

SPRING 2022

PROVIDENCE

COLLEGE MAGAZINE



FRIARS IN HEALTHCARE

Jillian Rose-Smith, Ed.D. '04

Hospital for Special Surgery, New York / Page 18



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MAGAZINE

Spring 2022

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BACK: Ed Cooley photographed by Mitchell Layton

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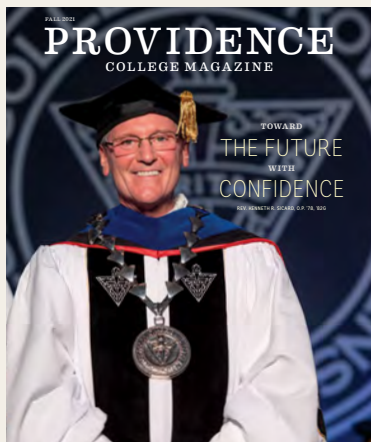
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Paul Coyne, DNP '08 and his partners founded Inspiren and created AUGi, a device that monitors patient safety from the foot of a hospital bed.



Keep it up

You have created a beautiful Fall '21 magazine. They just keep getting smarter.

I write to say thank you for noting my story in Class of '66. Accurate and to the point.

Keep up your classy publications.
— Larry Kane, M.D. '66

The women of '75

As a graduate in the Class of 1974, I was a sophomore when PC first admitted women. I knew what it was like before women were admitted, and I greatly benefited from the improvements that resulted. Everything that has been written about this transformative moment in PC history is true ... and then some.

It should be said right up front, it was a transformational moment for the men every bit as much as for the women. Thank you, women of the Class of 1975. Not just the women of today's PC — and since then — stand on your shoulders. The men of today's PC — and since then — have also benefited from your contributions and leadership.

That first year Class of 1975 seemed to have nothing but the very best. They were the brightest, the most industrious and energetic, the most personable and imaginative, the most relentless and absolutely brilliant women that high schools across Rhode Island, New England, New York, and New Jersey, particularly Catholic high schools, had to offer.

I strongly recommend that readers search Google for "Providence College The Cowl May 10, 1972," or search the digital archives of The Cowl available through the library link on the PC website. In that issue, the "Women's Supplement," beginning on page 3, is filled with still highly relevant articles and contributions by both outstanding students from the Class of 1975 and honored members of the faculty. It had tremendous participation from both.

So thanks to the women of PC, particularly to that first Class of 1975. It has been an honor and a privilege to have shared the experience of learning and growing at PC with you all!

— Denis J. Kelly '74

*Former Editor-In-Chief, The Cowl
First Student Member, Providence College Corporation*

Remembering Dr. Fortin



I was delighted to read the article about Civ's foundation in 1971, 50 years ago. It reminded me of Rene Fortin, Ph.D. '55 and the colloquium in my senior year, before the birth of Civ.

I graduated from PC in 1969. I was in the Honors Program and went abroad junior year, 1967-68, to Fribourg, Switzerland. During the summer of 1968 I attended a course at Oxford which involved reading a book a week and sitting around the table and discussing the material. When I came back to PC I was delighted to hear about the colloquium and joined up enthusiastically. It struck me that it was like the Oxford course I had taken.

Dr. Fortin led the colloquium in a wonderful and interesting way. We read the material and discussed its significance. It was the most stimulating course I ever experienced. I went on to Duke Law School and Johns Hopkins but always recall to this day the delight I had with the colloquium and Dr. Fortin.

I was very pleased to learn about Civ but recall with great pleasure its predecessor — the honors course and the colloquium.

— Greg Powell '69



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PHOTO BY JUSTIN JAMES MUIR

Tech it out!

The college's newest major, music technology and production, weds elements of a traditional music degree program with hands-on, project-based experiences using the latest technology to create professional quality music. In courses such as Songwriting, held in the new music technology lab in the Smith Center for the Arts, students like **Hashim Hassan '23** (Mashpee, Mass.), pictured above, compose and refine original work across genres. "Music plays such an integral role in our lives. Everything has a musical component," said Dr. William Longo, visiting assistant professor of music. "The breadth and depth of skills developed in this major will prepare students for jobs immediately out of college and for study at the graduate level." Six students major in the program, which also is available as a minor.

Black & White

Buzz



Losing our heads over the Friars

This arresting display of Friar mascot heads can be found in the Ruane Friar Development Center, the basketball practice facility that opened in 2018.

Friar Fanatics today are familiar with the kindly Friar Dom and his loyal sidekick, the dalmatian Huxley, introduced in 2017. But in the earliest years of Friar athletics, beginning in 1935, the college's mascot was a live dog. In 1963, after the death of Friar Boy IV, a costumed Friar was introduced, with a head whose look varied from season to season. Sometimes he

resembled a kindly Friar Tuck (lower left). Other times his expression suggested he might be taking athletics a bit too seriously. In 1993, during the college's 75th anniversary, another live dalmatian, Friar Boy V, returned, joined by a costumed dalmatian able to skate and shoot baskets. In 2001, the dog costume was benched in favor of a new-look Friar (which some said resembled Massachusetts senator Ted Kennedy, bottom right). Whoever leads the cheers, it's clear we love our Friars.



The writing on the wall

Kerry Rafanelli '80 began saving ticket stubs, programs, and newspaper clippings from men's basketball in 1976, his first year as a Providence College student and his inaugural year as a season-ticket holder. When he bought a home in East Greenwich, R.I., a decade ago, he decided that his collection needed to get out of storage, so he transformed his heated garage into a game room with walls that are "a living scrapbook" of pennants, banners, cartoons, and photographs. His nieces, nephews, and friends gather there to play basketball, air hockey, pinball, and other arcade games, and sit in chairs that were formerly on the game floor at the Dunkin' Donuts Center. A lawyer whose office also is decked out in Friar memorabilia, and the owner of a black cockapoo named Friar, Rafanelli followed the team to the Final Four in New Orleans in 1987 and to the Sweet Sixteen in Chicago in March. "I just moved something over and made room for a Sweet Sixteen article. I can always find space," Rafanelli said. 🐾



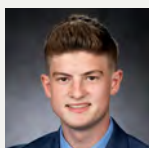


Five students share top rank in Class of 2022

Five students shared the distinction of highest rank in the Class of 2022, achieving a perfect 4.0 GPA across eight semesters:



Andrew Antonik '22 of Attleboro, Mass., an accountancy major with minors in computer science and finance. Antonik plans to take the CPA exam and will work as an audit associate at PwC.



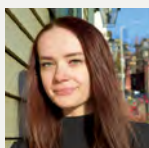
Brian Campbell '22 of Westfield, Mass., a finance major. Campbell will work as an investment banking analyst with Citizens Bank in the Debt Capital Markets Group.



Matthew Lussier '22 of Ludlow, Mass., a double major in political science and Spanish. Lussier has applied to law schools and may study in PC's graduate history program.



Aisling Maguire '22 of Trumbull, Conn., a double major in management and finance. Maguire has accepted a position as a business operations and strategy analyst with Fidelity Investments.



Mackenzie Maude '22 of Newtown, Conn., a mathematics and art history double major with a French minor. Maude will apply to jobs within her major disciplines and may further her education. ❖

First students inducted into Phi Beta Kappa

Gamma of Rhode Island — Providence College's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most prestigious honor society for the liberal arts and sciences in the United States — was formally installed during a ceremony in St. Dominic Chapel in April.

The first student members — 52 seniors and five juniors — were inducted at the ceremony. Student members must excel academically, demonstrate sound moral character, complete 75 percent of their courses in the arts and sciences, and demonstrate college-level proficiency in mathematics and a foreign language. A list of student names can be found at prov.ly/pc-long-reads.

The college was permitted to install as foundation members individuals who demonstrated support for the liberal arts and service to the college. Those chosen were Wanda Ingram, Ed.D. '75; Teresa A. Lavoie, Ph.D. '89; Terza Silva Lima-Neves, Ph.D. '00; Ann Manchester-Molak '75; John J. Partridge, Esq. '61, '11Hon.; Jane Lunin Perel, MFA '15Hon.; Michael A. Ruane '71, '13Hon.; Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. '80; and Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G.

The chapter will be governed by officers Joan R. Branham, Ph.D., president; Paul E. Herron, Ph.D., vice president; Amy Issa Cembor, MBA '21G, secretary; Darra Mulderry, Ph.D., treasurer, and Elizabeth Bridgham, Ph.D., historian.

Only 293 colleges and universities in the country, about 10 percent of the total, have been invited to have Phi Beta Kappa chapters since the society was founded in 1776. ❖

School of Business names Berkeley scholars

The School of Business has selected the inaugural group of Berkeley Scholars, who will receive assistance with academic advising, internship placement, and peer and alumni coaching through a program named in honor of Michael J. Berkeley '85.

Mr. Berkeley was a finance major who worked on Wall Street before founding his own firm in the World Trade Center in New York City. He died on Sept. 11, 2001. His classmates teamed with the School of Business to establish the Michael J. Berkeley Business Excellence Program, which promotes academic excellence and community building through speakers, networking, and mentoring opportunities.

The six Berkeley Scholars are Max Aicardi '25 of Newton Highlands, Mass., a finance major; Valerie Cruz '25 of Providence, a marketing major; Diego Garcia '25 of Wilmington, Mass., a finance major; Rachel Medeiros '25 of Fall River, Mass., a marketing major; Santiago Molina '25 of Rumford, R.I., a finance major; and An Khue Tang '25 of Hanoi, Vietnam, a marketing major. ❖



VAL ACKERMAN, J.D. '20HON.



JUSTICE MAUREEN MCKENNA GOLDBERG, J.D. '73, '09HON.



MARIO DINUNZIO, PH.D. '57



ROBERT G. DRISCOLL JR.



JOHN FLYNN '61



SALLY J. THIBODEAU, PH.D. '66G



JUDGE O. ROGERIEE THOMPSON, J.D.



MOTHER OLGA OF THE SACRED HEART

Class of '22 commencement returns to the Dunk

Commencement will return to the Dunkin' Donuts Center in downtown Providence for the first time in three years on Sunday, May 22. BIG EAST Conference Commissioner Val Ackerman, J.D. '20Hon. will be the keynote speaker, and six honorary degrees will be awarded.

As in 2021, a separate ceremony for graduate and continuing education students will take place on Friday, May 20, in the Peterson Recreation Center on campus. The keynote speaker will be Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Maureen McKenna Goldberg, J.D. '73, '09Hon.

At the undergraduate ceremony, honorary degrees will be awarded to:

- **Mario DiNunzio, Ph.D. '57**, emeritus professor of history at PC. DiNunzio studied history at the college, then earned a Ph.D. from Clark University. He joined the faculty in 1960, was awarded emeritus status upon his retirement in 2009, and has continued to teach in the honors program. DiNunzio and his wife, Joan DiNunzio '84SCE, are the parents of Joseph DiNunzio '90 and Thomas DiNunzio '92, '97G.
- **Robert G. Driscoll Jr.**, who is retiring after 21 years as PC's vice president and director of athletics. During his tenure, the college won two NCAA championships and men's basketball recorded seven NCAA tournament appearances, including the Sweet Sixteen in 2022. New athletic facilities were constructed and fundraising reached record highs. Driscoll and his wife, Cathy, have three children, including Sean Driscoll '09, '11G.
- **John Flynn '61**, retired vice chairman and CFO of Fleet Financial Group and an emeritus trustee of the college. Flynn is one of the college's most generous benefactors, never

missing a year of giving since his graduation. He served on the Board of Trustees from 1993–2001. He also taught at PC as the Fleet Executive in Residence and Adjunct Visiting Distinguished Professor from 1993–1999.

- **Sally J. Thibodeau, Ph.D. '66G**, the college's first female dean. Thibodeau arrived at PC in 1964 as a part-time student in the new graduate program and completed a master's degree in history two years later. In 1971, she became assistant dean of undergraduate studies and later associate dean. From 1994–1997, she was associate vice president of academic administration. She also taught as associate professor of secondary education, becoming program director in 2007.
- **Judge O. Rogeriee Thompson, J.D.**, the first Black person and second woman to serve on the First Circuit Court of Appeals. Thompson was appointed in 2009 by President Barack Obama and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. She previously was associate justice of the Rhode Island Superior Court, and prior to that, an associate judge in the district court. She holds a doctor of law degree from Boston University and has worked in the legal field for 46 years.
- **Servant Mother Olga Yaqob**, a native of Iraq and founder of the Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, a Roman Catholic religious order in the Archdiocese of Boston. In more than 30 years of service in the church, Mother Olga has served at prisons, hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, and addiction centers, and undertaken missions in Tanzania and Honduras. She has a master's degree in pastoral ministry from Boston College. ❧



Research at the world's most famous arena

BY MICHAEL HAGAN '15, '19G

Men's basketball players weren't the only students from Providence College to compete at Madison Square Garden during the BIG EAST Tournament in March. Six student researchers traveled to New York City to take part in the inaugural BIG EAST Research Symposium on Saturday, March 12, also at Madison Square Garden.

The students were selected by PC's Center for Engaged Learning to present their projects to judges representing each BIG EAST school.

Val Ackerman '20Hon., commissioner of the BIG EAST Conference, and Michael Sainté, senior director of compliance and membership services, said they were excited to include an academic symposium as part of the tournament. Each student received a complimentary ticket to the final game that evening.

"The tournament is our highest profile event," Ackerman said. "This symposium is a unique opportunity to highlight the academic achievements of our students and the priority of academics at each member school."

Yune Tran, Ph.D., dean of the School of Professional Studies, and Rachel Bonoan, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, were judges.

Student researchers representing PC were:

Kelly Drogan '22 (South Walpole, Mass.)

Major: Psychology

Correlates of Hope in Children and Adolescents

Faculty Mentor: Jennifer Van Reet, Ph.D.

Isabelle Heron '23 (Medfield, Mass.)

Major: Environmental biology

Minors: Business and Innovation, Finance

Predicting Natural Habitat Trends of Frosted Elfin Butterflies

Faculty Mentor: Rachael Bonoan, Ph.D.



Student researchers, seated, from left, Grace Maffucci '22, Kelly Drogan '22, Erin Ostrowski '22, and Isabelle Heron '23; standing, from left, Sophia Moniodes '22 and Brigid McEvoy '23.

Grace Maffucci '22 (Mamaroneck, N.Y.)

Majors: Music Performance and Spanish

Minor: Latin American Studies

Lo Afro cubano: Exploring Afro-Cuban Culture in Music, Literature, & Art, Pre- & Post-Cuban Revolution

Faculty Mentor: Monica Simal, Ph.D.

Brigid McEvoy '23 (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

Majors: History and Spanish

Minors: Business and Innovation

and Latin American Studies

An Unread Colonial Diary

Faculty Mentor: Adrian Weimer, Ph.D.

Sophia Moniodes '22 (Middlebury, Conn.)

Major: Biochemistry

Erin Ostrowski '22 (Little Silver, N.J.)

