dean Swanson. "Simulated scenarios can build in normal, as well as rarely occurring, clinical situations."



The new baby simulator was made possible by Jim and Rose Kilpatrick, a Portland, Ore.-based couple with ties to the College of Nursing.

The Kilpatricks' gift will allow "undergraduate and graduate nursing students to have the experience of learning how to care for a sick baby before they go into practice," says Dr. Miller. "We are incredibly indebted to their generosity."

"The generous gift of Baby Tory®," adds Dean Swanson, "enables Seattle University nursing students to grow in their confidence as compassionate and competent caregivers."

The couple's inspiration to give to the College of Nursing derives from a particularly distressing personal experience. "We have four children and when they were very young, our family went through a trying time when our oldest had a traumatic illness at eight years old," says Jim. "We spent a few scary months in a very caring children's hospital in Portland. That remains a defining event in our lives."



#### VISIT THE LAB

The Clinical Performance Lab offers tours by appointment only. Email CPL@seattleu.edu for more information.



(l to r) Dr. Carrie Miller, Katie Kilpatrick, '18, Jim Kilpatrick and Rose Kilpatrick gather around baby Nino during a baby shower at the CPL.

One of their children, Katie Kilpatrick, '18, graduated from the College of Nursing and is now employed by Seattle Children's Hospital. "There's a special place in our hearts for the people that deliver pediatric care to families at their most vulnerable time," says Rose. "We are very proud of our daughter for wanting to be one of those people."

Knowing the College of Nursing has been educating students for more than 80 years, consider how far medical care has come over that time. Because such advancements are ongoing, keeping Seattle U nursing students ahead of the curve and beyond what has been traditionally provided requires an investment. The college describes the role of private support as "a social purpose that serves the greater good."

"Seattle U is sculpting the future nurses that will be delivering pivotal care," says Jim. "We thought, 'how cool would it be if our

financial support can impact a generation of future nurses for years to come?' Working with Dr. Carrie Miller and Dean Kristen Swanson, we found a way to improve their readiness with today's best technology."

#### SHOWERED WITH SUPPORT

Just as a new baby is traditionally welcomed into a family through a celebration, the CPL team hosted a baby shower to celebrate theirs (all gifts were donated to local nonprofit Mary's Place).

"We have a deep respect for those who participate in student learning and our manikins participate heavily, so we had a baby shower in honor of Nino," says Dr. Miller. The infant was officially named by Rose and Jim-in memory of Rose's father, Nino-and announced during the shower.

The lab's first baby shower was in 2017 following a tragic loss for the lab team. "Most of our simulator manikins are from Gaumard® Scientific Company," explains Dr. Miller. At the time, the lab had been working closely with a sales representative named Mark who was in frequent communication to help the CPL with Gaumard® Victoria®, a new birthing simulator that the lab named Connie.

"But Mark died suddenly of natural causes in the middle of getting Victoria® set up and incorporating her into our family. His death was a shock to us all."

CPL staff contacted Gaumard® headquarters in Texas and discussed their interest in honoring Mark, which led to inviting his family to the lab's first baby shower. During the gathering, Connie gave birth to her infant, which the CPL team named Mark.

"I think in many ways it was a celebration of life for our rep Mark," Dr. Miller recalls. "His mother was in attendance and the simulated birth was a powerful moment for her to experience."

#### AN INNOVATIVE VISION

In 2003, the Sinegal Family Foundation, established by Jim and Janet Sinegal, made a leadership gift to establish the Clinical Performance Lab. Additionally, in 2015 Dave Sabey made a significant donation to the CPL in support of the future of health care innovation. These foundational contributions, and those of recent donors, have made this cutting edge nursing laboratory a reality at Seattle U.

At 20,000 square feet, Seattle U's lab surpasses the 10,000 square feet average of simulation spaces typical in nursing education.

The lab itself is a major draw for prospective students and the new infant simulator certainly helps reinforce Seattle U's reputation for innovation. Says Haywood, "the College of Nursing offers amazing resources that a lot of schools in this area don't necessarily have."

Each purchase of a manikin requires a significant amount of meetings, fundraising and communication because of their significant expense.

"We have a tremendous respect for all of our community partners, because they support health education and our nursing students so they can go out and be the best nurses they can be," says Dr. Miller.

## BY THE NUMBERS



Number of College of Nursing graduates from 2009-2019



The square footage within the Clinical Performance Lab



Academic programs offered through CON:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Ultrasound
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Post-Graduate Certificates

Learn more at www.seattleu.edu/nursing.

#### CELEBRATE NATIONAL NURSES WEEK AT THE CPL

Through a variety of events, the College of Nursing plans to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Clinical Performance Lab during National Nurses Week (May 6-12, 2020). Community members are invited to come and see how their funds have been used within the lab. Check for updates at www.seattleu.edu/nursing.

## **NEW TOOL IN FIGHT** AGAINST ADDICTION

CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH AND SCHOOL **COUNSELING PROGRAMS OFFER GROUNDBREAKING APPROACH TO** TREATING SUBSTANCE ABUSE

By Allison Nitch

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, more than 130 people die every day from an opioid overdose in the United States. The nationwide opioid epidemic has unfolded in three waves: prescription painkillers in 1999, heroin in 2010 and extremely powerful synthetic opiates in the form of illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF) in 2013. In total, these waves have led to nearly 400.000 deaths.

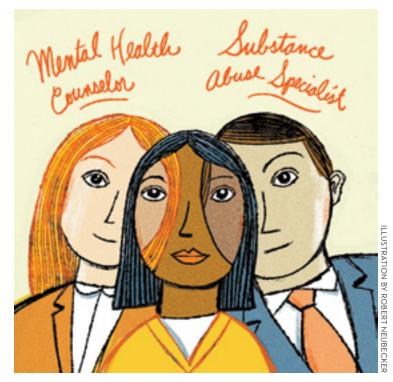
But authorities are now seeing the rise of a fourth wave of overdoses involving methamphetamine (Midwest and West Coast) and cocaine (East Coast). Reasons behind this trend vary. Opioids may be laced with a stimulant, cross-contamination during drug transport can occur or individuals intentionally using a dangerous combination of drugs.

In June 2019, King County reported methamphetamine-involved deaths increased from 4.2 to 10.1 deaths per 100,000 (2009-2018). Many who are able to guit heroin through a treatment plan using replacement therapy such as methadone struggle to stop using methamphetamine.

This crisis, both locally and nationally, has sparked a demand for certified substance use disorder professionals-mental health counselors who help clients struggling with substance addictions identify unhealthy situations, environments and behaviors that ultimately encourage relapse and hinder recovery.

At Seattle University, an innovative approach to treating addictions is offered through a groundbreaking program. Housed in the College of Education, the Clinical Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling programs provide post-graduate eligibility to pursue certification as a Substance Use Disorder Professional (SUDP)—all within one graduate degree. While other clinical mental health programs are beginning to integrate this model, Seattle U is the only school following this format for the past two years, according to Associate Professor Dr. Mary Amanda Graham.