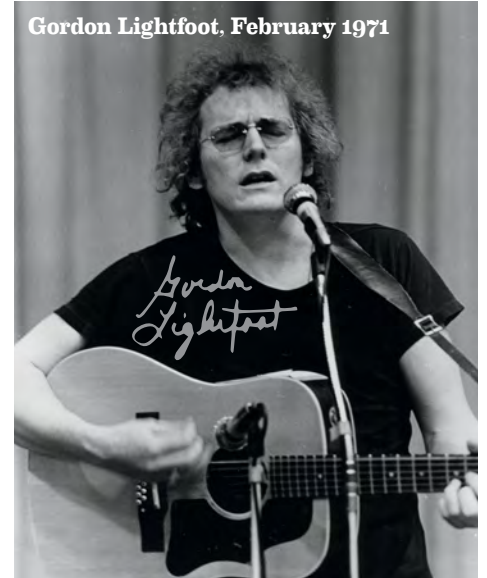
Major: Chemistry

Metal Catalysts for Reduction of Carbon Dioxide and Production of Hydrogen Gas

Faculty Mentor: Maria Carroll, Ph.D. 🍷

BOPn' and Groovin'

The Board of Programmers celebrated its 50th anniversary this year with a reunion in April. Established as the Board of Governors with the opening of Slavin Center in September 1971, BOP continues to bring entertainment to campus. Who remembers these shows? Photos are courtesy of the Providence College Archives. 📷





Coming in 2023

Providence College broke ground in April for Shanley Hall, a six-story residence hall for sophomores that will open in the fall of 2023. The new facility, which is modeled after the former Suites Hall, now called McCarthy Hall, is named in honor of Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. '80, the college's 12th president. It will be built between Glay Field and Eaton Street. ❖

Father Petri joins Board of Trustees



Rev. Thomas Petri, O.P., president of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C., was named to the PC Board of Trustees in October 2021. Father Petri replaced Rev. Edward M. Gorman, O.P. '86, who was deployed to Hawaii as a U.S. Navy chaplain.

Father Petri taught theology at PC from 2010-2013, when he became vice president and dean at the House of Studies, a position he held until his appointment as president in April 2021. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from The Catholic University of America. His book, *Aquinas and the Theology of the Body: The Thomistic Foundations of John Paul II's Anthropology*, was published by CUA Press in 2016. ❖

Partnership with city schools allows teachers to achieve advanced degrees

Through a new partnership with Providence Public Schools, Providence College is providing 15 full tuition scholarships to make it possible for Providence teachers to complete master's degrees and for teacher aides to earn undergraduate degrees and teaching certification.

Providence Public Schools selected 10 teachers to receive the 10 full tuition scholarships offered by PC's graduate education program. Five were able to enroll in classes in January. Three are studying in the school leadership program and will be ready to step into positions as school principals after graduation, according to Beth Schaper, Ed.D., assistant dean of education at PC. The others are expected to begin their studies later this year.

"To me, this goes to the mission of the college, even to the origins of the college as a place to support the education of the Providence community," Schaper said. "Our best gift is the education we can offer, and once the teachers have it, it will make a difference in their lives."

The School of Continuing Education offered five full-tuition scholarships to teacher aides who wish to complete associate and bachelor's degrees to eventually become city teachers. One person enrolled in classes in January and the others will begin courses in the summer or fall, according to Madeleine A. Metzler, SCE associate dean.

"This partnership with Providence schools will create opportunities for a wide-ranging group of educators to advance their careers, especially in areas that are of high need in the district," said Metzler. "Additionally, it works toward closing the equity gap that has been prevalent within the schools." ❖



➤ **Kathy Kelleher, R.N.**

BY MICHAEL HAGAN '15, '19G / PHOTO BY JUSTIN JAMES MUIR

When Catherine “Kathy” Kelleher, R.N., director of the Student Health Center, arrived in 1974, Providence College had been coeducational for only a few years, and Civ was still a new core requirement.

While the health center has moved and her role has changed several times since, Kelleher’s objective has remained consistent.

“I value the uniqueness of every student who comes through the door. I just want to make sure they’re afforded

the best possible care,” Kelleher said.

Kelleher was awarded the college’s Torchbearer Award in 2014 — even before her heroic leadership through the COVID-19 pandemic and a 2015 meningitis outbreak. She previously received the Rev. Philip A. Smith, O.P. Award for furthering the college’s mission and the New England College Health Association Louise Gazzara Award for outstanding contributions to the college, her profession, and the association.

On March 1, 2020, Kelleher received a call from the Rhode Island Department of Health about the state’s first confirmed COVID-19 case as she was on her way to a women’s basketball game. There, she alerted College President Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. ’80.

Father Shanley asked, “Do you think this is going to get big?”

“I definitely do,” Kelleher answered.

Shortly after, students were told not to return to campus after spring break and the semester finished with remote instruction. When PC committed to opening for in-person classes in the fall of 2020, it was up to Kelleher and campus partners to develop a safety plan.

“We put so many good measures in place — masking, classroom and dining hall physical distancing, quarantine and isolation housing, testing, contact tracing. In the first days, I was very confident we could handle this,” Kelleher said.

But then, one day in mid-September, the college’s on-campus testing program recorded 67 positive cases.

“I knew that I couldn’t possibly talk to 67 people in one day and do thorough case investigations,” Kelleher said.

She credits a vast team of campus staff and local healthcare workers for the college’s weathering of that outbreak and ongoing containment of the virus until vaccines became available.

Kelleher went more than a year without a day off, but she dwells on the positives.

“As a nurse, I did what I was trained to do, and my silver lining to the pandemic is that we made it through the worst. We’re still making it through COVID-related issues. I’m thankful for the faculty, staff, and students that I was able to support and for the new friends I’ve gotten to know along the way.” ■■



New Providentia Fund honors 50 Years of Women at PC

The Providentia Endowed Fund, an initiative established by women alumni to fund projects sponsored and directed by women, has amassed gifts of more than \$2 million in its first 10 months. Leadership gifts have come almost entirely from women alumni, a first for the college.

“The unprecedented speed at which this initiative exceeded its initial goal of \$1 million is a testament to the power and generosity of our network of women alumni,” said Gregory T. Waldron, senior vice president for institutional advancement. “What an inspiration to the entire Providence College community.”

The fund, established during the year-long celebration of *Then, Now, Next: 50 Years of Women at Providence College*, will support undergraduate research, student leadership development, and regional and interest-based programming at PC.

Susan (Svitila) Esper '91, an audit partner at Deloitte and vice chair of PC's Board of Trustees, is the fund's lead donor. She pledged \$250,000 to match 25 gifts of \$10,000. She was inspired by the professors who helped jumpstart her career and wishes the same opportunities for her daughters,



Trustee Susan Esper '91 with her daughters, Victoria Esper '19 and Olivia Esper '22.

members of the classes of 2019 and 2022, and their classmates.

“Part of celebrating the 50th anniversary of women involves looking ahead. Every woman who comes through the college should someday be able to say, ‘I had amazing mentors and teachers’ — and so many other opportunities I attribute to my college experience,” Esper said.

Among other supporters are Kerry (Kates) King '90, a managing director at Bank of America and parent of graduate from the Class of 2021, and Ann Manchester-Molak '75, the college's executive vice president, who is a member of the first graduating class of undergraduate women and the

mother of a daughter in the Class of 2011.

Those who donate \$10,000 to the fund before June 30 will become charter members of the Providentia Society. Those who give \$50,000 or more will be invited to join the Providentia Leadership Committee and will participate in planning for the distribution of funds.

“This fund will be instrumental in helping us build upon the momentous impact women have had at Providence College and it will provide opportunities to challenge, engage, and recognize Friar women, now and well into the future,” said College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard '78, '82G. ❧

Egan gift benefits student-athletes, scholarships

A \$1 million gift from William and Jacalyn Egan will be split between the Egan Family Fund for Friar Basketball and the Egan Family Scholarship Fund, an endowed scholarship to support students from Aquidneck Island — Portsmouth, Middletown, and Newport, R.I.

The Egans, grandparents of students in the classes of 2018 and 2024, have been consistent supporters of Providence College. The Egan Family Fund for Friar Basketball will help enhance the academic experience of student-athletes on the men's and women's teams through financial and business literacy and will educate them on how to best navigate the classroom and the basketball court.

Lifelong residents of Newport, the Egans established the endowed scholarship to encourage more students from Aquidneck Island to attend PC. Through their volunteer work with the Boys and Girls Club of Newport County, they understand the financial need faced by young people in the area. ❧



William Egan, center, with his son, Mark Egan, father of a student in the Class of 2024, and men's basketball head coach Ed Cooley.

Three students receive full Stride scholarships

Since 2018, Ronald P. Stride '62 and his wife, Janet, have contributed the full cost of tuition, room, and board to allow a student from Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School in Brooklyn, N.Y., Ronald Stride's alma mater, to attend PC at no cost.

Beginning this academic year, they increased the number of scholarship recipients to three. Linda Ineus '22, Anastasia Hussett '24, and Ronan McGouran '25, all alumni of Bishop Loughlin, are the current recipients.

The Strides reside in Singapore. Ronald Stride retired as senior vice president and managing partner for Asia of Booz Allen Hamilton, a management consulting firm specializing in financial services. He is chair of the board of supervisors for Afghanistan National Bank and chair of Food from the Heart, a Singapore-based charity that distributes food to the needy. ❧



The 2021-2022 Stride scholarship recipients are, from left, Linda Ineus '22, Ronan McGouran '25, and Anastasia Hussett '24.




God's providence in song

BY GRACE MAFFUCCI '22
PHOTO BY JUSTIN JAMES MUIR

AS A MUSIC MAJOR, I wore a lot of hats — often at the same time. In the span of 10 days in December, I sang in a jazz band performance in '64 Hall, a jazz combo gig off campus, with the liturgical and campus choirs in St. Dominic Chapel for Lessons and Carols, in a short opera and scenes from various American musicals during the Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop performance, and finally, as a soloist in front of music faculty, who graded me on my growth in vocal performance over the semester. It

accompanist, expert pianist and composer Michael C. Kregler, who shares my affinity for Latin American culture and Spanish language — I expressed my struggle to find songs to complete my recital repertoire. Mike initially nodded in shared frustration, but suddenly, he looked at me with wide eyes and said, “Hey, why don’t we just create a set ourselves?” I swear I had never heard a more genius idea.



“IT’S A MUSICIAN’S **DREAM** TO HAVE BACK-TO-BACK **PERFORMANCES**”

sounds hectic — and believe me, it was — but those 10 days were some of the most rewarding of my life.

It’s a musician’s dream to have back-to-back performances, even if it’s exhausting, and though my performances ended days of finishing final projects and studying for exams, I still felt that I was living the dream — which, in my case, entailed both daily music performance and studying the liberal arts. I came to PC because I didn’t want to choose between the two, and so I was one of many music majors with a second major — for me, Spanish.

Not only did I not have to choose between my passions, but by the end of my undergraduate studies at PC, the two had seamlessly combined — in a *providential* way. In preparation for my senior vocal recital, I knew I wanted to include at least one work of Latin American art song with Spanish text, but soon learned that such pieces were rare, especially for the soprano voice. In conversation with my most frequent musical collaborator at PC — staff

The summer before my senior year, Mike and I poked through books and pored through online archives of Latin American poetry until we settled on five poems: three Colombian and two Cuban, most of which feature birds, another one of our shared interests. When he had finished writing the music to the five poems, Mike labeled the set “Cantos del alma alada,” or “Songs of the Winged Soul” (paying homage to our favorite creatures), and as he played through them for me for the first time, I tearfully recognized how incredibly blessed I was to have such beautiful and meaningful music composed for me (or at least, with my voice and interests in mind).

I now view the whole experience as evidence that studying music at Providence College was an indispensable part of God’s plan *for me*, and one of the most veritas-affirming decisions of my life. ❧

Grace Maffucci '22 of Mamaroneck, N.Y., is from an Italian American family. Her introduction to Latin American culture came as a child living in Stuyvesant Town in Manhattan. She graduated summa cum laude from PC with majors in music performance and Spanish and a minor in Latin American studies. A Fulbright recipient, she will teach English in Mexico in the fall.



Edmund Dain, Ph.D., wins Accinno Award



Edmund Dain, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, is the recipient of the 2021–22 Joseph R. Accinno Faculty Teaching Award, the college’s top teaching honor. He was nominated by colleagues and students, who praised his engaging lectures and seminars and his example of lifelong learning.

Dain joined the faculty in 2011 from the University of Chicago, where he was a Harper-Schmidt Fellow in the Humanities. He has more than 20 years of experience teaching in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Norway. He holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from Cardiff University in Wales and was a visiting research fellow at the University of Bergen in Norway.

Dain teaches courses in “philosophy of mind” and other areas of contemporary philosophy, introductory courses in philosophy and ethics, and courses in the Development of Western Civilization Program. His research focus is the work of Ludwig Wittgenstein, applying the insights and methods of Wittgenstein’s philosophy to contemporary problems.

The Accinno Award was established by John J. Accinno, CPA ’46, ’93Hon. in memory of his brother, Joseph. The award is presented annually to the faculty member who best exhibits excellence in teaching, passion and enthusiasm for learning, and genuine concern for students’ academic and personal growth. ❧

Faculty retirements (As of Dec. 31, 2021)

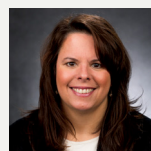
- **Timothy Mahoney, Ph.D.**
Associate professor of philosophy
Teaching at PC since 2003
- **Faith Lamprey, MBA**
Practitioner faculty in accountancy
Teaching at PC since 2013
- **Michael D. Spiegler, Ph.D.**
Following his retirement on July 1, 2021,
he was named professor emeritus of psychology

Associate provosts named

Sean F. Reid, Ph.D., provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, has named three faculty members associate provosts beginning July 1.



Comfort Ateh, Ph.D., associate professor of education, will be associate provost for diversity, equity, and inclusion.



Christine Earley, Ph.D., professor of accountancy and the Michael A. Ruane Endowed Professor of Accountancy, will be associate provost for faculty development.



Rev. Mark Nowel, O.P., Ph.D., associate professor of biology and assistant to the provost, will be associate provost for academic policy and mission support. ❧

Father Nic leaving PC



Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P. ’20G, who has taught biology at Providence College since 2005, will leave PC on June 30 to become professor of biological sciences and professor of sacred theology at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines, a university of 45,000 students that was founded by the

Order of Preachers in 1611. He also will serve as regent of the College of Sciences, which has 4,000 students.

Father Nic, as he is known, has a Ph.D. in molecular biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a doctorate in sacred theology from the University of Fribourg in Switzerland, and an MBA from PC. Students who have worked in his laboratory have gone on to careers in medicine, research, teaching, and the priesthood.

“God willing, I will be helping to strengthen the scientific infrastructure of my homeland to make it pandemic resilient and vaccine independent,” Father Nic said. ❧

Faculty Scholar

CHUN YE, PH.D. 叶春

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH
(CREATIVE WRITING)

EDUCATION: Ph.D., literature and creative writing, University of Missouri; MFA, poetry, University of Virginia

EXPERTISE: Creative writing, literary translation, Asian American literature, modern and contemporary American literature.

NEWSWORTHY: Chun Ye's most recent book, *Hao*, is a story collection that follows Chinese and Chinese American women in both China and the United States who turn to signs and languages to cross the alien landscapes of migration and motherhood. The book was a New York Public Library's Best Book of 2021, a *Lit Hub* Best Book of 2021, an *Electric Literature's* Favorite Short Story Collection of 2021, and was longlisted for the 2022 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction. *NPR* praised the book: "There's not a story in *Hao* that's anything less than gorgeous."

QUOTABLE: "In both my creative writing and literature classes, I take a multi-ethnic, cross-cultural, and interdisciplinary approach. I introduce students to a diversity of historically underrepresented literary voices, incorporate world literature and translation in my courses, as well as encourage students to think across genres, disciplines, and other forms of categorizations."

ORIGINALLY FROM: Luoyang, China

HOBBIES: Walking, gardening

BEGAN TEACHING AT PC: Fall 2016



“THERE'S NOT **A STORY IN HAO** THAT'S ANYTHING LESS THAN **GORGEOUS.**”


— NPR

PROVIDENCE
COLLEGE / FRIARS IN HEALTHCARE



Community ADVOCATE

BY LIZ F. KAY / PHOTOGRAPHY BY RON HESTER



FOR JILLIAN ROSE-SMITH, ED.D. '04,

the future of healthcare means meeting the unique needs of multicultural patients and inviting diverse leaders to serve in top decision-making positions across healthcare organizations.

Rose-Smith is the assistant vice president for community engagement, diversity, and research at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City, an Upper East Side institution that provides renowned orthopedic and rheumatology care to patients from all over the world — as well as those on Medicaid and Medicare.

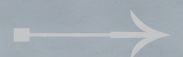
“We’re looking to restore the lives of everyday people who would like to get back to what they love to do, and to provide for their families every day,” she said.

The hospital is the oldest U.S. orthopedic hospital, founded during the Civil War to treat disabled, impoverished children. “We’re coming from a place where we were birthed, out of caring for vulnerable populations in our

community. That’s really the cornerstone of why we exist,” Rose-Smith said.

While some HSS patients pay cash for elective knee or hip replacements, Rose-Smith oversees HSS’s largest orthopedic ambulatory care center, which cares for more than 12,000 patients from New York City and surrounding communities who have public or no insurance. She is vice president for the Department of Social Work Programs, supporting outpatient rheumatology and orthopedic patients. She also helps lead HSS’s Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Research shows that when patients can’t access care, their health gets worse, deepening disparities. “Part of my role is looking at how we increase access to care across our enterprise and especially in New York City, one of the most diverse cities in the world. We must also examine how our patients are experiencing care, asking ourselves: ‘How do we address their unique needs and concerns to optimize outcomes?’” she said.



Rose-Smith was named assistant vice president in 2019, just before the COVID-19 pandemic and the Black Lives Matter movement illuminated problems with healthcare disparities for minority populations.

Amid that crisis, the hospital took a critical look at its care systems and its patients. Its leaders wanted to ensure that they were doing their part in caring for the surrounding communities and deepening their partnership with patients who were disproportionately impacted by inequalities in orthopedic and rheumatology medicine.

“We saw this picture of COVID where people were dying essentially because of where they live, work, and play, and that correlates with the color of their skin,” Rose-Smith said. “We wanted to move in the direction of bridging the gaps, so we had to take a hard look at what opportunities we provided for populations to have access to our care to address the disparities they were experiencing.”

Many people in these communities are uninsured or under-insured or have a natural mistrust of healthcare based on historical and present injustices, their own experiences, or that of their families or friends.

HSS established a new strategic pillar of diversity, which focuses on dignity and respect for employees, health equity throughout the institution in research and patient care, and improving access to care and addressing inequities.


“Our leadership really made a firm commitment, not only internally, but looking externally — how are we serving the people who come to work and their communities, people who help us carry out the mission?” Rose-Smith said.

It’s work she has been preparing for her entire life. Rose-Smith’s healthcare ambitions began as a child

growing up in Guyana, watching people struggle with unmet healthcare needs. At Providence College, she majored in social work and health policy and management. She has master’s degrees in social work and public health and in 2019 completed her doctorate in health education, with a focus on health disparities, at Teachers College, Columbia University.

“My purpose in life is to be a catalyst for change in the lives of others,” Rose-Smith said.

She started during her first HSS job. Rose-Smith provided leadership for LupusLine and its Spanish language counterpart, Charla de Lupus (Lupus Chat), education programs for people with lupus and their loved ones. Lupus, which disproportionately affects women of color, can be difficult to diagnose because it mimics other illnesses. The helpline allows veteran patients with lupus to support and educate others nationwide on managing life with the



Jillian Rose-Smith, Ed.D. '04 began working at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City as a social work intern in 2005. She now is a vice president at the hospital, which is the oldest orthopedic hospital in the United States.



In 2019, Jillian Rose-Smith, Ed.D. '04 received the MLK Vision Award from College President Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. '80. The award honors individuals who exemplify Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s teachings and spirit.

“MY PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO BE
a catalyst for
change IN THE
LIVES OF OTHERS.”

disease. These programs also assist patients and providers navigating the psychological and social impacts of lupus.

In recognition of her work with patients and clinicians in this area, Rose-Smith received the Distinguished Educator Award from the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals in 2018, as well as PC's MLK Vision Award in 2019. She was named one of 40 Under 40 by Crain's New York Business in 2021.

Rose-Smith notes that the hospital is still early in its process of identifying and dismantling systems that can cause inequity unintentionally, while also considering how these changes can impact overall hospital operations.

For example, providers need to learn to create a welcoming environment for gender-diverse patients, gaining trust by using their chosen names and pronouns, before discussing safety issues regarding hormones or pregnancy status that might affect surgery or other medical needs.

“That is a culture shift that is moving from theory and concept to operation and execution. That's where equity lives,” Rose-Smith said. “Asking gender identity questions allows us to have the information to do our work right, to not put our patients in danger. That's equity — people don't have to die or be harmed because we are ignorant of the fact of who they are or are unable to ask or provide an invitation for them to bring their entire selves into care in a respectful way.”

Then, on the systemic level, electronic medical records must accommodate this information as well — to inform other providers and to measure how HSS is treating patients based on indicators such as race, ethnicity, gender identity, language, or insurance status.

From Rose-Smith's perspective, the future of healthcare requires more diverse voices making key decisions for their institutions. The healthcare industry may employ many women and people of color, but they are more likely to be found in low- to mid-level management than creating strategic plans in boardrooms, she said.

“Healthcare needs to pivot to truly be inclusive of the diverse voices that it provides care for,” she said. “Diverse leaders are often missing from our C-suites, and they are absent from the conversations that drive operations and innovation at our institutions. That's where we miss our opportunity to have creative ideas and input from people with a variety of experiences from different communities to solve some of our most challenging healthcare concerns, like how we grapple with disparities that continue to be pervasive across healthcare.”

Despite differences, all patients and providers share one universal trait, Rose-Smith said.

“There's something so common about our humanity — we all want to be healthy,” she said. “We all want to be pain-free. We all want to be there for our families, and we all want to earn a living.” ❧

A Cut Above

BY VICKI-ANN DOWNING '21G
PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANA SMITH

DONNA FORMICHELLA, M.D. '78
BECAME THE FIRST WOMAN
TO GRADUATE AS A GENERAL
SURGEON FROM CEDARS-SINAI
MEDICAL CENTER



WHEN DONNA FORMICHELLA, M.D. '78 graduated from Providence College with a degree in biology, only 3.4 percent of surgeons in the United States were women.

It was the era of designer jeans and disco music, energy shortages and rising inflation. In Washington, D.C., 100,000 people marched to support the Equal Rights Amendment. The number of working women had risen steadily throughout the decade, but more than half were in clerical and service positions. Of the more than 86,000 members of the American College of Surgeons, only 3,362 were women, *The New York Times* reported.

In the operating room, where surgeons were the undisputed team leads, it was said that women would not have the commanding presence or the physical stamina to endure the long hours that surgery required. Women applying to residency programs — a five- or six-year commitment — were asked whether they planned to have children and take time off, and how they would balance the needs of family with the demands of the occupation.

The odds were not in favor of a first-generation college student from Bridgeport, Conn., the granddaughter of Italian immigrants, achieving her goal of attending medical school and becoming a general surgeon. But anyone who believed that underestimated Donna Formichella, who retired in December after more than 33 years with the Southern California Permanente Medical Group.

“It was what I wanted to do, and I knew that I was capable of doing it,” Formichella said during an interview on campus in February. “I loved the science aspect of it, and the people aspect. It’s hands-on, and that appealed to me. And you are doing something good with your life. I wasn’t going to let anyone ignore me or bully me out of it.”

General surgeons specialize in a broad range of areas — the breast, skin, and abdomen, including gallbladder, hernias, stomach, and bowel. In a career bookended by the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the COVID-19 pandemic, Formichella performed thousands of operations. She also took the lead as assistant chief of surgery for Kaiser Permanente in Orange County from 2009-2019 and as chair of the Cancer Committee and Tumor Board for 25 years. For three decades, she was a clinical instructor in the residency program at the University of California, Irvine, mentoring young surgeons, many of them women. She also married and raised a son.

At her retirement party in December, Formichella spoke about the role surgeons play.


“We touch and influence so many lives over the course of our careers,” she said. “Many times it seems small and routine to us. But that is almost never the case for them. Patients entrust us with their lives and rely on us to know what we’re doing, make the right decisions and expertly perform their surgery. Most of the time we triumph but sometimes there are problems that just can’t be fixed, and that becomes a part of us, too.”

Formichella earned a medical degree from Columbia University in 1982 and was matched to Tufts-New England Medical Center for residency. Two years in, she learned she was one of six residents without a third-year surgical position. She could have switched to another medical specialty. But she wanted to be a surgeon, and in an era with no internet searches or email, she turned to telephone calls and letter writing to find a placement.

When Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles offered her a position starting in a week’s time, Formichella arranged for her car to be driven across the country, packed her suitcases, and flew out to find an apartment. The change added an extra year to her residency, but in 1988, Formichella became the first woman to graduate as a surgeon from Cedars-Sinai.



“YOU ARE DOING **something good**
WITH YOUR LIFE. I WASN'T GOING TO LET ANYONE IGNORE
ME OR BULLY ME OUT OF IT”



Donna Formichella, M.D. '78 was a member of the Liberal Arts Honors Program. "I remember Civ with about 12 students, one a biology major like me. Dr. Richard Grace and Dr. Rodney Delasanta taught us. It was an intimate setting and it was superb."

“It wasn't that you were told not to become a surgeon, but you weren't mentored or encouraged in medical school or residency the way that the men were,” Formichella said. “In surgery my third year of medical school, I was loving it, but I knew my male counterparts were receiving more attention than the women. In my entire residency of six years, I saw only one woman surgeon, and that was at Tufts, and she was new to the staff.”

In 1988, most physicians were in private practice, but joining a group practice meant an immediate salary to pay student loans, the opportunity to begin practicing and performing surgery right away, and a two-year path to partnership, which Formichella achieved in 1990.

Now, as she reaches her medical group's mandatory retirement age of 65, half the surgeons in her practice are women. As partner emeritus, she continues to work two weeks each month, dividing her time between southern California and a new home in New Smyrna Beach, Fla. — a community she discovered after reconnecting with a PC roommate, Kris Vigneault Kennedy '79.

Her ties to Providence remain strong. She remembers all-night study sessions with John Mullen, M.D. '78 (now a radiation oncologist in Portland, Maine) and Russell Corcoran, M.D. '78 (now an internist and geriatrician in Wakefield, R.I.). There were social events every weekend, picnics on Slavin lawn, basketball and hockey games, and because the drinking age was 18, visits to Brad's, Louie's, and the Rathskeller, too. She was a member of Student Congress and the Residence Life Committee and chaired her Junior Ring Weekend Committee with John Hannen '78, now her husband.

“It was fun to be here,” Formichella said. “It was a great community. I still have PC friends from the time I was at PC, and I've even met new PC friends. It's the community that brings us back.” ❖

A FRIAR LOVE STORY →

IN WHAT MIGHT BE THE BEST LINE EVER SPOKEN AT A PROVIDENCE COLLEGE RE-UNION, outside a mixer in '64 Hall in June 2013, Donna Formichella, M.D. '78 told classmate John Hannen '78: "I have one regret in my life — letting you get away."

Hannen wisely canceled all future plans and the couple married on July 5, 2015, at St. Clements Castle and Marina in Portland, Conn., their home state, with PC friends in attendance.

Formichella and Hannen met when they were sophomores chairing their Junior Ring Weekend Committee. They stayed in touch throughout the years, though life took them in different directions. Formichella went to medical school and became a general surgeon in California. Hannen entered the U.S. Air Force and was a bomber pilot with service in the Gulf War, a squadron commander, an Air Force attaché in Brazil, and a defense attaché in Algeria. When he retired, he joined Raytheon's Space and Airborne Systems and led business development in the Middle East, North Africa, and Brazil. They also married others and raised three children between them.

After reuniting at reunion, Hannen joined Formichella in California, where he became president of PC's Southern California Alumni Network. They opened their Villa Park home to gatherings so incoming PC students could connect with alumni and current students. They even hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for 90 Friar basketball fans who traveled to California for the John Wooden Classic in Anaheim in 2015. At their 40th PC reunion in 2018, they were the co-chairs.

"PC gave us a great education, great friends and memories, a great foundation, and it gave us each other," Formichella said. "We are forever Friars."



John Hannen '78 and Donna Formichella, M.D. '78 reunited at their reunion in 2013 and married in 2015, surrounded by friends and fellow Friars.



A full-page photograph of Paul Coyne, a man with a shaved head and a friendly smile, wearing a white lab coat over a light purple shirt and a purple tie. He is standing in a hospital hallway, leaning against a window frame on the right. The background is a blurred hospital corridor with other people and lights.

Safer Spaces

BY MICHAEL HAGAN '15, '19G / PHOTOGRAPHY BY RON HESTER

PAUL COYNE, DNP '08 AND PARTNERS AT INSPIREN ARE IMPROVING PATIENT SAFETY AND OUTCOMES, STREAM-LINING DATA SO NURSES CAN PROVIDE MORE — AND MORE EFFECTIVE — CARE

Paul Coyne, DNP,
RN, AGPCNP-BC
AVP, Nursing

PPAUL COYNE, DNP '08 knows that nurses have their hands full. That's why he and a team of fellow nurses and engineers invented AUGi, a device named for the way it augments care.

AUGi lives on the wall at the foot of a patient's bed and does for hospital technology what the smart phone did for personal electronics — it consolidates diverse functions in a single device.

It's a medical gamechanger.

"It's a very intelligent computer in a small device," Coyne said. "It takes numerous products and consolidates them — which is why IT likes it — but it also captures and integrates data. Most importantly, it can save lives."

In 2022, it would be easy to assume that data integration between devices is a given, but such is not the case in the medical industry.

"It seems like everything in the world integrates now, but when you're fusing data from disparate systems, there are problems that take a lot of computing to solve," Coyne said.

Before AUGi, data integration was largely an analog process. Nurses reviewed, compared, and synthesized hand-recorded and digital charts and other data. Such demanding processes create opportunities for human error, and worse, reduce the time nurses have to administer care. It was a problem Coyne's nursing-classmate-turned-business-partner, Michael Wang, noticed immediately after nursing school, when he was at the bedside as a hospital nurse.

"We have to stop falls, pressure injuries, and other preventable problems," Wang would tell Coyne.

The question — how?

With Vincent Cocito '08, Inspiren's co-founder and COO, they resolved to empower nurses with sensory and

artificial intelligence technology. Simple but valuable applications of this technology include monitoring patient position and alerting nurses when a patient is due to be turned or is at risk of falling. AUGi also aggregates data from visitors — both clinicians and family — to ensure all patients receive the attention they need.

"As nurses, we know that the patient that's most demanding is not necessarily the most medically acute," Coyne said. "AUGi provides peace of mind when you cannot be in the room with a patient."


AUGi's data processing and integration is so robust that it has generated new metrics including "nursing intensity," which encompasses medical acuity but also considers visits to and total minutes spent with patients among its data. A patient's nursing intensity rating helps hospitals strategize distribution of care resources to balance staffing and alleviate much of the burden that falls on the frontline clinician.

While AUGi can and frequently does integrate with technology, such as the bluetooth badges worn by hospital staff, its proprietary technology for tracking activity in the hospital room is skeletal analysis. AUGi's sensors detect the skeletal structures of individuals in a hospital room to assess not merely presence but posture. This technology also is critical to preventing falls.

"AUGi uses what's called pose estimation models based on skeletal analysis to ensure patient safety," Coyne said.