"The drug epidemic was definitely a factor in Seattle U creating this program, as well as the State of Washington mandating clinicians to have training in substance use disorders," says Graham.



"Because of the crisis of addictions in our society, our program fits the needs of students wanting to serve the community in mental health, schools and addictions," says Department Chair Manivong Ratts. "Often these are co-occurring and it is necessary for professionals to have training in both. What this means is that a client or a student can come to one person for both mental health and substance use-related issues."

To obtain certification, students may choose one of two methods. The first ensures all clinical mental health and school counseling students working on their master's degrees also meet state requirements for SUDP certification, along with school counseling certifications and clinical mental health licensure. The second is a post-master's professional online program that allows practitioners who currently hold a master's degree to gain the needed coursework to pursue the certification.

All students enrolled in the Clinical Mental Health and School Counseling programs are required to complete a year-long internship, where they work with clients who are experiencing difficult issues in school, mental health concerns and substance abuse. Additionally, the program prepares future counselors to effectively address the challenges that come with the widespread drug epidemic.

"We focus on the individual as a whole—how we provide clinical services, substance use disorder services and social justice," says

When applied, this particular certification ultimately helps counselors be "better prepared to treat not only the mental health of the individual struggling with addiction, but the whole person as well as that person's family or support network," Graham says. "The old model has been that a client would need to go to two different helping professionals. Our integrated care model allows for individuals to be able to see one person for multiple issues."

#### STUDENT-ATHLETE

# SOES STANCE SERVICE SOES STANCE SERVICE SOES STANCE SOES STANCE

## TRACK AND FIELD ATHLETE JAMIE HEGG, '20, IS SUCCEEDING ON AND OFF THE FIELD

By Tina Potterf

Jamie Hegg is an accomplished athlete, making gains in a sport she took up only a year ago: javelin throwing. Equally noteworthy—her inherent passion for service, something she's been doing since high school when she volunteered at a charter school, where her track coach taught, for kids with behavioral problems and difficult life circumstances.

"I've been given so many opportunities but this opened my eyes up to how many people don't have support or the same opportunities," she says of that experience. "As long as you can do something you are helping make an impact."

Originally from Colorado, Hegg, who is majoring in kinesiology—the study of the mechanics of body movement—is graduating a year early and planning for grad school. Competitive sports have always been a big part of her life—she did soccer, track and gymnastics throughout high school. A series of lower leg injuries meant a change in track events for the one-time sprinter. Even while picking up a new sport and balancing her studies, Hegg has never lost sight of the value of service-learning, intrinsic to the Seattle U mission.

When she got to Seattle U Hegg says she found it difficult for some students to carve out time to volunteer while balancing coursework and sports.

"It was hard to find time for a commitment to service in a sustained way," she says. "I felt like a lot of student-athletes were missing out on this because of their athletic commitments."

And service is at the heart of a program Hegg helped launch to connect student-athletes with community partners.

A year ago she started the Seattle U Student-Athlete Volunteer Program. The concept behind the program is to create a centralized process for student-athletes to give back with a minimum time commitment but maximum impact.

Working in conjunction with the Center for Community Engagement (CCE), Hegg was able to link up with an existing afterschool program at Washington Middle School, one of the public schools that is part of the Seattle University Youth Initiative. There student-athletes work with the middle schoolers on test prep, homework or activities. The student-athletes only need to dedicate an hour a week, which is favorable considering the athletes' schedules for travel and training. The result of this partnership has been beyond rewarding, says Hegg.

"The student-athletes learn a lot from middle school kids and vice versa. The impact goes both ways," she says. "Most student-athletes have done service by the time they graduate. I hope to be that bridge between the CCE and Athletics."

Giving back, and positively impacting the lives of others, is something all students and members of the SU community should take part in, Hegg says.

"As Seattle U students we have so many resources and the ability to make a lot of change," she says. "Service should be a part of everyone's life, whether it's 20 minutes or 20 hours a week. There's always something to be done."



## OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS TURNS



LEGACY OF CONNECTION, TRADITION OF ACTION



## LOOKING AHEAD WITH A NOD TO THE PAST

By Allison Nitch

As Seattle University celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), its leadership team hopes students experience OMA as a place where they can simply be themselves.

OMA director Michelle Kim says that for minoritized students in particular, she wants OMA to serve as "a place where they can take their masks off and just live into the fullness of who they are. That's what I hope OMA is on this campus."

#### PIVOTAL MOMENTS IN **OMA'S HISTORY**



1946

SU student Millie Bown Russell. '48. breaks barriers for minorities and women by studying clinical science; she was named junior delegate to the NAACP convention in New Orleans.

#### **-** 1950

James Goodwin, S.J., helps Filipino-American students Fred Cordova, '52, and Val Laigo, '54, establish multicultural Alpha Phi Omega service club at Seattle U.



1952

Marion Hellenkamp, '53, becomes first African-American elected to student office.

#### 1968

SU student Paul Chiles, '72, begins Black Student Union.



1969

The Office of Minority Affairs opens under the direction of Charles Mitchell, '73.

#### 1972

SU President Louis Gaffney, S.J., establishes the university's first affirmative action hiring plan and adds Ethnic Studies courses to the Core Curriculum.

#### CHANGE THROUGH THE COLLECTIVE

The coordinated efforts of student leaders and allies that eventually led to the creation of OMA didn't come easily during the politically turbulent period of the civil rights and anti-war movements of the late 1960s.

The first steps taken by a student to encourage support for diversity on campus occurred in 1968 through the creation of the Black Student Union (BSU), led by Paul Chiles, '72. That same year the university introduced a new Black History course on campus, which would ultimately be taught by Clayton Pitre, '68.

During this time period local Black Panther leader Aaron Dixon spoke on campus, leading the way for other notable speakers to visit Seattle U in the following years, including labor leader and Latino American civil rights activist Cesar Chavez and peace activist and Roman Catholic priest Philip Berrigan.

Finally, in September of 1969, Seattle U President Jack Fitterer, S.J., administered the creation of what was originally known as the Office of Minority Affairs. Over the years, it was also known as the Office of Minority Student Affairs (OMSA) and Minority Affairs Office.

Dr. Charles Mitchell, '73, MEd (administration), was appointed the first OMA director. He went on to earn a doctorate from Brigham Young University and serve as President of Seattle Central Community College and Chancellor of the Seattle Community College System until his retirement.

By 1971, President Louis Gaffney, S.J., increased diversity among staff in OMA (directed by Joseph O. McGowan S.J., through the 1970s) as Asian and Hispanic students sought recognition and rights on campus. According to the 1974 Aegis yearbook, programs such as Asian Studies originated in what was then known as the Minority Affairs Office.

Three months before the Vietnam War officially ended in 1975, Edmund Ryan, S.J., was selected as Seattle U's next president. Despite his demands for the university to adhere strictly to affirmative action requirements, results "would continue to fall short of expectations for racial progress since Seattle U lacked the resources to compete with larger institutions for available minority scholars and educators," as stated in Walt Crowley's historical account of the university, Seattle University: A Century of Jesuit Education.