Not only does the device recognize when a patient has fallen, it alerts nurses when patients are getting out of bed, enabling them to intervene to prevent falls altogether.

Hospitals and senior care centers that have adopted AUGi have seen dramatically improved outcomes, including a 75% decrease in patient falls and 33% faster nurse call response time, according to a study published in the *Journal of Informatics Nursing*.

"There's already too much you can't control in health-care. We can't always prevent the cause of a patient's hospitalization, be it a stroke, cancer, or something else. But once a patient is in a facility, nothing bad should happen that we can prevent," Coyne said. 

Coyne’s medical history inspired his career in nursing and his entrepreneurial endeavor to help nurses provide more effective care. Weeks after graduating from PC, where he majored in American Studies, and shortly before beginning a job at Goldman Sachs in New York City, Coyne suffered a stroke. He experienced memory and emotion loss, difficulty speaking, and a limp.

An avid singer who was a frequent cantor at Masses in St. Dominic Chapel, Coyne found music a helpful way to reconnect with what he had lost.

“I could sing even before I could speak again fully,” Coyne said.

Long before his stroke, music played a significant role in Coyne’s decision to attend Providence College. When he visited campus for admitted students’ day, he was moved by the performance of Emanuel Vasconcelos ’06, ’08G — now Rev. Emanuel Vasconcelos, O.F.M. Conv. or “Father Manny” — as cantor.

“As I listened, I just had this feeling come over me,” Coyne said. “Something, maybe God himself, was telling me that this was the place for me. And maybe, after a couple of years, I could sing at the admitted students’ Mass like Manny did and give that same sense of assurance

to others making their college decisions after me.”

In addition to singing, Coyne dabbles in poetry.

“The poems are really for my son. Sometimes I’ll have a concept and it just makes the most sense to work it out in poetry,” Coyne said. He hopes eventually to publish a collection of poems.

This is AUGi, a powerful patient monitoring and data integration system that lives on the wall at the foot of a patient’s bed. At roughly 6x11.5 inches, this small device plays a big role in preventing neglect, falls, and other hospital hazards.

Moved by a desire to live and work with greater purpose, Coyne began nursing studies at Columbia University in 2012. He earned bachelor’s, master’s, and doctor of nursing practice degrees as he simultaneously pursued a master’s degree in finance and an MBA in healthcare administration from Northeastern University.

Once a nurse, he felt called to work in palliative care.

“Having come so close to death myself, it was the field in which I felt like I could have the most impact,” Coyne said. “Then a hospital executive suggested I take a role on their analytics team.”

As a hospital administrator, Coyne still focuses on the human side of healthcare. One of his charges is managing the hospital’s chaplaincy program.

“Among my favorite parts of working with the chaplains are the deep theological conversations we get to have,” Coyne said.

Despite already being exceedingly well-credentialed, adding hospital chaplain certification has crossed Coyne’s mind.

“If I ever find time to complete the rigorous education and clinical hours needed to be a hospital chaplain, I would love to do it,” he said.


Coyne’s skills encompass business, clinical practice, and technology. His passion, knowledge, and desire to learn from others has brought forth Inspiren and AUGi, as well as a successful career at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. On May 2, he was appointed senior vice president and chief nurse executive, responsible for a team of more than 1,500 specialized nurses across the continuum of care at locations in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Florida. He oversees support and advocacy for nursing quality, patient safety, nurse engagement, physician collaboration, and patient satisfaction.

It’s a long story, so whenever he’s asked, “Why a nurse?” he answers simply: “Why would I want to be anything else?” ❖



“Once a patient IS IN A FACILITY,
NOTHING BAD SHOULD HAPPEN THAT WE CAN PREVENT.”





EDDIE MARTUCCI, PH.D. '04 IS PIONEERING A NEW CLASS OF MEDICINE WITH THE FIRST FDA-APPROVED TREATMENT DELIVERED THROUGH A VIDEO GAME

Play your meds

BY MICHAEL HAGAN '15, '19G / PHOTOGRAPHY BY DANA SMITH

“ I DID NOT WAKE UP ONE DAY AND DECIDE TO MAKE a therapeutic video game ”

WHEN EDDIE MARTUCCI, PH.D. '04 first pitched the idea of therapeutic video games, people laughed.

“You mean Pac-Man is the future of medicine?” he recalled one skeptic asking.

Today, Martucci is founder and CEO of Akili Interactive, a digital medicine company with offices in Boston and San Francisco that in 2020 secured FDA approval for EndeavorRx — the first prescription treatment delivered through a video game. EndeavorRx is prescribed to treat inattention in children with ADHD, but its platform has far-reaching potential for other applications.

The user experiences EndeavorRx as a fast-paced space racing game requiring motor input and fast visual input to navigate around obstacles and complete challenges. Each split second of gameplay is an opportunity for complex motor and visual activation. Users report that playing it feels like Mario Kart or other familiar, chaotic racing games.

“The core technology uses algorithms to target the midline pre-frontal cortex — the part of the brain that essentially controls attention function — with very specific motor and sensory stimuli,” Martucci explained. “We’re talking about dozens of populations that could potentially benefit from this, including patients with ADHD, autism, multiple sclerosis, or depression with cognitive impairments.

“It’s important to me that people understand that this is far more than a video game for ADHD patients. We’re building a class of medicine that activates cognitive processing in the brain in unique and very specific ways,” Martucci said.

Martucci has come a long way since studying biochemistry at Providence College. He earned a Ph.D. at Yale University and worked in a biotherapeutics company before founding Akili Interactive in 2012. He recalls battling around entrepreneurial ideas with Jay Pike, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry, as an undergraduate. But it was research in his junior and senior years that helped Martucci discover his vocation as a scientific innovator.

“Spending weeks and months digging into research and then standing up and presenting it — I love it. It was true then, and it’s true now that it’s what I do for work. Those projects inspired my excitement for discovery and cutting-edge science,” Martucci said.

Love of research came first for Martucci. Applying that love to innovation in medicine came later.

“I did not wake up one day and decide to make a therapeutic video game,” Martucci said.

Instead, the idea came from studying brain science in light of technology. Out of those studies came an entirely new treatment modality.

“If you trace all the way back, you can hear echoes of research I did as an undergraduate. There are threads all the way back to my Providence days,” Martucci said.

The success of his digital medicine platform can be attributed to Akili’s prioritization of both clinical efficacy and excellence in game design. Martucci was confident in his ability to understand the science and articulate his vision, but that vision required video game development expertise, so he brought on partners.



One is Matthew Omernick, Akili's chief creative officer and former executive creative director of LucasArts, where he oversaw the development of video games like *Star Wars: Battlefront* and *The Force Unleashed*. Omernick also wrote *The Art of the Game*, a text used in many college courses to teach immersive art and video game design.

Together, Martucci and Omernick built the Akili team, recruiting top scientists, engineers, and award-winning game developers. Referring to themselves as "Akilians," they set out to build the first ever prescription video game treatment.

Explaining Akili's approach to product development, Martucci said, "We never want you, a user, to perceive exactly how the treatment is working. We decided to make a legitimately enjoyable video game users want to play. We want you to forget you're taking medicine."

Shepherding collaboration between consummate professionals who bring expertise from other industries is both a challenge and a joy to Martucci as CEO.

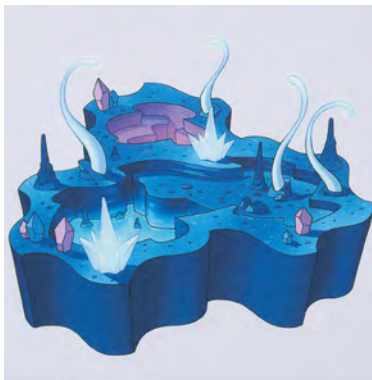
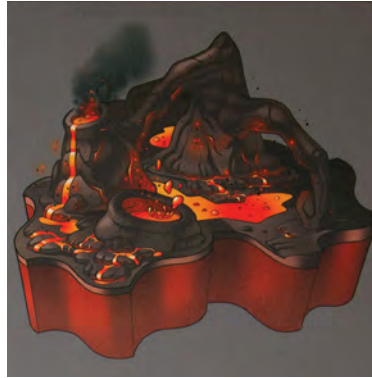
"We hire the best people with the best intentions, but they all come from industries with their own processes and terminology. Everyone wants to do right by the patients, but we constantly have to work on melding exactly how we operate to work toward a synthesis of multiple fields and expertise," Martucci said.

Increasing visibility and understanding of ADHD presents many applications for Akili's technology, but the COVID-19 pandemic presented new and unexpected opportunities to research cognitive impairments. The phenomenon known as "COVID brain fog," which can affect patients long after they recover from respiratory symptoms, quickly became of interest to Akili.

Akili is working in partnership with Cornell University and Vanderbilt University and expects data from their trials soon.

Eddie Martucci, Ph.D. '04 in his offices in Boston.





Stills from video games developed by Akili Interactive. Copyright is owned by Akili Interactive Labs, Inc.

“These common complaints of COVID brain fog map really closely with conditions like ADHD and even multiple sclerosis,” Martucci said. “Neurologically-speaking, the results of MS may not be massively different from COVID in terms of impact on the brain and the effect on cognitive function. These are the first, and I believe only, clinical trials in the world trying to treat COVID fog directly.”

Akili is well positioned to remain a leader in the developing industry of digital therapeutics. Martucci co-founded and sits on the board of the Digital Therapeutic Alliance, which is the first industry organization for its class of medicine.

“Our goal is to build a lasting, important, generational medicine company. As we continue to redefine medicine, we envision offering different types of products helping many different patients,” Martucci said.

Business is promising, and Akili is in the process of becoming a public company.

“I’m very excited about this because it will give us both a greater platform as well as the capital to keep growing our vision in a very big way,” Martucci said.

Beyond entrepreneurial leadership, Martucci and his wife, Diana, are the parents of three sons. They recently adopted a French bulldog puppy — “just to keep things crazy in our house.”

Living in the Boston area, the family enjoys getting back to Friartown for basketball games and other athletic contests. Martucci enthusiastically followed the Friars men’s basketball team through this year’s historic season, traveling to Buffalo and Chicago with his son to cheer the team on in the NCAA Tournament.

“I hope that the spotlight on the basketball team helps people see and continue to see what is so special about Providence

College in athletics and beyond,” Martucci said.

His advice for aspiring scientists?

“Those big things that people say can’t be done — they almost invariably can be done. Science empowers us to bring big ideas to life, persevering through skepticism,” he said.

“Every idea is crazy until you have data.” ❧



FRIARTOWN

Ed Cooley:

NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR

BY JOE CARR '83

Coach Ed Cooley prepares to cut down the net at the Dunkin' Donuts Center after the Friars won their first regular season BIG EAST conference title.

A **S TEAM CHAPLAIN, REV. MARK D. NOWEL, O.P. HAD THE ULTIMATE FRONT ROW SEAT** during the Friars men's basketball team's thrilling, historic 2021-2022 season.

Father Nowel, a biology professor who also serves as associate provost for academic policy and mission support, was a presence everywhere the team assembled, his trademark white V-neck sweater revealing the Roman collar identifying him as the team's certified spiritual leader. He was there at practice, on team flights, and in the locker room pre-game, post-game, and at halftime.

Who better to describe the extraordinary presence of Coach Ed Cooley?

"It's amazing to watch him," Father Nowel said. "Above all, Coach Cooley is an outstanding teacher. He is educating the players on the team in the skills of basketball and the ways to be successful in the classroom. He lets them know that, no matter what the future holds, these are the skills and perspectives that are going to be important."

Cooley leads by example and by action. Father Nowel, who would know a good preacher when he sees one, says that Cooley's objective on the sideline is similar to his own in the pulpit.

"We are challenging the team or the congregation, as the case may be, to be the people they want to help God create," Father Nowel said. "Coach Cooley coaches and preaches from the heart. There is a spirit flowing through him, and certainly a fire."

In a season in which his team was picked to finish seventh in the BIG EAST, Cooley led the Friars to the first BIG EAST regular season championship in college history and to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet Sixteen. In April, he was named Werner Ladder Naismith Men's Coach of the Year, topping the voting ahead of Tommy Lloyd (Arizona), Mark Adams (Texas Tech), and Greg Gard (Wisconsin).

It was the sixth time in Cooley's 11 seasons that the Friars qualified for March Madness and the first time the Friars

advanced to the third round of the tournament since 1997. Along the way, Cooley earned his 300th career win and recorded his 200th PC win. He went on to surpass Dave Gavitt '89Hon. on the all-time win list and is second only to Joe Mullaney '65Hon., '98Hon. The Friars recorded 27 wins for only the third time in history and were 16-1 at the Dunkin' Donuts Center.

Like Friar fans everywhere, Father Nowel rejoiced every time a coaching accolade, including the Naismith Award, came Cooley's way during the past few months. The list is both long and substantial:

- Associated Press Coach of the Year Award runner-up
- Ben Jobe National Coach of the Year Award finalist
- BIG EAST Coach of the Year
- Field of 68 Coach of the Year
- Jim Phelan National Coach of the Year Award finalist
- NABC District 5 Coach of the Year
- Sporting News College Men's Basketball Coach of the Year
- USBWA District 1 Coach of the Year

At every opportunity, Cooley described coaching awards as team awards, sharing credit with the players and the staff who support him and unfailingly taking time to thank his family and mentors.

"This is not an individual award," Cooley said at the Naismith presentation, held in New Orleans during Final Four weekend. "I think this is the biggest team award a coach could have."

"Coach Cooley is a contemporary philosopher," Father Nowel said. "I've quoted him in several homilies, pointing out that he always tells his players that — each and every day — they should have said 'thank you' to someone and, conversely, they should have been thanked for something. He models gratitude, particularly important at a place like Providence College, and that is a big part of the reason for his success." ❖



One Sweet Season

FIRST BIG EAST REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP

FRIARS DEFEAT CREIGHTON, 72-51 | FEB. 26, 2022

DUNKIN' DONUTS CENTER, PROVIDENCE

The night has turned to morning, the images just hours old. No doubt most will age gracefully.

I'm not sure what highlights the mind's eye. Is it an emotional Nate Watson sharing a bear hug with Ed Cooley as he walked off the court for the last time? Was it the sea of green, white, black and grey bouncing up and down in gleeful celebration? Maybe Noah Horchler donning green St. Patrick's glasses as he snipped the nets or Cooley getting an icy blue Gatorade bath?

Pick whatever scene you wish from a did-that-just-happen evening at the Dunkin' Donuts Center. They all run together in a delightful, memorable blur.

— KEVIN MCNAMARA, KEVINMCSPORTS.COM



Selection Sunday

MARCH 13, 2022 | RUANE FRIAR DEVELOPMENT CENTER

#4 SEED, THE HIGHEST SEEDING IN PROGRAM HISTORY



PHOTO: STEW MILNE

Dancing and Advancing

FRIARS DEFEAT RICHMOND, 79-51 | MARCH 19, 2022
KEYBANK CENTER, BUFFALO, N.Y.

With Noah Horchler making plays all over the court in Larry Bird fashion and PC's defense knocking the Spiders down the waterspout in TKO fashion, the Friars are heading to a place they haven't visited since Austin Croshere was making basketball art with streetball legend God Shammgod and Jamel Thomas. We're talking as far back as 1997 to find the last time Providence proved successful in making it out of the first weekend of the NCAA Tournament.

The 25-year drought is officially over after the Friars whipped the Spiders, 79-51, inside of Buffalo's KeyBank Center. The March Madness mission rolls on next Friday in Chicago with one of college basketball's true blueblood programs — Kansas, the top seed in this year's Midwest Region — serving as the next opponent.

"We're going to enjoy this moment and know we have a really tough game ahead of us, but today we're here," said PC head coach Ed Cooley. "This is the stuff you dream about. This is what March Madness is all about."

— BRENDAN MCGAIR '03, THE PAWTUCKET TIMES/THE WOONSOCKET CALL



PHOTOS: MITCHELL LAYTON

Sweet Sixteen

FRIARS LOSE TO KANSAS, 65-60 | MARCH 25, 2022 | UNITED CENTER, CHICAGO
While the 2014 team brought us back to the dance, the '22 team was simply great from the beginning of the season until its final second. Their level of play matched the energy of a fanbase that was eager to show them how much the Friars and the Dunk were missed last season.

Providence belonged on that stage with the number one seed. Kansas became the all-time winningest program in college basketball history tonight, but when they hit the Friars in the mouth, PC eventually returned in kind.

And when Providence did, it was the Friar faithful who inexplicably, and shockingly, drowned out Kansas' crowd in a Midwestern regional.

Unless you were in the building, there's probably no way to accurately describe what the United Center felt like over the next eight minutes, other than to say it just felt like we were back in Providence.

— KEVIN FARRAHAR '01, FRIARBASKETBALL.SUBSTACK.COM



Diary of a 27-win season

NON-CONFERENCE

- W NOV. 9, 2021: FAIRFIELD 80-73
- W NOV. 11, 2021: SACRED HEART 92-64
- W NOV. 15, 2021: WISCONSIN 63-58



- W NOV. 18, 2021: NEW HAMPSHIRE 69-58
- W NOV. 22, 2021: NORTHWESTERN 77-72
- L NOV. 23, 2021: VIRGINIA 58-40
- W NOV. 27, 2021: SAINT PETER'S 85-71
- ▶ COACH COOLEY'S 200TH PC WIN



- W DEC. 1, 2021: TEXAS TECH 72-68



- W DEC. 4, 2021: RHODE ISLAND 66-52
- ▶ Taylor Swift's "You Belong With Me" played for the first time by DJ Finesse at the request of three students (Madeleine Walsh '23, Daisy Donovan '23, and Reilly Sweeney '23) and immediately becomes the season anthem.



- W DEC. 7, 2021: VERMONT 68-58
- W DEC. 11, 2021: CEN. CONN. STATE 68-53

BIG EAST CONFERENCE PLAY

- W DEC. 18, 2021: CONNECTICUT 57-53
- W DEC. 29, 2021: SETON HALL 70-65
- W JAN. 1, 2022: DEPAUL 70-53
- L JAN. 4, 2022: MARQUETTE 88-56
- W JAN. 8, 2021: ST. JOHN'S 83-73
- ▶ COOLEY'S 300TH CAREER WIN
- W JAN. 20, 2022: GEORGETOWN 83-75
- W JAN. 23, 2022: BUTLER 69-62
- ▶ COOLEY SURPASSES DAVE GAVITT ON THE ALL-TIME WIN LIST AND IS 2ND ONLY TO JOE MULLANEY
- W JAN. 26, 2022: XAVIER 65-62
- W JAN. 30, 2022: MARQUETTE 65-63
- W FEB. 1, 2022: ST. JOHN'S 86-82
- W FEB. 6, 2022: GEORGETOWN 71-52
- W FEB. 12, 2022: DEPAUL 76-73 OT
- L FEB. 15, 2022: VILLANOVA 89-84
- W FEB. 20, 2022: BUTLER 71-70 OT
- W FEB. 23, 2022: XAVIER 99-92 3OT
- ▶ FIRST TIME WINNING 13 BIG EAST GAMES

TAYLOR SWIFT: SHUTTERSTOCK. 2009



The student section at the Dunkin' Donuts Center was so electric this season that some in the national media referred to it as the team's "sixth man."



A PLACE IN HISTORY

THE 2021-2022 FRIARS WERE AMONG THE BEST TEAMS IN PROVIDENCE COLLEGE HISTORY.



W FEB. 26, 2022: CREIGHTON 72-51

► **FIRST REGULAR SEASON BIG EAST TITLE**

L MARCH 1, 2022: VILLANOVA 76-74

BIG EAST TOURNAMENT

W MARCH 10, 2022: BUTLER 65-61

L MARCH 11, 2022: CREIGHTON 85-58

NCAA TOURNAMENT

► **4TH SEED, HIGHEST IN COLLEGE HISTORY**

W MARCH 17, 2022: SOUTH DAKOTA STATE 66-57

W MARCH 19, 2022: RICHMOND 79-51

L MARCH 25, 2022: KANSAS 66-61

PHOTOS: RYAN FEENEY

1961

NIT Champions
Record: 24-5
Coach: Joe Mullaney

1963

NIT Champions
Record: 24-4
Coach: Joe Mullaney

1973

NCAA Final Four
Record: 27-4
Coach: Dave Gavitt

1974

NCAA Sweet Sixteen
Record: 28-4
Coach: Dave Gavitt

1987

NCAA Final Four
Record: 25-9
Coach: Rick Pitino

1997

NCAA Elite Eight
Record: 24-12
Coach: Pete Gillen

2022

NCAA Sweet Sixteen
Record: 27-6
Coach: Ed Cooley



Bob Driscoll, architect of Friartown, is retiring

BOB DRISCOLL, A VISIONARY LEADER WHO HAS LED THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT for more than two decades, will retire at the end of June.

“Bob has been one of the best leaders in the history of Providence College,” said College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. ’78, ’82G. “His vision and energy have raised our

“**EVERY DAY IS GAMEDAY IN FRIARTOWN**”

—BOB DRISCOLL

athletics aspirations and fostered unprecedented success. Bob leaves Friar athletics poised for even greater achievement, in competition, in the classroom, and in the community.”

Driscoll began his career in athletics administration in 1975, serving as assistant athletic director while coaching the baseball and hockey teams at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. From there, he moved to California to become athletic director at Mills College in Oakland (1981–1987).

After 14 years in athletics administration at the University of California, Berkeley (1987–2001), he returned to his native New England to succeed John Marinatto ’79 as PC’s athletics director.

“I came to Providence with a student-centered vision for athletics,” Driscoll said. “With support from great teammates — including three presidents, administrators and coaches, and fans who have supported us — I feel like I have played a part in creating a model program with the student-athlete experience as our primary focus.”

The stellar performance of the 2021–2022 men’s basketball team, which won the BIG EAST regular season title and advanced to the NCAA Tournament Sweet Sixteen, capped a period of competitive success that included NCAA championships in men’s hockey (2015) and women’s

cross-country (2013). The current student-athlete graduation rate is 97% and Friars collectively contribute thousands of hours each year to support worthy community causes.

Part of Driscoll's enduring legacy is the complete overhaul of the college's athletics facilities, beginning with the Concannon Fitness Center in 2007 and continuing through the \$35 million, 58,000-square-foot Ruane Friar Development Center in 2018. The latter is home to the basketball training facility and the Sports Medicine Innovation Lab, a state-of-the-art health and wellness center available to PC's 350-plus student-athletes.

Driscoll also understood the importance of marketing athletics. He made sure "Friartown" was displayed prominently in advertising along Route 95. "Every day is gameday in Friartown" was one of his favorite sayings and everyone at the college was his teammate.

Driscoll has twice been recognized as Under Armour I-AAA Athletics Director of the Year and, in 2020, he earned the Division I-AAA Athletic Directors Association Builders' Award.

In retirement, he plans to spend more time with his wife, Cathy, their three children, and their first grandchild. ❧



Some of the hardware acquired during Bob Driscoll's two decades as athletics director.

STEVE NAPOLILLO '98 NAMED SUCCESSOR



Steve Napolillo '98, center, with College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G and Bob Driscoll.

A PROVIDENCE COLLEGE ALUMNUS WITH AN 18-YEAR RECORD OF SERVICE TO HIS ALMA MATER, STEVE NAPOLILLO '98 will succeed his mentor, Bob Driscoll, as vice president and director of athletics beginning July 1.

"I am grateful, humbled, and excited," Napolillo said when College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G, announced the appointment. "I look forward to building on an amazing legacy that has been created over the past 21 years under Bob Driscoll."

A political science major as a student, Napolillo was director of merchandising and corporate sales for the Pawtucket Red Sox before joining the PC staff in 2004. He rose quickly through the ranks in Friar athletics, becoming senior associate athletic director/assistant vice president for external relations in 2014.

"Steve has demonstrated the passion and skill to be a successful leader at PC," said Karl Anderson '88, chair of the Board of Trustees' Varsity Athletics Committee. "We are excited for our future and for Steve's ability to lead us there."

Napolillo's wide-ranging responsibilities have included a decisive role in securing more than \$75 million in gifts for capital improvements and developing the Friars Forever Athletic Fund, which raises funds every year to support PC's 19 Division I programs. He also oversees the athletics marketing, ticketing, and development offices.

Napolillo and his wife, Bethany, have a son and a daughter.



Mike St. Thomas '05 chairs the English Department at the Portsmouth Abbey School in Portsmouth, R.I. He is pictured in his classroom.

IN A CLASS ON SPIRITUAL CRISIS, **I FOUND MY VOCATION** AS A TEACHER

‘This is good literary criticism,’ Dr. Delasanta wrote.
‘Don’t hide your light under a bushel.’

BY MIKE ST. THOMAS '05 / PHOTO BY PETER GOLDBERG

REMEMBER THE MOMENT DISTINCTLY.

It was the spring of 2003, and I was a sophomore at Providence College, one of 15 or so students sitting around the big table in a seminar led by Rodney Delasanta, Ph.D. '53 on Literature of Spiritual Crisis. Dr. Delasanta, who by then was near the end of his storied career as an English and Western Civ professor, had just handed back our quizzes from last class. I don't recall the grade he gave me, but to this day I remember the words he scrawled in blue ink at the top. "This is good literary criticism," he had written, and then, as a way of chiding me for being one of the quieter students in class, he quoted Christ's parable, "Don't hide your light under a bushel." The last sentence was underlined for effect.

For all I know, Dr. Delasanta wrote these kind of things on students' quizzes all the time. In fact, I'm almost sure he did, given the amount of student respect he garnered during his long tenure at PC. However quotidian his comment was, it spoke to me in a singular way. At that point I was trying to figure out who I was, what I was passionate about, and what direction my life would take. I knew I loved reading and writing, but I didn't know how to admit that to anyone yet. I was a reticent student, full of ideas, but terrified of giving voice to them and making them real. As it turns out, I *had* been hiding something under a bushel.



The titles and authors are some of those that Mike St. Thomas '05 read at PC and teaches in his classes.

Looking back on it, that's no doubt why I was drawn to a seminar on spiritual crisis in the first place. It turned out to be one of the best classes I ever took. We read plays by Sophocles and Shakespeare, and novels by Flannery O'Connor, Sushaku Endo, Graham Greene, and Cynthia Ozick, among others. As we sat around the table each week, we discussed the important questions that animated each of these works: What is the point of suffering? What does it mean to communicate with a God who often remains silent? What does spiritual consolation look like? As we gained confidence throughout the term, Dr. Delasanta talked less and we talked more. As we discussed the characters' dark nights and beatific visions, whether we knew it or not, we were also attempting, however tentatively, to make sense of our own. This, I realize now, was the real purpose of the class.

That attempt at sense-making — not just of literature but of life — was what the note on the quiz encouraged me to do. During the course of that spring, I

became a regular contributor to class, and began the process of discovering what I thought — and who I was — by engaging with literature and with others. Towards the end of that year, I declared as an English major. In large part I was spurred on by the spirit of Dr. Delasanta's note, emboldened by the realization that someone whom I respected thought that my ideas were worth considering.

As with so many of my teachers at PC, Dr. Delasanta was a master at that kind of encouragement. His passion for literature had the effect of dispelling fear in the classroom and giving his students courage to wrestle with the big questions themselves. Other experiences in my four years stand out for similar reasons. I'll never forget reading *Moby-Dick* for an entire semester with Dr. Margaret Reid, and her genuine zest for the daunting task. Or spending hours discussing Dublin and James Joyce with Dr. William Hogan, or hearing Dr. Stephen Lynch expound a line from Shakespeare, or looking





through one of Dr. Bruce Graver's stereoscopes as he explained the connections between William Wordsworth and Frederick Law Olmstead. I will never forget the enthusiasm with which these teachers approached their subjects, nor will I forget the respect with which they treated me, as if I were a fellow scholar who, but for a little experience, was on the same footing as they.

Vocation is a word often associated with discerning a career in the religious life, but really it refers to any calling to live out a specific purpose. My teachers clearly had such a calling. It was evident in their approach to their discipline and their students. It was evident in their desire to work at a place like PC, where teaching, not research, holds priority. And it was evident in their desire to help their students discern their own vocations, whatever they may be.

My vocation also turned out to be teaching. For the last 14 years I have taught English to high schoolers, and just this year I crafted a senior class that, with a nod to Dr. Delasanta's seminar, I dubbed Modern Spiritual Crisis. The class reads several of the same authors we covered in the Honors seminar — Shakespeare, Greene, O'Connor — along with others — Franz Kafka, Marilynne Robinson, James Baldwin — whose works engage similar questions. With any luck, the class will not only provide examples of spiritual searches for my students, but also invite them to embark on their own, as the Honors seminar did for me.



“**VOCATION IS** A WORD OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH DISCERNING A CAREER IN THE RELIGIOUS LIFE, BUT REALLY IT REFERS TO ANY CALLING TO LIVE OUT A SPECIFIC PURPOSE.”

The poet W.H. Auden, reflecting on the art of teaching, stressed the importance of recognizing one's vocation to the profession:

To teach at all is hard, to teach well is impossible, but at least it will be something if we realize that without a vocation of our own, without a passion for teaching ourselves, we cannot hope to help others...[I]t is only thus that we shall be able to restrain our natural lust for power and approval, to exhibit in our relation to our pupils that careful indifference, that conscious refusal to help ... which is, I believe, the proper educational obstacle to arouse subjective passion.

Auden's emphasis on teachers consciously withholding help from their students strikes me as exactly correct.

My teachers at PC did not hand me answers, though they certainly could have done so. They demanded that I discover them for myself. Their job was to coax, challenge, encourage, and eventually, step aside. As Auden knew and Dr. Delasanta exemplified, a teacher's true calling is to overturn bushels so that students might discern the paths their lights illumine. ❧

*Mike St. Thomas '05 chairs the English Department at the Portsmouth Abbey School in Portsmouth, R.I., where he lives with his wife and children. His essays and reviews have appeared in *Commonweal*, *The Hedgehog Review*, *Plough Quarterly*, *America*, and other publications.*

CLASS NOTES

SUBMISSIONS: prov.ly/alumninotes

1960s

'69

Anthony "Skip" Cimino '69 of Trenton, N.J., was hired by the Stevens & Lee Companies to lead its newly established New Jersey public affairs firm as senior managing director. The firm works with private and nonprofit clients to advance their governmental interests in New Jersey. Cimino formerly was executive director to the New Jersey General Assembly Majority Office and president and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton. Earlier in his career, he was elected an assemblyman for the 14th Legislative District.

1970s

'70

Nicholas DiGiovanni '70 of Newburyport, Mass., an attorney with Morgan, Brown & Joy, contributed a chapter, Graduate Student Unionization, to the book *Collective Bargaining in Higher Education: Best Practices for Promoting*

Collaboration, Equity, and Measurable Outcomes (Routledge Press, 2021). He is one of the foremost authorities on higher education labor relations in the country and represents many higher education institutions in the northeast. At the National Labor Relations Board, he successfully litigated the managerial status of full-time faculty members at Tufts University Medical School and Elmira College under the standards of the Supreme Court's Yeshiva University case.