By the early 1980s, a study of registrations reported the second highest minority enrollment of any four-year institution in the Northwest. To nurture this trend, a scholarship program for African-American high school students was created.

#### APPROACHING A NEW MILLENNIUM

Prior to serving as OMA director from 1997-2000, Eric Davis, '97 MEd, began his time in the office as a student intern while completing his Master of Education in Student Development Administration.

With a bachelor's degree in African-American/Black Studies, his time as a grad student allowed him to think about the inner workings of OMA theoretically and apply what he was learning in the classroom to a real-life organization serving students. "It was the perfect nexus that offered the opportunity to think about trying some new things," Davis says.

In 1998, OMA introduced a signature offering known as Connections Leadership Program (CLP), which provides new students of color the opportunity to network and build meaningful connections before Welcome Week.







#### **←** 1973

Under the direction of OMA and funded by the City of Seattle Youth Division, an independent monthly minority student publication called The Voice launches.

#### 1974

Seattle U honors Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday with a celebration, the first of its kind in the state.



• 1975

Emile L. Wilson, '72, '74. becomes the first Seattle U graduate to receive a Rhodes Scholarship.

#### 1977

The McGoldrick Student Development Center opens-OMA is included within SU's new home for student-related services.

#### **-** 1982

The university reports the second highest rate of minority enrollment of any four-year institution in the Northwest.



"I was fortunate to work with a particularly talented team and together we developed CLP," says Davis. "You don't often get the opportunity to generate an idea, implement it and then see it continue for 20 years. It's amazing and something I'm very proud to have been part of."

Creating a safe and comfortable space for students was another top priority for Davis and his staff. Before the existence of the OMA main office in Pigott Pavilion and lounge spaces in the Student Center, Davis and OMA administrative colleague Minty LongEarth handed over their offices and developed a plan to renovate OMA's original location on the first floor of what was the McGoldrick building to create the first OMA student lounge.

"Part of what I studied as a student at Seattle U, and what I came to understand in a cultural sense, is the notion that family is very important within communities of color," says Davis. "Whether you call it a lounge or a living room, it just made sense to prioritize the students first and give them a sense of having a home on campus."

Joelle Pretty, '00 and '18, a former OMA graduate assistant that worked alongside Davis, LongEarth and McGowan, considers her experiences as being critical to her personal and professional formation. "I didn't know how much I didn't know about whiteness and racial injustice until I started."

Says Pretty, "I learned a lot about understanding how my own personal lenses shape how I see the world and how that impacts how I show up with others."

"In big and small ways, the office has continually adapted to the changing needs of students, usually while successfully balancing a respect for what has come before," says Monica Nixon, who was OMA director from 2006-14. "Even though the office has changed, the connective thread of giving voice and visibility to minoritized students has served as a constant."

#### IMPLEMENTING INCLUSIVITY

By 2006, OMA redefined its view on diversity by providing gueer and trans student services and programs. "Integrating these services under the OMA umbrella felt like a milestone," says Nixon.

While Seattle U wasn't the first Jesuit institution to expand a mandate of inclusivity, "we were in the vanguard and paved a path for other schools to follow," Nixon says. "We approached the decision in partnership with students,



faculty, staff and alumni . . . and our commitment to intersectional approaches to identity development, equity and justice issues served the office well in the transition."

When it comes to the future of OMA, Pretty-now Assistant Provost of Student Academic Engagement-sets her sights on the campus community at large.

"I'd like to see more of campus taking on the work of OMA, to make students of color and LGBTQIA+ students feel they belong everywhere at SU," she says.

#### THE NEXT 50 YEARS

A half-century following the establishment of OMA, the country once again finds itself struggling to balance its moral compass within a highly volatile political and social climate. Where does Seattle U and OMA go from here?

"As OMA celebrates its history, the team also keeps an eye on what lies ahead," says OMA director Kim, whose two predecessors include interim directors Jimmy McCarty, PhD, and Tyrone Brown, '10 MFAL. "I do believe my mission work is to create space for students on campus to feel seen, like they can thrive and feel supported during their college career."

When asked what the next 50 years may look like, Kim says "the unique or specific challenges our campus might be facing or our students might be experiencing aren't easy to predict."

"I do believe, however, that the concerns and issues we were facing when the Office of Multicultural Affairs was first founded in 1969 are rooted in the same issues and challenges that we're facing today," she continues. "And they may unfortunately be the same issues and challenges that we will be facing 50 years from now because our country and higher education are rooted in some deeply challenging and systemic issues like racism, sexism, homophobia and more."

Kim notes that she doesn't say this with hopelessness or cynicism. "I say this believing that reconciliation, justice and equity are possible. And it's conceivable to be in right relationships with one another."

As part of Kim's long-term goals as director, she's looking forward to designing experiences that will focus on peer mentorship or leadership development for LGBTQIA+ students; see the new food security initiatives flourish and grow in its collaborations with community partners; and create meaningful and impactful resources to support undocumented students on campus.

"I have a phrase I'm working with, which is 'to be an office for students by students," she says. "In terms of programming, the hope is that our students feel connected to themselves and the larger Seattle U Redhawk family, that they feel educated, learned something new, challenged by a new concept, another culture or experience. That they learn tools for advocacy for self and others and leave with new skillsets at the end of the day."

Historical photos courtesy of Lemieux Library's Aegis yearbook archives, Seattle University: A Century of Jesuit Education and The Spectator archives.



#### • 1990

Civil rights icon Rosa Parks serves as keynote speaker during Northwest Minority Student Leadership Conference on campus.

#### **-** 2006

OMA integrates queer and trans student services.

#### **-** 2008

Seattle U confers an honorary doctorate (Doctor of Humane Letters) on Dr. Charles Mitchell, '73.



#### 2014

Moral Mondays at SU: #BlackLivesMatter Initiative at Seattle U founded by former interim director Tyrone Brown, '10 MFAL.

#### **-** 2018

Food Security Initiatives launched within OMA and made possible by the advocacy and activism of the Gender Justice Center.



#### **GET INVOLVED**

The Office of Multicultural Affairs is recognizing its 50th anniversary through a series of events during the 2019-20 academic school year, each offering an opportunity to fully appreciate the semicentennial's theme: Remember, Reconnect and Reflect on its legacy and future within Seattle U. For more information on upcoming events, visit www.seattleu.edu/oma.

#### SU PARTNERS WITH **WOODLAND PARK ZOO TO** TRACK URBAN CRITTERS

By Dean Forbes

The next phase of the Seattle Urban Carnivore Project, a collaboration between the Woodland Park Zoo and Seattle University Associate Professor of Biology Mark Jordan, PhD, has begun with the launch of a "carnivore spotter" website. On this site visitors can report sightings of coyotes, bears and other critters that are making increasing appearances in our urbanized environment.

People of all backgrounds, ages and abilities living in the greater Seattle metropolitan area can contribute to important research by reporting sightings, interactions and vocalizations using the web-based tool Carnivore Spotter, available at www.zoo.org/carnivorespotter.

At the center of the project are terrestrial mammals including black bears, bobcats, cougars or mountain lions, coyotes, red foxes, raccoons and river otters. Although not part of the order Carnivora, opossums are also included in the study.

Carnivore Spotter is part of the Seattle Urban Carnivore Project, a collaborative research project launched in 2018 by Woodland Park Zoo and Seattle University scientists to explore how urban carnivores live and interact with people across the greater Seattle area.

"I am very excited about this collaboration between Seattle University and Woodland Park Zoo because it provides a great opportunity to train our students in authentic scientific research," Jordan says. "By involving the zoo and community members, the project takes this research out of the ivory tower and puts it directly in the hands of the people who stand to benefit the most from our findings related to coexisting with carnivores."

The Seattle Urban Carnivore Project is currently collecting image data using dozens of remote cameras

deployed throughout a range of urban and rural locations across greater Seattle. Carnivore Spotter will complement data retrieved from the cameras including how they're interacting with people and informing strategies that can be applied to conflict "hot spots."

The Carnivore Spotter tool lets users submit information about the species and number of animals seen, the date, time, location of sightings and more. Users are encouraged to upload not only photos and videos but also audio clips of the sightings. The intuitive interface is easy to navigate and provides helpful identification resources for each species. Users can also explore the sightings that other participants have contributed, filtering by the type of carnivore, the neighborhood or the dates and time of day to see if patterns can be found.

"We're so excited to have our community contribute to this important research. Conservation can't happen without engaging people. Through the mobile-friendly Carnivore Spotter tool, the citizens of the greater Seattle region can help us expand our knowledge of urban carnivores and promote coexistence," says Robert Long, PhD, director of Woodland Park Zoo's Living Northwest Program and a carnivore research ecologist.

The Seattle Urban Carnivore Project is part of a multicity research effort, the Urban Wildlife Information Network, coordinated by Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo's Urban Wildlife Institute. The network is a partnership of researchers across the country who use standardized wildlife-monitoring protocols to understand the ecology and behavior of urban wildlife species. By pooling data across multiple North American cities, the network is seeking to understand why animals in different cities behave the way they do and what patterns hold true around the world.

"We're so excited to have our community contribute to this important research. Conservation can't happen without engaging people."

-Robert Long, PhD, director/Woodland Park Zoo's Living Northwest Program





By Allison Nitch

The future of STEM at Seattle University includes engineering professionals seeking to advance their careers through the new Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering (MSME) program.

Celebrating its first full year on campus, this graduate-level program focuses on building advanced technical engineering skills with a twist—coursework that includes business leadership and management concepts.

Assistant Professor Josh Hamel, PhD, joined the College of Science and Engineering and began collaborating on the MSME curriculum in 2014.

"When you think about working professionals, MBA programs immediately come to mind. That realization ultimately had us build a program that has a similar structure, making it very straightforward for our students to also take MBA classes," says Hamel, who became the program's director in 2018.

"At first, we were trying to figure out how to find individuals outside the program to teach such courses, which ultimately led us to the idea of having MSME students receive instruction directly from the management experts already on campus in the Albers School of Business & Economics," he says. "Luckily for us, Albers was very receptive to this idea and worked to make this concept a reality."

The MSME's flexible format makes it possible to complete on a part-time basis in two to three years or full-time in as quickly as four quarters.

Hamel's areas of engineering research includes design optimization and additive manufacturing—all of which focus on developing tools, information and processes for "helping engineering designers and decision-makers fully utilize their resources, and in turn, develop better products and services," he says. "These ideas are applicable to practically any engineer and I'm very excited to be teaching these skills in my course that is a part of the MSME program."

With nearly 20 years of experience as a Navy reserve officer, Hamel himself is also well-versed in management and leadership. "Having the opportunity to fly helicopters in the Navy gave me a wealth of real-world experience working with complex engineering systems, which instilled in me a unique perspective on how engineering

# "When you think about working professionals, MBA programs immediately come to mind. That realization ultimately led us to build a program that has a similar structure, making it very straightforward for our students to also take MBA classes."

-Josh Hamel, assistant professor/ director of the MSME program

decisions have a real impact on how systems function for the end user," he says.

With construction for the Center for Science and Innovation (CSI) underway, it's an exciting time for the College of Science & Engineering and the future of STEM education, he says.

"Along with the increased visibility that the CSI is bringing to the college," Hamel says, "our hope is to channel that energy and build our program further."

Before joining the Seattle U faculty Hamel worked as the director of the MSME program at California State University, Long Beach. When he's not teaching and doing research he enjoys spending time with his wife and three kids, camping, visiting Whidbey Island and attending the kids' sports games, along with cooking, exercising and taking care of projects around the house.

## **FACULTY NEWS & NOTES**

#### PRESIDENT NAMES PROFESSOR EMERITA & EMERITUS

President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., granted the honorary rank of Professor Emerita/ Emeritus on the following faculty members upon their retirement from the university at the conclusion of the 2018-19 academic year. They are:

Gary Atkins (College of Arts & Sciences)

Marilyn Gist (Albers School of Business &

Economics)

**Georgia Gurrieri** (College of Arts & Sciences)

Connie Krontz (School of Law)

David Leigh (College of Arts & Sciences)

Valerie Lesniak (School of Theology &

Ministry)

David Madsen (College of Arts & Sciences)

**Jacquelyn Miller** (College of Arts & Sciences)

Michael Raschko (School of Theology & Ministry)

**Ruben Trevino** (Albers School of Business & Economics)

**Susan Weihrich** (Albers School of Business & Economics)

Marie Wong (College of Arts & Sciences)

#### ALBERS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

**Dean Diavatopoulos**, assistant professor of finance, has authored a paper, "Returns to Option Strategies Following Class Action Lawsuits," which has been accepted for publication in *The Journal of Investing*. Diavatopoulos joined the Albers School of Business and Economics faculty in 2015 after earning a PhD in finance from Florida State University. He previously spent time working in the finance industry.

**Gabe Saucedo**, assistant professor of accounting, and **Nathan Colaner**, senior instructor of management, received a Best Paper Award for their paper, "An Interdisciplinary Mashup: Fusing the Accounting Conceptual Framework with Ethics," which was presented at the 14th annual Global Business Research Symposium hosted by St. John's University. Saucedo also received a Best Paper Award for "The Effects of Voluntary Human Capital Disclosures on Investors' Decision-Making and Assessment of Firm Value," which will be published in the *Review of Business*.

#### **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**Caitlin Carlson**, assistant professor of communication, and **Haley Witt, '19**, were awarded top paper for the Commission on the Status of Women division of the Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC). They presented the paper, "Online harassment of U.S. women journalists and its impact on press freedom" at the AEJMC conference in Toronto.

**Elizabeth Dale**, assistant professor in Nonprofit Leadership, is lead researcher and author of a report, "All in for Women and Girls." The report explores the unique role high-net-worth donors to women's funds and foundations play in catalyzing support for women's and girls' causes.