Geoffrey Gneuhs '70 of New York City, who served as chaplain to Servant of God Dorothy Day, assisted at the Mass celebrated by Cardinal Timothy Dolan in St. Patrick's Cathedral on Dec. 8, 2021, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, which concluded the diocesan phase for Day's canonization. Voluminous documentation and research were then sent to the Congregation for the Causes for Saints in Rome. The next phase includes the declaration of Day as venerable, followed by beatification (one miracle), and finally sanctification (one additional miracle). It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in 1932 at the National Shrine in Washington, D.C., that Day, a recent convert, prayed "with tears and anguish," in her words, that God would

open a way to use her talents "for my fellow workers, for the poor."

'72 (Reunion June 3-5)

Peter Gobis '72 of Cranston, R.I., has retired after 50 years as a sportswriter for The Sun Chronicle in Attleboro, Mass. He was hired after his PC graduation as the newspaper's first full-time sportswriter. He covered high school sports, the Pawtucket Red Sox, New England Revolution, and the International Tennis Hall of Fame Tournament, and was a regular in the press box for the Friars. Gobis was best known for his Friday vignette column, a collection of news items gathered over the course of each week. His contributions were recognized with his induction into the Attleboro Area Golf Association Hall of Fame and the Attleboro Area Football Hall of Fame. He also was a multi-time recipient of the president's award from the Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Association. He describes himself as "a proud member of the 50th anniversary class of 1972, whose most enjoyable times away from the sporting arena as a professional were sitting in the upper decks of Schneider Arena below the scoreboard, watching the hockey Friars."



A lifetime of appreciation

LOUIS J. RAGNO '36, who died in 1999 at 85, always said that Providence College prepared him for life. In appreciation, he made an estate gift

— artwork and his class ring — to the college.

"He believed that his class work in economics and literature suited him for many career paths, and in his lifetime, he was a probation officer, a surveyor, a newspaper reporter in Springfield, Mass., a

bookshop owner, and executive director of the Enfield Housing Authority in Connecticut," said his daughter, Susan Roberts, Ph.D. He continued to work as a substitute executive director at housing authorities around the state until he was 75.

A native of Naro, Sicily, who came to the United States as an infant, Mr. Ragno was offered a baseball scholarship to Princeton University but could not afford the fee, Roberts said. Instead he came to Providence, where he also played baseball, earning "class numerals" in 1933. He maintained a friendship with philosophy professor Rev. Ambrose P. Regan, O.P. until

Father Regan's death in 1957. The priest officiated at Mr. Ragno's marriage to his wife, Irene.

Among the artwork is a wood-carved crucifix of Christ the High Priest and King, which will be mounted in the former chapel in Guzman Hall, now a lecture hall. Mr. Ragno's class ring was given to the PC Archives.

"He wore his class ring until the day he died," Roberts said. "PC opened up a world of opportunities for a poor immigrant who came to Providence during the Depression. What he learned there remained with him for a lifetime."

'73

Bob Cavanaugh '73 of Plano, Texas, was recognized with a Philanthropy Leadership Honor Roll Award from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, where he attended graduate school. Since his retirement from JCPenney in 2012 after a career in corporate finance, Cavanaugh and his wife, Terri, have been active in community service. Bob is a founding board member of Plano-based My Possibilities, a leader in vocational education and job placement for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. He also is a board member of Ability Connection Texas, a Dallas-based organization that has served children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Texas for 70 years. The Cavanaugh family established a family foundation to support similar organizations in the United States and internationally. They were inspired by family members and friends with similar challenges.

'74

Ted DeNicola '74 of Warwick, R.I., was named to the board of Children's Wishes, a non-profit that provides life-enhancing experiences for children facing significant medical emergencies. Following a 35-year career in alumni relations, development, and career counseling at Providence College, he joined Balanced Wealth Management of East Greenwich as director of business development in May 2019. He has been a board member at Bishop Hendricken High School, the Diocese of Providence, New Vision of Hope, St. Peter's School, and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

'78

Bob Lynch '78, '83G, '86G of North Providence, R.I., was named to the board of the Massachusetts Association of Approved Special Education Schools, the statewide association of schools serving students with special needs. Lynch is director of student services at Amego, a special education school in Franklin, Mass. He previously served as special education director in public schools in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from PC, plus master's degrees in special education and in school administration.

'79

Larry Jasinski '79 of Southborough, Mass., is the chief executive officer and board member at ReWalk Robotics, a medical device company based in Marlborough. Its main product is ReWalk, a bionic walking assistance system that uses powered leg attachments to enable paraplegics to stand upright, walk, and climb stairs. The system is powered by a backpack battery that is controlled by a simple, wrist-mounted remote that detects and enhances the user's movements. Jasinski also has been president and chief executive officer of Soteira, Inc., and Cortek, Inc., and he held multiple sales, research and development, and general management roles at Boston Scientific Corporation. He is on the board of LeMaitre Vascular and Massachusetts Bay Lines and is advising Abyssina Biologics. His wife, **Doriann (Murphy) Jasinski '80**, also is an alumnus.

1980s

'80

Charles Debevoise '80 of Dover, Mass., a shareholder with the law firm Davis Malm, was named to the list of 2021 Massachusetts Super Lawyers. The list was published in Boston magazine and in New England Super Lawyers, a publication of Thomson Reuters. He is a banking, business, and real estate attorney with a primary focus on debt finance.

Jane Gonsalves '80 of New Bedford, Mass., is coordinator of the American Rescue Plan Act for Bristol County, Massachusetts. She leads compliance, implementation, and community outreach efforts.

'84

Brenda Clement '84 of Pawtucket, R.I., was named to 21 Who Made a Difference in 2021 by the website GoLocalProv. Clement was honored for her work in affordable housing as director of HousingWorks RI at Roger Williams University. She has more than 25 years of experience in housing and community development, including as executive director of the Citizens Housing and Planning Association of Massachusetts and executive director of the Housing Action Coalition of Rhode Island, a statewide affordable housing advocacy organization. She received a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012 from Rhode Island Housing, a Healthy Housing Award in 2011



Scholarships, program benefit from Rozovsky gift

FAY A. ROZOVSKY, J.D. '73, '08HON. gave to Providence College throughout her lifetime, as one of the first women to attend the college when it became coeducational in 1971, as the mother of two alumni, Joshua Rozovsky '06SCE and Rabbi Aaron Rozovsky '08, and as vice president and president of the National Alumni Association from 2009-12.

With a law degree from Boston College and a master's degree in public health from Harvard University, Mrs. Rozovsky, who died on March 4, 2020, was an expert on informed consent, the principle in medical ethics and law that patients should have sufficient information before making decisions about their medical care. Her articles on the subject have been cited in Supreme Court decisions in the United States and Canada.

Mrs. Rozovsky's impact on PC continues even after death. Because she left a charitable bequest to PC as part of her estate plan, the college received more than \$300,000 to be distributed equally among three scholarship funds and one college program — the Fay A. Rozovsky Scholarship Fund and the Ann M. Frank Scholarship Fund, established by her parents; the Father John Peterson Scholarship Fund; and the college's Jewish Catholic Theological Exchange.

"She loved her adopted Friar family the way she did our own, by giving of herself," said her sister, Ann Frank Goldstein '75.

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from the Rhode Island Department of Health, and a Local Hero Award from Bank of America in 2010. She is a graduate of Washington College of Law at American University.

'87 (Reunion June 3-5)

Lindsey Pasquale '87 of Hebron, Conn., was named northeast regional director for PFLAG National and serves as a resource to chapters in the six New England states. Founded in 1973, PFLAG is the nation's first and largest family and ally organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people, their parents, families, and allies. It is committed to creating a world in which diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed. PFLAG provides peer-to-peer support and education on issues important to the community and advocates for inclusive policies and laws.

'88

Justyna Meny Kilbourne '88 of Rumson, N.J., joined Laboratory Corporation of America as the compliance officer for the Northeast Diagnostics division. She provides guidance on relevant laws, regulations, and ethical standards to ensure the health and safety of Labcorp's patients, employees, and the company. Justyna also received certificates in paralegal studies (Georgetown University) and health-care compliance (Seton Hall Law School). She previously worked at AOL, Inc., and Integra Life Sciences.

1990s

'90

Mary Beth Maclearie Rehrer '90 of Fanwood, N.J., joined the board of the North American Association of Commencement Officers as director-at-large, communications. Her term began in August 2021 and runs until July 2024.

'92 (Reunion June 3-5)

Aidan Connolly '92 of Carmel Hamlet, N.Y., is executive director of Irish Arts Center, a multidisciplinary cultural center which has been based in Hell's Kitchen, New York City, since 1974. In collaboration with the Irish and New York city and state governments and the private sector, he led the development of a new \$60 million flagship facility that opened in December 2021 at 51st Street and 11th Avenue. The new Irish Arts Center offers a range of

programming, including music, theatre, dance, visual arts, literature, and humanities, to audiences of all ages and backgrounds, and a community education program in Irish dance, music, language, and literature. An English and theatre arts major at PC, Connolly has an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

'93

Sean Duggan '93 of Los Angeles directed and produced the film *Keep It A Secret*, a documentary about the dawn of surfing in Ireland during the height of The Troubles. The film premiered at the Belfast Film Festival and made its American debut in November 2021 at DOC NYC, a documentary film festival in New York City. It will be screening at film festivals through 2022.

Jennifer (Bush) Furey '93 of Winchester, Mass., co-chair of the litigation group at Goulston & Storrs, was named a Massachusetts Go To Lawyer by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly. The list recognizes the leading intellectual property lawyers in Massachusetts with a history of success and a reputation for thinking creatively to solve problems for clients. Furey has been instrumental in building her

firm's intellectual property practice and leading significant IP litigation for well-known clients. She also is a member of the firm's executive committee and equity initiative.

Brian Shannon '93 of Springfield, Va., started a new position in November 2021 as the director, integration in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration at the Pentagon. He previously served as a legislative liaison to the U.S. Secretary of Defense.

'94

Barbara Bilello '94 of Asbury Park, N.J., and Williamsburg, Brooklyn, N.Y., was named a partner at RegentAtlantic, where she has been a wealth advisor working with high-net-worth clients and their families since 2017. She is co-chair of the RegentAtlantic Wall Street Women Forum, which will hold its annual event this spring at the New York Stock Exchange. Bilello was named an honoree of Crain's New York Business Notable LGBTQ Leaders and Executives in its inaugural list in 2020 and again in 2021. A frequent guest speaker for the LGBTQ community and for regional organizations, she hosted PC's webinar series for women, Money Matters. She is

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GIVE NOW



an active volunteer for the Northern New Jersey chapter of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and has served on the board of Leading for Children, a nonprofit that provides early learning experiences. She began her career at Goldman, Sachs & Co. and U.S. Trust.

'95

Adetola Abiade '95 of Washington, D.C., was appointed assistant to the administrator for USAID, the government's humanitarian and development agency, by the Biden administration in November 2021. She is the chief executive overseeing the human capital and talent management division — the equivalent of human resources — responsible for 10,000 staff members serving as foreign service officers, civil servants, contractors, and fellows.

'96

Joe Mullin, Esq. '96 serves as deputy public defender for El Paso County, Texas. He is considering a run for an open seat later this year on the El Paso City Council. Joe and his wife, Abbie Martinez-Mullin, also an attorney, reside in West El Paso.

'97 (Reunion June 3-5)

Bill Masterson '97 of Lloyd Harbor, N.Y., was named president at Publishers Clearing House. Masterson has worked at Google, most re-

cently as head of industry, as well as at Twitter and Facebook. He also was president and CEO of a media agency startup that was sold in 2021. Masterson, who majored in marketing, met with student members of Beta Gamma Sigma, the business honor society, in the fall to discuss his career path.

Kristian Darigan Merenda '97 of Canton, Mass., was named partner at Carol Cone on Purpose, a firm specializing in business and social transformation through Environmental Social Governance. Merenda is credited with creating and leading the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women, among other vanguard campaigns, as part of her decades-long pioneering work in this space. She also published a book, *Breakthrough Nonprofit Branding with Carol Cone*, and has taught graduate courses on related subjects as an adjunct professor at Boston University and Harvard University since 2011.

'99

Elizabeth Marino Dodge '99 of Arlington, Mass., was elected partner at Sidley Austin LLP. She is located in the Boston office.

2000s

'00

Gregory Hummer '00 of Morris Plains, N.J., was recruited by Ameriprise Financial, LLC., after a 20-year career at Morgan Stanley. He

accepted the role of vice president, financial advisor at Ameriprise Financial, LLC in Florham Park.

'02 (Reunion June 3-5)

Jonathan de Araujo '02, '03G of Watertown, Mass., is the owner of The Vacationeer, a travel agency that specializes in planning vacations to Walt Disney World Resort, Universal Studios, and Disneyland. In five years, his business has grown to include 90 agents. He previously worked in real estate. He has a bachelor's degree in management and an MBA from PC.

'03

Brendan McGair '03 of Warwick, R.I., a sports-writer and columnist for the Pawtucket Times/Woonsocket Call, was named 2021 Rhode Island Sports Writer of the Year by the National Sports Media Association. He shared the honor with Mark Daniels of the Providence Journal. It is the fifth time since 2010 that McGair has been honored by the national association.

'04

Joan Barker '04 of Daytona Beach, Fla., was involved in efforts to evacuate and provide aid to vulnerable Afghans unable to escape during the Taliban takeover in August 2021. She worked in Afghanistan as a defense contractor from 2017-18 teaching English to members of the Afghan Air Force. After the fall of Kabul, she wrote opinion pieces for the Military Times and other publications, urging Congressional action and seeking accountability from the



Dentist to the animals

After completing veterinary school at The Ohio State University in 2004, **CHRISTOPHER SNYDER, D.V.M. '00** of Middleton, Wisc., received residency training in dentistry and oral surgery. He is a diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College, meaning he has demonstrated expertise and specialized knowledge in veterinary dentistry.

"Being a specialist in veterinary dentistry and oral surgery makes for some pretty cool opportunities," Snyder said. "In this photo, the tiger, from Henry Vilas Zoo in Madison, is receiving root canal therapy for a fractured tooth."

Snyder, who studied biology at PC, is clinical professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. In June 2021, he also was named associate dean for clinical affairs and hospital director for UW Veterinary Care, where he leads a team of veterinarians, technicians, pharmacists, staff, interns, and veterinary students in caring for animals.

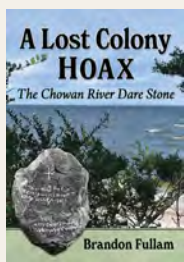


ALUMNI AUTHORS

David R. Carlin '60 of Newport, R.I., wrote *Three Sexual Revolutions: Catholic, Protestant, Atheist*, published by Lectio Publishing and available on Amazon. His two previous books are *The Decline and Fall of the Catholic Church in America* and *Can a Catholic Be a Democrat?* Carlin is a former Democratic majority leader of the Rhode Island Senate and a retired professor of philosophy and sociology at the Community College of Rhode Island. He has written hundreds of articles on political, cultural, and religious topics for newspapers, magazines, and websites. He writes a biweekly column for thecatholicthing.org.

At age 90, **Frank W. DiChiara, O.D., F.A.A.O. '52**, diplomate emeritus in low vision, has written *Rehabilitation of the Visually Impaired* (Page Publishing, May 7, 2021) about individuals who are legally blind or have reduced vision. It describes the low vision examination, corrective measures for low vision, telescopes, microscopes, hand and stand magnifiers, closed circuit television, and more.