**Nalini lyer**, professor of English, has been named chief editor of *South Asian Review*. A journal of the South Asian Literary Association, *South Asian Review* "presents an international scholarly forum for the discussion and evaluation of South Asian languages, literatures, culture and arts in postcolonial context."

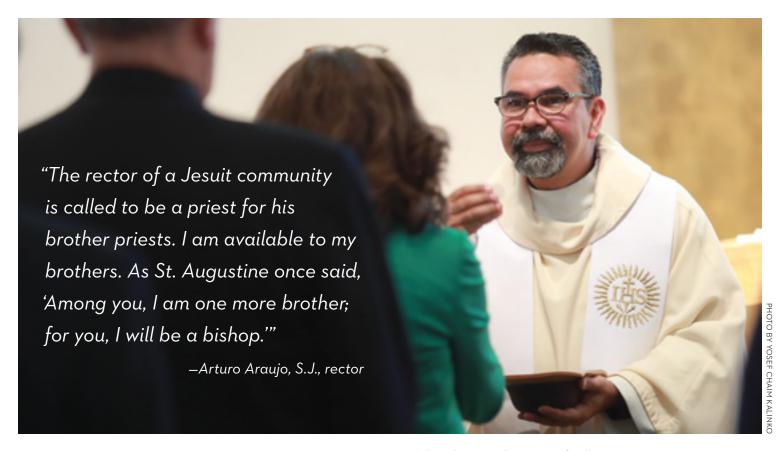
#### **COLLEGE OF NURSING**

**Alise Owens**, clinical assistant professor of nursing, and **Mo-Kyung Sin**, associate professor of nursing, have been accepted to the distinguished Edmond J. Safra Visiting Nurse Faculty Program at the Parkinson's Foundation.

"We are thrilled to welcome Alise and Mo-Kyung to the Nurse Faculty Program this September at the Swedish Neuroscience Center in Seattle," wrote Camila Gadala-Maria, professional education associate at the Parkinson's Foundation.

## LEADING & LISTENING WITH COMPASSION

#### GETTING TO KNOW SEATTLE U'S NEW RECTOR—WHO IS ALSO AN ALUMNUS



By Mike Thee

When Arturo Araujo, S.J., arrived at Seattle University in August to begin his six-year term as rector, he returned to a familiar place that was once his academic home. Born in Colombia, Father Araujo first came to SU in the early 2000s to pursue a bachelor's degree in visual arts, graduating in 2005.

As was the case with his predecessor Tom Lucas, S.J., who concluded his term as rector this past summer, Fr. Araujo comes to SU from the University of San Francisco, where he served as an associate professor.

An accomplished artist, Father Araujo's work has been shown internationally, including in Colombia, the U.S., Mexico and Canada. In addition to his duties as rector, he will serve as an associate professor in the Department of Art and Art History. He is also a member of the university's Board of Trustees and will take on some priestly responsibilities with the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Father Araujo recently discussed his journey as a Jesuit and an artist, what he believes to be the most important aspects of serving as rector and more in this Q&A.

#### Q. What drew you here, specifically?

**Father Araujo:** I chose Seattle U because of the artwork coming out of the studios—that was very important to me. The other reason was Seattle, which is such a hub of culture and national and international art, and the Northwest, which is such a beautiful place to be—you feel whole by nature here.

#### Q. If we could back up a bit, how did you wind up at Seattle University as a student?

**Father Araujo:** In 1998, the Colombia Province created a twinning agreement of mutual collaboration and support with the former Oregon Province (which has since joined with what was formerly known as the California Province to create Jesuits West). And I was one of the guys sent here to get a degree in what we call "special studies." So I came here to study fine arts, which was my dream at that time.

#### Q. Did you have any formal training in the arts before you came here as a student?

Father Araujo: No, I was an amateur artist. That's why the Colombia Province sent me here—to get the credentials I needed to go back and teach there. ... After Seattle U, I went to Cornish College and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts. At that time. I had to make a

choice—go back to my home country or stay. The conditions were not right for me to go back there and teach art, so in dialogue with the Colombia Province, I decided to stay in the U.S. I received a fellowship from the University of New Mexico. After I earned my MFA, I started working for the University of San Francisco. And then eight years later, the provincial asked me to come back here.

#### Q. Can you talk about how you got into the arts and your journey as an artist?

Father Araujo: I started as a classic dancer when I was eight years old and then for a long time I was into theater. And then fine arts came along and it fascinated me, 2D stuff, painting, drawing. So I've been doing artistic things for as long as I can remember. Then I came here and my first class was printmaking and that was a fascinating experience. It redirected my vocation in the arts. The first class I took (at SU) was something I had no idea existed and that was the ability to replicate images through mechanical matriceswood block, etching, lithography, silkscreen-all that stuff; I loved it. And that was my first class. And it became my area of expertise.

#### Q. What was going through your mind when you were asked to take on this role as Seattle University's rector?

Father Araujo: First, I felt honored—it's a vote of confidence and recognition of the leadership qualities that God gave me. If I can do something for my brothers, then why not?

That comes with some sacrifices, of course: leaving San Francisco, which was home for me, leaving my friends, all the professional connections I had built. But there is something greater and that's the promise that we Jesuits believe in and the promise is coming when I say "yes." ... Coming here from abroad and being received here with generosity by my brothers, by lay people, by parish people, by university colleagues, it was such a beautiful experience.

#### Q. As for the role of rector, how would you describe the duties that are assigned, or unassigned, as the case may be?

Father Araujo: The rector of a Jesuit community is called to be a priest for his brother priests. I am available to my brothers. As St. Augustine once said, "Among you, I am one more brother; for you, I will be a bishop." And I think that's my understanding—among my brothers, I am one more, I am no different; for my brothers, I will be rector. It doesn't mean I have power over them. It means my authority is coming out of service.

#### Q. When you think of the rectors who have served the Jesuit communities of which you've been a part over the years, what attributes have you most valued and appreciated?

Father Araujo: Listening, helping others find God, compassion. It's a servant-leader model.

Read the full interview with Father Araujo in The Commons at www.seattleu.edu/newsroom.

#### **LEADING THEOLOGIAN NAMED AS INTERIM DIRECTOR OF ICTC**



By Mike Thee

Theology and Religious Studies Professor Jeanette Rodriguez has been named interim director of the Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture (ICTC). In conjunction with the new role, President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., approved Rodriguez's appointment as the Malcolm and Mari Stamper Endowed Chair in Catholic Intellectual and Cultural Traditions.

There is no better person than Dr. Rodriquez to lead ICTC into its next chapter," says Provost Shane P. Martin. "Since joining our faculty in 1990, she has brought unparalleled intellectual rigor and passion to her teaching, scholarship and service."

A leading theologian, Rodriguez's teaching and scholarship includes religion and culture, religion and social conflict, theologies of liberation, U.S. LatinX theology, feminist theology, cultural memory, Christology and theology of Inculturation. She has authored four books and dozens of other publications.

Rodriguez has served as chair of Department of Theology and Religious Studies and has had a number of other appointments including, most recently, the Reverend Louis Gaffney Chair. Among other key national leadership positions, she served as president of the Academy of Hispanic Catholic Theologians, a national council member for the Catholic peace movement Pax Christi, an executive committee member of the European Network of Genocide Scholars and a member of the board of directors of the National Catholic Reporter.

She was recipient of the James B. McGoldrick, S.J., Fellowship in 2013, the highest honor conferred on a Seattle University faculty member, as well as the Distinguished Teaching Award in 2010. She has received the U.S. Catholic Award (2000) and an honorary doctorate from St. Xavier University in Chicago (2010).

Learn more about the ICTS and winter & spring Catholic Heritage Lecture Series speakers at www.seattleu.edu/ictc/events.









#### **HOMECOMING & REUNIONS**

NOVEMBER 6-10, 2019

Alumni and the campus community converged on the Seattle U campus for Homecoming festivities and reunions. From the Homecoming parade and basketball game to honoring our veterans, the Redfest Rally and the Alumni Mass, this was a week to remember. And our alumni rolled up their sleeves to give back as they participated in the biggest Homecoming Day of Service ever. Check out more photos from Homecoming at facebook.com/SeattleUAlumni.













A progress report on the campaign, which continues through 2021.

#### **INITIATIVES & PRIORITIES**



SCHOLARSHIPS

**Goal:** \$75M **Raised:** \$65,804,343



JESUIT MISSION & PROGRAMS

**Goal:** \$100M **Raised:** \$91,627,375



CENTER FOR SCIENCE & INNOVATION

**Goal:** \$100M **Raised:** \$95,841,721

For the advancement of every student, for the legacy of every alum.

#### **GIVE TODAY**

Change the life of a student. Improve a surrounding community. Champion a just and equitable world.

SEATTLEU.EDU/UNCOMMONGOOD

FUNDS RAISED

\$253,273,439

COM

\$275 MILLION

PERCENTAGE OF GOAL 92%

BY THE NUMBERS

92%

20,531

78,174

\$59м

**DONORS TO DATE** 

**GIFTS TO DATE** 

**ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS** 

<sup>\*</sup>Numbers reflect dollars raised to date as of November 30, 2019.

## GATES FOUNDATION GRANT TO HELP CLOSE MATH GAP IN SEATTLE SCHOOLS

#### CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COLLEGE OF EDUCATION TO LEAD EFFORT

A \$1.6 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to Seattle University will be used to launch Seattle's first Local Improvement Network for elementary school communities and their neighborhood partners. Seattle University's Center for Community Engagement and College of Education will serve as lead partners for the network, which will utilize improvement science to close elementary math gaps by focusing on social-emotional academic development among local pre-school and elementary school students.

Guided by a commitment to racial equity, Seattle University will convene institutional partners including Seattle Public Schools, Seattle Housing Authority, youth and family community-based organizations, the Community Center for Educational Results and the City of Seattle to cocreate the network's strategies, goals and assessment measures. The network will emphasize intersecting influences on student learning including early and extended learning, family engagement, housing and instructional practices.

A Local Improvement Network director, employed by Seattle University, will lead efforts to plan the network and further enhance the individual and collective capacities of partners including elementary school teachers and administrators, community organizations, early learning educators and family leaders. The network also will contribute to the goals and success of the Road Map Project, a King County region-wide effort to improve education and address educational inequity in seven school districts.

The network's first year will focus primarily on building Seattle University's capacity to serve as an intermediary and identifying elementary school communities and their neighborhood partners. By this spring, up to three additional elementary schools will join the Bailey Gatzert Elementary School community, a longtime partner of Seattle University, in the new network that will officially launch next summer.



## NUTS AND BOLTS BEHIND THE CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

Construction on the Center for Science and Innovation, set to open in 2021, is well underway. Here are some facts about the future hub of STEM education:

677

2,400

650

1,762,000+

The number of underground stone aggregate piers installed

Cubic yards of concrete in the footings

Cubic yards of concrete per floor–that's 3,250 cubic yards covering five floors Pounds of steel will be used in the new building—the equivalent of the weight of 294 African forest elephants!

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | WINTER 2020



#### **FOSTERING SCHOLARS:**

## MAKING LIVES WHOLE

By Tina Potterf

Growing up in foster homes, Junior Bermeo Escandon, '19, endured what he describes as "the most difficult years of my life."

There was an aching feeling of isolation, of being without a support network to share the highs and the lows of life.

This was evident on a day that for many young people marks a major milestone: graduation. A gifted and determined student, Escandon finished high school in 1.5-years and received a Senior of the Year Award for his accomplishments. But what he remembers most from that day is when he walked across the stage to collect his diploma and seeing all around him classmates celebrating with loved ones while he had no one.

"They were all taking photos while I just stood there waiting for someone to approach and congratulate me. I knew that wasn't going to happen, so I put my cap and gown in my backpack, walked toward the bus and went home," Escandon says.

"Along with these accomplishments came gift wrapped in a little box—pain. I realized I was alone."

But that all changed when Escandon was admitted to Seattle University and received financial and personal support through the Fostering Scholars program, a national model that offers comprehensive assistance for current and former foster youth.

For Escandon, Seattle University and Fostering Scholars had an outsized impact on his life from the day he stepped foot on campus.

"Fostering Scholars allowed me to earn a college degree at a very prestigious school and provided me with the family I did not have during my high school years," he says. "My advisors were not only concerned about my performance but also about my well-being. They made sure I felt welcome and they recognized and celebrated my accomplishments."

Earning an Albers' degree in business administration with an emphasis in finance, Escandon also credits his professors who he says go the extra mile for students.

"Fostering Scholars allowed me to earn a college degree at a very prestigious school and provided me with the family I did not have during my high school years."

> –Junior Bermeo Escandon, '19, Albers grad

"The professors are amazing and you'd be surprised how much they care about you and your success," he says. "One day as I walked to class, one of my professors from previous classes saw me. He said, 'Junior, what is going on, are you okay?' I immediately replied with 'Yes' but of course, it was just a default answer; I wasn't okay. He recognized this and said, 'Come talk to me after your class. I care about you."

Fostering Scholars is made possible by the generosity of donors who have made the program sustainable since it began in 2006. Escandon is one of 46 graduates of Fostering Scholars and he gives special thanks to those who support the program and the opportunities it affords students who may otherwise not consider college a real possibility.

"The way I see it, SU is just one big family," he says. "You provided me with the skills needed for the job market and more importantly, a place to grow in a caring environment."

To learn more about Fostering Scholars and how you can support the program, visit www.seattleu.edu/fosteringscholars.

### THE GIFT OF GIVING



Rendering of Art & Dorothy Oberto Commons by EYP/MITHUN

#### GARY BRINSON, '66, HONORS ART & DOROTHY OBERTO WITH NAMING GIFT



Gary Brinson, '66

By Tina Potterf

In the financial world, Albers graduate Gary Brinson, '66, made a name for himself as one of the most influential investment managers in the world.