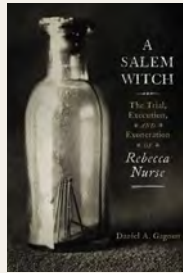
Frank J. DiMaio '74, D.C., of Dunnellon, Fla., wrote his first full-length book, *The Best Ships* (First Edition Design Publishing, Oct. 25, 2021), about his solo sail to Bermuda to raise money for breast cancer research. It is available on Amazon.



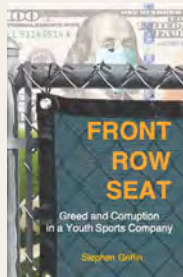
A third book by **Brandon A. Fullam Jr. '66** of Midlothian, Va., *A Lost Colony Hoax: The Chowan River Dare Stone*, was published by McFarland in 2021. Fullam exposes, for the first time, a hoax

perpetrated in 1937 involving a historical artifact that has baffled historians for more than eight decades. Fullam taught second-

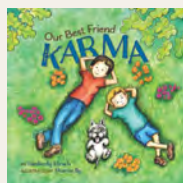
ary English and Latin in the South Huntington School District of Long Island from 1966-2000. He is a member of the Virginia Historical Society and the Chesterfield Historical Society of Virginia.



one of the most well-known victims of the 1692 Salem Witch Trials. He teaches high school history on the North Shore of Massachusetts.



and *Lost Locker Room: The Collapse of Global Premier Soccer* (Cow Yard Media LLC, 2021).

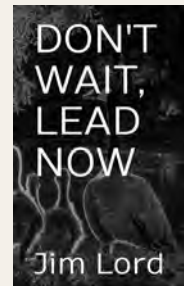


for children ages 4-10, it teaches about the power of positive thoughts, words, and actions. The book is available on Amazon and via her website, www.KimberlyHirschAuthor.com. She ran a successful Kickstarter to raise funds for the first print run and is self-publishing using her own company, Vanderbark Press.

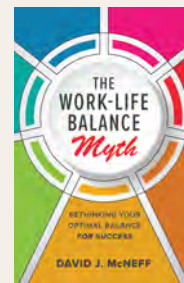
Dan Gagnon '15 of Danvers, Mass., wrote his first book, *A Salem Witch: The Trial, Execution, and Exoneration of Rebecca Nurse* (Westholme Publishing, Sept. 29, 2021), the biography of

Stephen J. Griffin '88 of Providence is the author of two books published in the last two years, *Front Row Seat: Greed and Corruption in a Youth Sports Company* (Cow Yard Media LLC, 2020)

Kimberly (Anthony) Hirsch '05 of St. George, Utah, wrote her first children's book, *Our Best Friend Karma*. A picture book



Jim Lord '19SCE of Randolph, N.J., wrote a leadership book, *Don't Wait, Lead Now* (September 2021). He is senior vice president of ADP's Insurance Services Division in Florham Park.

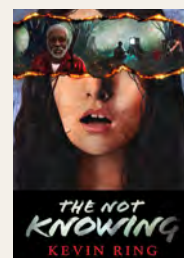


Dave McNeff '73 of Wayland, Mass., wrote *The Work-Life Balance Myth: Rethinking Your Optimal Balance for Success* (McGraw Hill, February 2021). The book was listed on the Amazon Top 50 Work

Life in Business best-seller list several times in 2021 and was the subject of a podcast by Forbes. McNeff founded Peak Consulting Group in 1995 to develop executive talent and bolster the performance of executive teams for companies all over the world. He also is a keynote speaker at corporate events and conferences, including Workhuman.

Frank A. Monti, CPA '70 of Sarasota, Fla., wrote *Understanding Your HOA: Converting your Concerns into Comfort* (Independently published, September 2018).

The seventh book by **Anthony Riccio '74**, *Stories, Streets And Saints: The North End Of Boston*, will be published by SUNY Press in late summer 2022. He resides in Connecticut.



Kevin Ring '10 of Methuen, Mass., published his debut novel, *The Not Knowing*, a suspense thriller available on Amazon/Kindle in paperback and eBook formats.

nation's leaders, specifically for vulnerable interpreters. Barker said she would not have had the courage to engage in written advocacy if not for her time working for The Cowl. In fact, she would not have had an international career but for a chance meeting with Peace Corps recruiter at a job fair in Slavin Center when she was a senior. "So much has come full circle, and I look back with gratitude and appreciation for where it started back in 2004, at a college that so rightly fosters the skills of collaboration, critical thinking, and above all else, service to others," Barker said.

Stefanie Blankenship '04 of Seekonk, Mass., has been director of the North Providence Union Free Library since July 2020.

Corey Christman Dall '04 of Durham, N.C., received a 2022 Women in Business Award from the Triangle Business Journal. The Women in Business Awards program recognizes women who are proven dynamic and outstanding leaders with established records of significant accomplishments in business and community service. She is senior vice president and director of marketing for First Bank.

Jason Ulatowski '04 of Buffalo, N.Y., associate general counsel at PCB Piezotronics in Buffalo, was named a winner of the 40 Under 40 Awards by Buffalo Business First. He graduated from University at Buffalo School of Law in 2007.

'05

Andrew Kennedy '05, Ph.D. of Lewiston, Maine, was granted tenure at Bates College, where he is a professor of chemistry and neuroscience. He studies epigenetic mechanisms of long-term memory formation.

Amy Hayes Nebons '05 of Des Moines, Iowa, created a business, BOCS-DSM, that allows corporations to send custom-designed appreciation boxes to the homes of employees working remotely. Her first venture into the corporate gifting world, it has been extremely successful in its first two years. Amy was featured on CNBC's The News with Shep Smith in a segment called "American Comeback Des Moines."



Feeding Maryland

LEAH PALEY '05, CEO of the Anne Arundel County Food Bank in Maryland, welcomed a fellow Friar, **CARMEN DEL GUERCIO '87**, president and CEO of the Maryland Food Bank, for a tour of the AACFB warehouse. Last year, the AACFB distributed 5.8 million pounds of food to community members experiencing food insecurity.

"It is an honor to work closely with Carmen and the Maryland Food Bank to increase access to free, healthy food for under-resourced residents of our county," Paley said.

Cheryl Picard '05SCE of Warwick, R.I., was honored as Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator of the Year by the Rhode Island Health Care Association, an affiliate of the American Health Care Association, the national organization for nursing home professionals. She is the administrator at the Apple Clipper, a 60-bed facility for short- and long-term residents in Westerly. Picard was a physical therapy assistant for 25 years when she decided a career change was needed. Because she had earned a bachelor's degree from PC, she was able to obtain her administration certificate from St. Joseph College in Maine. "I love that my PC diploma hangs on my office wall, and I proudly show it off," Picard said.

Jessica (Vieira) Vincent '05 and **Whitney (Vieira) Tondreau '09**, both of Cumberland, R.I., along with their sister, Robynne Vieira, have opened Blackstone Quilting Company in Lincoln. The retail shop features fabric and notions, longarm quilting services, and classes for people of all ages and skill levels.

'06

Megan Cooney Mathias '06 of Boston, Mass., a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management in Boston, was recognized on a Forbes list of top women wealth advisors in Massachusetts. The 2022 Forbes Best in State list of America's Top Women Wealth Advisors is based on factors that include best practices, level of service, and assets under management. A marketing major at PC, Megan is a Chartered Retirement Planning CounselorSM(SM) (CRPC[®]) who helps individuals and families, including female execu-

tives and women in transition, grow their wealth and achieve their financial goals. She enjoys running, traveling, and cooking.

Matt Weber '06 of Charlottesville, Va., was promoted to chief creative officer and senior advisor to the president at the University of Virginia. He particularly wants to thank **Rev. Paul Seaver, O.P.** and **Rev. J. Stuart McPhail, O.P. '61** for their roles at PC in helping him shape his creative lens and his approach to critical problem solving, always in service of a common good.

'07 (Reunion June 3-5)

Elizabeth Halloran '07 of Worcester, Mass., opened Tansley | Halloran, a law firm in Worcester founded and owned by women. She leverages 10 years of experience practicing criminal defense and family law.

'08

Nancy Andrade '08 of Atlanta, Ga., is studying in a doctor of public health program at Georgia State University. She is pursuing the doctorate while continuing her work as a health scientist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

2010s

'10

Andraya Pulaski Brunau '10 of Milford, Conn., was promoted to partner at Day Pitney LLP, where she is a litigator in intellectual property and technology in the Hartford office.



FRIAR

WEDDINGS

At least 50 Friars attended the wedding of **Michaela Mahoney '11 and Andrew Lynch '10** on Aug. 28, 2021, in Narragansett, R.I. Andrew, son of Michael Lynch '83 and Gina Gencarella Lynch '81, is part of a huge Friar legacy that includes four of his five siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Michaela's brother, Ryan Mahoney '08, along with three aunts, an uncle, and a cousin, are Friars, and her grandfather, former R.I. governor J. Joseph Garrahy, taught a course at PC. The couple were married at St. Thomas More Church with a Mass celebrated by Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. '80, former PC president, and Rev. Peter Batts, O.P. A reception followed at the Dunes Club. Andrew and Michaela reside in South Kingstown.

Jamie Wilson '16 and Lauren Ficurilli '16, '20G married on New Year's Eve 2021 at the Graduate, formerly the Biltmore, in Providence. More than 20 Friars attended.

Michael McDevitt '13 and Kelly Cleary '14 married on Dec. 18, 2021, with many PC alumni in attendance. They live in East Greenwich, R.I.

Kurt Haller '19 and Abbie Scott '19 married in September 2021 in London, England, where they reside. They met sophomore year at PC and moved to London to work a couple months after graduation. A large group of Friars came to London to celebrate the big day with them.

Sumer Moussa '11 and Maureen Wynne '11 married on June 11, 2021, in New Rochelle, N.Y. Many of their classmates from the Class of 2011 were on hand to celebrate. They live in New York City.

Carolyn Bothwell '15 married Brad Peterson '15 on July 17, 2021, in Centerville, Mass. Friars in attendance were from the classes of 1984-2022. The couple resides in the Charlestown section of Boston.

Brianna Aloisio '14 and Kenneth Savage '14 married in Gloucester, Mass., on Sept. 18, 2021, surrounded by friends, family, and Friars. Their friend, Conor Dillon '14, officiated. Kenny did not wear his PC swimming and diving T-shirt to the ceremony. Their photographer was Samantha Gonzalez '18.

Jennifer (Robinson) Forsyth '13, '21G married **Wesley Forsyth** on Sept. 10, 2021, in Cape Neddick, Maine, with more than 20 Providence College alumni surrounding her. The couple resides in Newbury, Mass.

Marissa (Bellio) Lane '05 married **Brian Lane** on Sept. 3, 2021, in Goffstown, N.H., surrounded by fellow Friars from the Class of 2005. They reside in Bolton, Mass.

Kevin Ring '10 and Erica (Comeau) Ring '12 married on Aug. 22, 2020, but had to delay their wedding reception due to the pandemic. They finally celebrated with family, friends, and fellow PC alumni at the Bedford Village Inn in Bedford, N.H., on July 30, 2021. They live in Methuen, Mass.

Lauren (McNulty) Keefe '15 and Brian Keefe, a Rhode Island native and Marquette graduate, were married on Aug. 21, 2021, in New Jersey. Friars from the classes of 1985-2015 attended the wedding and Mass. Brother Damian Day, O.P. '15 served as deacon and preached. The couple met at Louie's through mutual friends from PC and reside in Austin, Texas.

Mary Finn '12 and Matthew Dennison '12 married on June 12, 2021, at Saint Joseph Parish in Kingston, Mass. They reside in Plymouth.

Jackie Buckridge '14 and Michael Zampitella '13 of New York, N.Y., were married July 23, 2021, in New York, surrounded by many PC alumni.

After getting engaged on Slavin lawn two years prior, **Tara Moore '13 and David Toro '16** eloped to Sanibel, Fla., in September 2020, followed by a Charleston, S.C., wedding with family and friends in June 2021. The couple met on campus at Relay for Life one month before Tara's graduation and have been inseparable since. They reside in Charlotte, N.C.

She assists diverse clients in intellectual property disputes and complex commercial, tort, and probate disputes as well as appeals. She has served clients in the aerospace, toy, wine, financial services, healthcare, life sciences, energy, and manufacturing industries. She graduated with honors from the University of Connecticut School of Law and is admitted to practice in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Peter Malone '10 of Scituate, Mass., was named director, portfolio manager at Crestwood Advisors, a boutique investment advisory and wealth management firm based in Boston. He is a chartered financial analyst and a certified financial planner.

Betty-Ann Medeiros Hickey '10SCE, '21G of Covington, La., is one of 10 Catholic church leaders accepted into the inaugural cohort of the Mathis Liturgical Leadership Program at the University of Notre Dame. The two-year certificate program of education and formation focuses on fostering a Eucharistic culture in parishes, schools, and dioceses to promote deeper affiliation with the church. Each participant designs and works toward the completion of a project, teaching resource, or publication.

'11

Michael Connelly '11, '12G of Duxbury, Mass., is an accelerator in the Principal Accelerator Program at Dark Horse CPAs, a Boston-based accounting and tax firm serving individuals and small businesses. Connelly earned a bachelor's degree in accountancy and an MBA from PC. He is licensed as a CPA in Rhode Island and Massachusetts and has 10 years of experience with small businesses and their owners in the areas of tax and accounting. The Dark Horse Principal Accelerator Program was created for entrepreneurially minded CPAs.

Zach Odachowski '11 of Raleigh, N.C., was named sommelier of Herons at the Umstead Hotel in Cary, one of only 64 Forbes Five Star restaurants in the world. He has been a consultant for top wine and beer distributors in the country and a bar manager for two Mi-

chelin-starred restaurants. During the pandemic, he offered online master classes for alumni about mixing cocktails as part of Friar T.I.E.S. virtual programming, hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations.

Friars of the Last Decade

'12 (Reunion June 3-5)

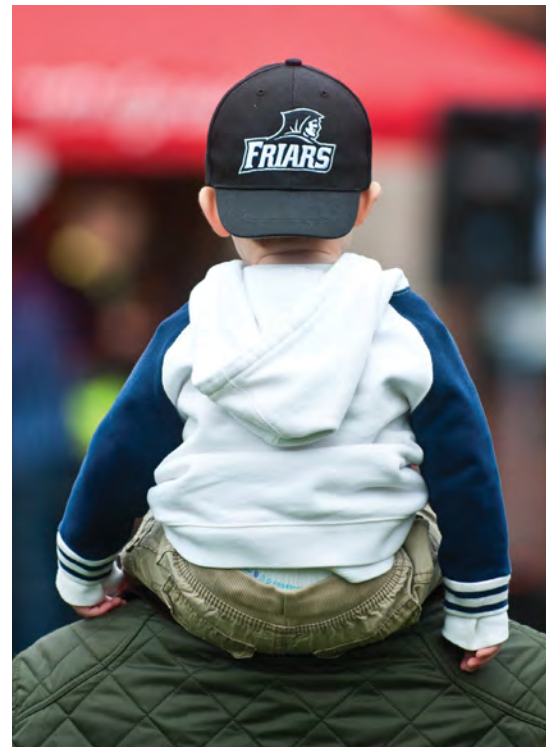
Emma Wright '12 of Boston, Mass., joined the law firm Hemenway & Barnes as an associate in the Private Client Group. She advises clients on sophisticated trust and estate planning strategies. She graduated from Boston University School of Law in 2016.