For the retired founder and chair of Brinson Partners, Inc., it's a professional zenith made all the more impressive considering his humble roots growing up just south of Seattle in Renton, Wash., where his dad drove a bus and his mom worked at the local Sears.

In high school, Brinson got his first real job at a company whose owners would have an indelible and lasting mark on his life. That job was at the Oberto Sausage Company, run by Art and Dorothy Oberto.

With his wife Suzann, Gary is honoring Art and Dorothy through a \$5 million gift in their names for a space in the new Center for Science and Innovation.

The Art & Dorothy Oberto Commons will be part of the center when it opens in fall 2021.

Brinson's connection to Art and Dorothy Oberto that led to that first meeting and ultimately a job started with his friendship with Laura Vennetti, Dorothy's younger sister, who lived across the

street from the Brinson family. When he mentioned to Laura that he was looking for a job, she connected Brinson to her sister and before long he was working weekends at the family business on Rainier Avenue.

The work was hard, Brinson recalls, but the experience and underlying message from Art proved impactful.

"Art's idea, which was proven true, is 'if I give you really crummy jobs you'll work hard to finish your education so you don't have to do this type of work all your life," Brinson says.

It was a message that Brinson took to heart and one that he carried with him to Seattle University.

"I came from a very poor family. We had no money for college. My aunt gave me a little money for my freshman year," he says. "I had to go to a college that was commutable from Renton. That was Seattle University. And Art and Dorothy helped me financially [with school] by giving me that job."

Art Oberto recalls Brinson as a "stand-out employee" whose future in finance was easy to forecast.

"He's a statistical genius," Art says. "I lost a bet against Gary in horse racing, which was one of the first signs of his genius." As someone "always good with numbers," Brinson found interest in accounting before shifting his studies at Albers to finance. He credits Professor Khalil Dibee for seeing in him an aptitude for the discipline and for encouraging him to pursue an MBA. (Brinson would later donate \$3.5 million to Albers to establish an endowed chair in the finance professor's name.)

Private philanthropy is a big part of Brinson's legacy through his namesake foundation. For the CSI gift specifically, Brinson says it grew out of discussions with President Stephen Sundborg, S.J.

"With Father Steve, being the persuasive person he is, we came up with the notion that this would be a good way to acknowledge the important impact the Obertos had on my life," Brinson says.

Brinson shares a great affinity for President Sundborg and his leadership. "My impressions of him and what he has done for the university are very favorable."

With this generous gift, Brinson is helping shape a space that will support an area of growth for the university around science and technology.

"I suspect the focus on STEM education is critical for any university today ... as it's pretty clear that this is an area with huge potential and demand," he says. "For Seattle U to attract students into these disciplines is crucial."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OBERTO FAMILY

## ABOUT ART & DOROTHY OBERTO

In 1943, following the unexpected passing of his father, Art and his mother Antonietta Oberto took over the family business, making sausage, salami, pastrami and more based on traditional family recipes. A decade later they opened the Oberto factory in Seattle. In 1954, Art married Dorothy Vennetti and the couple raised four children—two of whom are SU graduates, Larry Oberto, '88, and Laura Oberto, '82—while continuing to run the business. Over the years they were staples in the Pacific Northwest and beyond, known not only for their famous jerky products but also their philanthropy and kindness.

#### REMEMBERING

#### **FATHER PAT HOWELL**



The university and greater community is mourning the death of Pat Howell, S.J., who passed away November 28, 2019 at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane. He was 79.

A familiar face and longtime professor at Seattle University, Father Howell taught theology to many students through the years and was regarded for his warmth and wisdom. Additionally he served as Dean of the School of Theology and Ministry, rector of the Arrupe Jesuit Community, Distinguished University Professor and Assistant and Interim Director of the Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture.

An accomplished speaker and writer around issues involving the Catholic Church, Fr. Howell wrote several articles on topics of faith for the Seattle Times and authored three notable books. He carried out a special ministry relating to mental illness. In 2019 he served at Gonzaga University in support of its Jesuit mission and ministry.

Over the course of his many years at Seattle University, and through a variety of roles, Fr. Howell has been a blessing in the lives of many. As a way to honor that legacy, we invite all those who are so moved to share a very brief remembrance of their gratitude for Fr. Howell by sending an e-mail to thecommons@seattleu.edu.

#### **HONORING A HERO**

#### VETERAN RECEIVES POSTHUMOUS CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL FOR SERVICE



This past Veteran's Day weekend was a special one for a Seattle U alumnus. Alfonso Baes, '53, who passed away in 1989, received a posthumous Congressional Gold Medal for Filipino World War II veterans in Washington, D.C. Twentyfive other Filipino veterans also were honored. His family, who lives in Florida, accepted the medal on his behalf.

According to a story by Rick Neale at Florida Today, Baes enlisted on July 4, 1945, at Naval Station Samar Island in the Philippines, after Allied forces liberated the nation from the Japanese. He was transferred to Pearl Harbor and served aboard the USS Severn, a fleet oiler, and the USS Fall River, a heavy cruiser.

The Fall River participated in Operation Crossroads, the atomic bomb tests in July 1946 at Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands. Baes earned a certificate for serving this mission.

After he was discharged as a stewardsman, Baes worked in canneries in Bremerton and attended Seattle U on the GI Bill, where he earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. According to his daughter, Liberty Rovira, her father's college transcript gave an address of the YMCA in Seattle. She said he worked part-time during the school year as a waiter, then full time during summers at the canneries across the Puget Sound.

Baes worked at Boeing and then for the Department of Defense from 1955-75, ending his government employment at Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Chesapeake Division. He then worked for private engineering firms near Washington, D.C., until his death.

The Filipino WWII medal program was created by unanimous Congressional vote and signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2016. More than 260,000 Filipino troops served in or alongside U.S. Army Forces in the Far East and the medal program belatedly recognized them more than 70 years after the surrender of Japan.

The medal ceremony was organized by the Filipino Veterans Recognition and Education Project.

"It was a solemn event, with color guards, uniformed escorts and top military officials making the presentations," said Rovira.

The event coincided with the US Marine Corps Birthday and also commemorated the 75th anniversary of General Douglas MacArthur's return to liberate the Philippines.

## Seattle University remembers those in our alumni family and university community we've lost.

#### 1944

Barbara F. Harrison (July 12, 2019) Wilma Routt (June 20, 2019)

#### 1948

June Meusburger (March 28, 2019)

#### 1949

Donald S. Byington (July 17, 2019) Charles B. Johnston (June 19, 2019) Maxine Larson (April 25, 2019) Robert Schneider (April 3, 2019)

#### 1950

Walter V. Smith (June 18, 2019)

#### 195

Joseph Betz (May 5, 2019)

Dr. Peter T. Ivanovich (Nov. 16, 2019)

#### 1954

Kai H. Eng (May 21, 2019) Joseph Faccone (March 31, 2019)

#### 1956

Louis Imhof (June 4, 2019)
Michael C. Thomas (June 7, 2019)

#### 1957

Gerard Welch (June 27, 2019)

#### 1959

David G. Hamilton (March 30, 2019) John Peschek (June 17, 2019)

#### 1960

Owen C. Lichtenwalner (March 7, 2019)
Bruce L. Smith (July 8, 2019)

#### 1961

Joseph Weyer (April 24, 2019)

#### 1962

Wallace P. Beaton (July 4, 2019)
Diane Kiel (May 10, 2019)
Doreen A. Marchione (July 27, 2019)
Marie Materi, '76, '91 (Sept. 10, 2019)

#### 1963

Marjorie R. Collins (May 12, 2019) Stephen Kunath, '69 (June 15, 2019) Michael McQuaid (June 9, 2019)

#### 1964

Robert J. Brown (May 25, 2019)
Donald G. Peterson (June 22, 2019)
Karen Winter (April 19, 2019)

#### 1966

James Fritzen (June 14, 2019)

#### 1967

John Opheim (April 9, 2019) Joseph "Ted" Surina (Sept. 16, 2019)

#### 1968

Stephen D. Clark (June 8, 2019)
Patricia M. Goffette (May 29, 2019)
James Shanley (July 10, 2019)

#### 1040

Jane E. Bogle (May 8, 2019) Serena Boulanger (March 18, 2019)

#### 1970

Barbara Norine (May 26, 2019)

#### 1971

Aavo Kalviste (March 11, 2019)
Lael Peterson (June 17, 2019)
Edmund Robinson, '77, '84 (June 23, 2019)

#### 1972

Robert Ostlund (March 28, 2019)

#### 1974

Michael Miller (June 15, 2019) Conrad R. Ryer (March 3, 2019) Johnnie Tucker (July 11, 2019)

#### 107

Philomena O'Meara (March 7, 2019)

#### 1976

John C. Barry (May 22, 2019) Kathleen A. DiJulio (Oct. 7, 2019) Mary Landerholm (May 28, 2019) Larry Wold (June 3, 2019)

#### 1077

Arkad Biczak (June 13, 2019)

#### 1079

Patricia A. Miller (April 25, 2019)

#### 1979

Mary Segal (May 3, 2019)

#### 1981

Mary Mauren (March 4, 2019)

#### 1982

Mary Debauche (July 18, 2019)

#### 1988

Jonathan Simon (April 17, 2019)

#### 1989

Lisa M. Foy (March 24, 2019) Joan Reilly (May 11, 2019)

#### 1990

Donald Boitano (June 5, 2019)

#### 1995

Stella M. Bass (June 30, 2019) Jerry Burk (June 17, 2019)

#### 1997

Robert A. Richards (June 27, 2019)

#### 1998

Carrie Jennison (June 2019) Karen M. Lacy-Roberts (May 15, 2019)

#### 1999

Hunter Goodman (April 16, 2019)

#### 2006

Nicholas McCluskey (June 15, 2019)

#### 2015

Elizabeth Pluhta (April 26, 2019)

#### FACULTY/STAFF

Mary Bartholet, professor emerita/
College of Nursing (Aug. 27, 2019)
James E. Bond, professor emeritus/former
dean (School of Law) (Sept. 16, 2019)
Rev. James B. Reichmann, S.J., longtime
philosophy professor (July 19, 2019)

Read more In Memoriam at www.seattleu.edu/newsroom.

#### THINKING OF YOU

We ask readers and family members to inform us of the death of alumni and friends of Seattle University. Please email tinap@seattleu.edu or send via mail to Seattle University Magazine, Attn: Obits, 901 12th Avenue, PO Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122-1090.



# KEEPING UP WITH

#### ALUMNUS BALANCES CREATIVE WORLDS OF ARTS LEADERSHIP AND DANCE

By Allison Nitch

When it came to researching graduate programs in arts leadership, professional dancer David Rue, '17, knew what outcome he was ultimately seeking.

"I was drawn to Seattle U's program because it teaches artists the business side of the artistic sector," he says. "Not only did I want to learn what's necessary to exist both as an artist and administrator so I could do my own work more successfully but I also wanted the tools to help other artists do the same."

Seattle U's Master of Fine Arts in Arts Leadership program fully prepared Rue to flourish as a professional in the museum world and beyond as he continued dance while working on his graduate degree.

What started as a student internship with Seattle Art Museum (SAM) turned into a full-time position as their Public Engagement Associate, where he's responsible for organizing all of the museum's public adult programs, including tours, lectures, tea ceremonies and jazz performances.

"The Arts Leadership program gave me the ability to put theory into practice," says Rue, who was born in Liberia, raised in Minnesota and graduated from the University of Minnesota before heading West to Seattle U.

"All the topics we were talking about in (the MFAL) classes—audience engagement, making genuine connections with the city one's living in, the homework assignments—I was able to apply everything to the SAM programs I was either observing or working on myself."

A major part of Rue's role at the museum involves large-scale public programs, including community openings and SAM Remix-latenight creative performances, art making and live music-inspired by museum exhibits.

"One of my favorite things is commissioning local dancers to create something original that's performed in the galleries and in direct response to the exhibitions on view," Rue says. "It allows quests to have a different level of object interpretation because watching a dance performance in some way helps them understand a sculpture or painting. ... And I love being able to provide those opportunities for dancers, as well."

As an artist whose passion for dance began in high school, Rue is "interested in deepening the practice of using the body and performance to create arts experiences that help people more deeply contemplate the conditions of contemporary life," he says. "Whether it's my own body performing or creating curatorial frameworks for other dancers, I'm interested in how the body, movement and performance can be the gateway for conversations about things that are happening all around us."

What Rue finds particularly unique to Seattle's arts and culture scene is its undercurrent of social change. "A lot of the race and social justice initiatives that are happening through the Office of Arts & Culture directly support work that's occurring in Seattle," he says. "Having that kind of government interest in race, equity and social justice—and how the arts are the vehicle to spread those topics—is something I don't see happening in other cities in the same way."

Among the most meaningful creative projects Rue has been part of is an ongoing collaboration with visual artist Romson Bustillo and his performance work, The Biology of Culture.

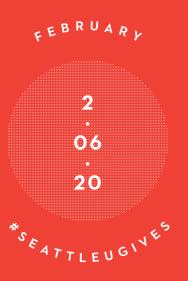
"It explored the ways our cultural backgrounds affect the ways in which we live life," Rue explains. "For example, I'm from a West African family, so I know that even if my mom had a full meal, if rice isn't involved, she' not going to feel satiated, that sort of thing."

Another standout for Rue is dancing at On the Boards in Dani Tirrell's piece, Black Bois. "It's one of my favorite performances, not just in Seattle, but in my career as a dancer because of the way it explored blackness, identity and gender," he says. "It gave the entire cast and myself the opportunity to explore what cultural identity means today."



#### $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow$

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