Anna O'Connell '12 of Cleveland, Ohio, is a doctoral student in historical performance practice at Case Western Reserve University. She has researched performance practice and self-accompaniment on harps ranging from medieval to modern folk instruments and was awarded the Barbara Thornton Scholarship from Early Music America, which allows her to travel to Europe to study with performers there. A soprano, she has sung with the Hong Kong Early Music Society, Cleveland Chamber Choir, and Quire Cleveland, and played harp with Apollo's Fire, a Grammy-winning baroque orchestra. The music education major earned a master's degree in choral music from the University of Southern California and served as director of music for Catholic Campus Ministry at Cornell University.

'13

Marcella Fernandez Fiore '13 of Wantagh, N.Y., is in her eighth year of teaching high school Spanish at Kellenberg Memorial High School in Uniondale. She and her husband, Joseph Fiore, have two children, JJ, 4½, and Madison, 3. She also serves as assistant moderator of the high school's alumni association.

Nicholas Marcello '13 of Trumbull, Conn., was promoted to vice president, finance and operations at Sagem Capital Corp. in Branford. Marcello, who joined the company in September 2020 as director of finance, will oversee financial reporting, capital markets activities, tax compliance, and investments. He has an MBA and master's degree in accounting from Northeastern University. Nick's wife, **Amie Fracker Marcello '13**, also is a Friar.



LITTLE FRIARS

Taylor Bartini Kelley '12 and her husband, Rick, of Somers, Conn., welcomed baby girl #3, Caitlyn Jane Kelley, on Feb. 3, 2022.

Erin Redihan '08, '10G and John Lauer-
mann welcomed their first child, Hannah
Elizabeth Lauer-
mann, on Sept. 7, 2021.

Ralph Iadarola '14 and **Sarah (Gothers) Iadarola '14** of Cheshire, Conn., welcomed their first child, Leah Danielle, during the summer of 2021.

Meghan Ingram Driscoll '06 and her husband, Greg, of Weymouth, Mass., celebrated the birth of their son, Conor Xavier, in August 2021. Meghan and Greg were married during the pandemic in a small backyard wedding in October 2020.

Stephanie Pietros '04 of the Bronx, N.Y., her husband, Timur, and big brother Oliver welcomed a baby girl, Cecilia Ela Pakay, on April 6, 2021.

'14

Saadia Ahmad '14 of Arlington, Mass., is the inaugural director of diversity, equity, and inclusion at Community Teamwork Inc., a community action agency in Lowell. She also is one of several part-time ombuds at the Milwaukee Area Technical College hired to develop and facilitate conflict resolution services. Saadia has been a facilitator for one of the Circles of Friar women dialogue groups sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of women at PC. The circle focuses on how faith can be impacted by doubt and hardship and includes participants of Catholic and other faith traditions. She has a master's degree in conflict resolution from UMass Boston and teaches as an adjunct professor at PC. She has written for the Boston Globe, America magazine, and other publications, and has received awards and recognition for her work.

'15

Jermoh Kamara '15 of Worcester, Mass., was elected to the Worcester School Committee in November 2021. A native of Liberia who attended Worcester public schools through high school, she is the first African-born member of the board. She hopes her achievement will show immigrants that "Yes, you do belong here, you can create a home here, and send your kids to top-notch schools. I think that's really powerful." Kamara is director of health quality and wellness at the YWCA and is an adjunct professor at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. She has taught graduate courses in public, social, and behavioral health.

'16

Jeanine Justiniano, M.D. '16 of Sacramento, Calif., graduated from Loyola University Chicago's Stritch School of Medicine in May 2021. In July, she began a general surgery residency program at the UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. As an undergraduate, Justiniano used ovarian cancer cells to study cancer metabolism in the lab of Yinsheng Wan, Ph.D., professor of biology.

Jonathan Van Beaver '16 of Wilbraham, Mass., was appointed foundation executive director/director of development for the Diocese of Springfield. He oversees the Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield and all diocesan fundraising efforts, including the Annual Catholic Appeal, which funds ministries that help the elderly, mothers and

families in crisis, homeless people, and youth. He most recently worked for Guidance in Giving, which provides fundraising services to Catholic dioceses, parishes, and schools nationwide. Over the last four years he has been a part of teams working with the dioceses of Providence, Worcester, and Memphis that cumulatively have raised more than \$100 million. After graduation, he spent a year of service with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps working as a campus minister in Detroit. He converted to Catholicism while attending PC.

'17 (Reunion June 3-5)

Kalan Lewis '17, '20G of Portland, Maine, serves as the assistant director of THRIVE at Bowdoin College in Brunswick. THRIVE is a college-wide initiative designed to foster achievement, belonging, mentorship, and transition, supporting students of color as well as low-income and first-generation college students. In January, he also became the interim associate director of Bowdoin's Center for Multicultural Life. During Homecoming Weekend at PC in October, Lewis attended commencement exercises for the Class of 2020 to acknowledge his master's degree in higher education administration.

'18

Conor Holway '18 of Boston held a screening of his latest film, "Apple Cinema," at the Providence Place Mall in October 2021. A marketing major at PC, he also arranged for the film's red carpet premiere at the AMC cinema in downtown Boston. Holway is director and president of Golden Deer Productions, which also hosts "The Golden Hours Podcast" about eclectic people in Boston. While at PC studying film under Rev. Kenneth Gumbert, O.P., he produced his first film, "The Adventures of Adderall Boy."

Mary-Kathryn Rogers '18 of Boston is a social media manager at State Street Global Advisors, SPDR ETFs. Formerly, she was a corporate social media consultant at Travelers Insurance. A marketing major, Rogers credits her experience creating content and analyzing data for the Benjamin Family Social Media Fellowship during her senior year with preparing her for these roles. Benjamin Fellows manage social media for the Providence College School of Business. "It was such an amazing experience that gave me a fantastic foundation for what I am doing in my current role," Rogers said. "I can honestly say I use what I learned in the fellowship every single day."

'19

William Oser III '19, '20G of Verona, N.J., is an entertainment coordinator for Peacock at NBCUniversal. He is responsible for planning content and programming on Peacock, managing content discovery, and more. Oser, who majored in management and theatre, worked as a social media coordinator for VitaCoco after earning an MBA from PC. He thanks **Kathleen Beatty '20**, a digital inventory analyst at Peacock, for her assistance during his application process.

2020s

'20

Ariel Tavares '20 of Providence, R.I., is the assistant brand marketing manager for Baskin-Robbins at Inspire Brands. Tavares, an English and political science major and Black studies minor at PC, joined the Flavors & Sundaes Team in January. Previously, she served as the assistant manager of brand publicity for Hasbro, managing the development and execution of global integrated communications, influencer marketing, publicity and digital/social communication initiatives for key Hasbro brands and licensed partners, including Star Wars, Marvel, and Disney Princess.

Hannah Valente '20 of Hoboken, N.J., who was a manager of the men's basketball team for four years at PC, is a certified NBA agent, the youngest woman to achieve that designation. She is a second-year student at Elon University School of Law. Hannah double majored in theology and health policy and management.

'21

Julia Ferreira '21 of East Providence, R.I., received the Lumen Gentium Catholic Service Award from the Diocese of Providence, one of the diocese's highest honors. Ferreira was recognized with the Distinguished Catholic Youth Award for her service at St. Francis Xavier Church in East Providence, her home parish, where she has been a lector, office assistant, flutist, and altar server. She also worked to restore and strengthen the parish's youth group. A biology and Spanish double major at PC, she aspires to be a physician assistant. ■■



IN MEMORIAM

William T. Nero '55, '77G



William T. Nero '55, '77G of Cranston, R.I., an administrator at Providence College for 26 years until his retirement as vice president for business affairs in 1993, died Feb. 7, 2022.

Mr. Nero began working at PC in 1967 as director of annual alumni giving. He led the college's fundraising efforts for 20 years, eventually

rising to vice president for development in 1982. In that span, annual fundraising grew from less than \$50,000 to more than \$3.5 million. His efforts were recognized by the National Alumni Association and by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

His six children are alumni: Nancy Nero Panciocco '82, William Nero Jr. '83, Joseph Nero '85, Daniel Nero '86, Patrick Nero '87, and Christopher Nero '89.

Philip E. Devine, Ph.D.



Philip Edwards Devine, Ph.D., of Providence, R.I., who taught philosophy at Providence College for 26 years, died Feb. 24, 2022.

Dr. Devine, who was born in Evanston, Ill., earned a bachelor's degree from Yale University and a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of California, Berkeley.

He joined the PC faculty in January 1990 as a full-time, adjunct assistant professor. He was appointed assistant professor in September 1990, associate professor in July 1992, and full professor in 1993. He was awarded emeritus status upon his retirement in June 2016.

He is survived by his wife, Celia (Wolf) Devine, and a brother, sister, and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Pius Church across from PC's campus.

Edward A. Sullivan, Ph.D.



Edward A. Sullivan, Ph.D., of Cumberland, R.I., an associate professor of secondary education at Providence College for more than 35 years, died Friday, Feb. 25, 2002. He was the husband of the late Rita L. Sullivan '81SCE.

Dr. Sullivan held a bachelor's degree from Boston College, a

master's degree from Boston State College, and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. He was hired to teach at PC in September 1969 as assistant professor of education and was promoted to associate professor in July 1976.

During his time at the college, he also served as director of practice teaching and as coordinator and program director for the School of Continuing Education. He retired in June 2008.

Rev. William Cyril Dettling, O.P. '54



Rev. William Cyril Dettling, OP. '54, who taught theology and served as a Providence College administrator for more than 25 years, died June 22, 2022, at the Sacred Heart Home in Hyattsville, Md.

Father Dettling, a native of Akron, Ohio, entered the pre-ecclesiastical program at PC after a year at John

Carroll University. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 5, 1959, at St. Dominic Church in Washington, D.C. Father Dettling returned to PC to teach theology in 1960 and served in various roles at the college until 1986, when he was appointed president of the Dominican House of Studies in Washington. He served the Diocese of Columbus from 1992-2016.

His funeral was celebrated on June 28 at St. Dominic Church in Washington.

DEATHS

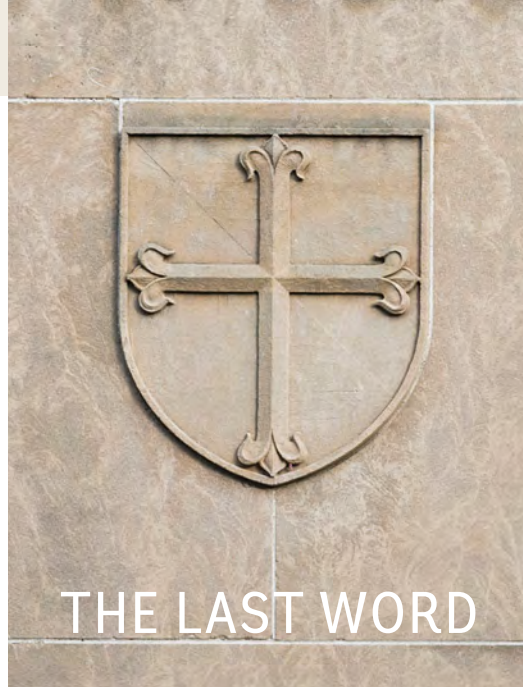
Donald A. DiOrio '50
 Owen W. Mahony '50
 Lawrence V. Pion, Ph.D. '50
 William R. Silva '50
 Walter R. Thayer Jr., M.D. '50
 Lawrence M. DePalma '51
 Alfred J. Fournier '52
 Edward C. Monarch '52
 Robert A. Grenier '53
 Edward S. Tenero '53
 Rev. William Cyril
 Dettling, O.P. '54
 Raymond J. Gallogly '54
 Arthur L. Mansolillo, DDS '54
 James P. Flynn, Esq. '55
 William T. Nero '55, '77G
 Anthony J. Solomon '55
 Joseph L. Tracy, Ph.D. '55
 James M. Donovan Jr. '56
 John E. Janitz '56
 Thomas C. Ryan '56
 Arthos A. Canestrari, DMD '57
 Roderick J. Gorman '57
 Brother Edward Bacon, OSF '58
 Joseph W. Dragon '58
 C. D. Gorman '58
 John J. Shevlin '58
 Charles E. Vermette '58
 Kenneth A. Clements '59
 Elliot F. Honan '59
 Thomas Roberts '59
 John B. Brennan '60, '71G
 Raymond H. Coogan '60
 James T. LeBlanc '60
 James E. McGee '60
 Rev. James A. Nicolichchia,
 O.P. '60
 Richard T. Varone '60
 Philip J. Caliendo '61
 Gerald A. Cassidy '61
 William F. Connors '61

Michael F. Hayes '61
 Robert D. O'Connell '61
 Richard J. Panagrossi '61
 Edward R. Catalozzi '62
 Joseph E. Evans '62
 Raymond A. Gagnon, M.D. '62
 Garth Q. Meader '62
 John F. Smollins Jr., Esq. '62
 Thomas W. Chartier '63
 John R. Fitzpatrick '63
 John J. Flaherty '63
 Robert Ricci, Ph.D. '63
 Henry J. Almagno, Esq. '64
 Thomas A. Colbert '64
 Arthur J. Gressel '64
 John F. Daly '65
 Charles J. Delaney Jr. '65
 Vincent J. DiLauro '65
 Mario A. Mancieri '65
 William E. Wall '65
 Joseph P. Zeppieri, M.D., J.D. '65
 John P. Cyr, Esq. '66
 Charles J. Dauray Jr. '66
 Anthony K. Iuliano '66
 Frank R. Merolla '66
 J. Leonard Rogers Jr., CLU '66
 T. Richard Cuffe Jr., Esq. '67
 Joseph J. Ford '67
 Brian M. Gildea, Esq. '67
 Herbert Mycroft '67
 Michael A. Taraborelli '67
 William E. Anderson '68
 Thomas J. Bevilacqua, Ph.D. '68
 George C. McMahon, Esq. '68
 John C. O'Donnell Jr., M.D. '68
 Peter T. Cipollosso '69
 John J. Dowd Jr. '69
 Alan S. Cameron '70
 William R. Killeen '70
 Ronald J. Treanor '70
 Frederick J. Woolfall '70

Joseph J. Herbold '71, '75G
 Donald F. Malo '71
 Sister Carol A. Kane, FMM '72G
 Francis X. McDonough Jr. '72
 John A. Raftery '72
 June T. Fitzpatrick '73SCE
 Anthony V. Riccio '74
 Katrina R. Casey '75G
 Terence A. Costa '75SCE, '81SCE
 Suzanne Marum Kidd '75
 Deborah M. Smith-Klus,
 M.Ed. '75
 Donald F. Walsh '75SCE
 Craig A. Watt '75
 Mary L. Blasik '76
 John F. Butler '76
 Charles E. Crabtree '78
 Maureen DiRuggiero
 Macera '78G
 Peter L. Brillo '79
 Diana P. DiRobbio '79SCE
 Andrew Duehring '79SCE
 Jo-Ann M. Fielding '79G
 Thomas J. Flanagan II '79, '86G
 Kenneth J. O'Grady '79G
 Barbara A. Pollock '82G
 Catherine Rose Robidoux '82
 Kathleen O'Connor Ferrara '83
 Walter J. McGarty Jr. '83
 David A. Bowie '84
 Stephen D. Holland '85
 Gerald J. Habershaw '87, 98G
 Sharon E. Van Gundy Levine '85
 John N. Raposa '89
 James W. McCarron Jr. '90
 Michael J. Madden '92
 Adam C. Yourell '93
 Bertrand B. Brousseau '94G
 John F. Needham '99G
 Richard W. Thomson '99G
 Colette Lee L. Gagnon '00G

Lisa M. Jacome '04SCE
 Heidi M. Seubert '04G
 John P. Dillon '07
 Nicholas Glassman '24
 Philip E. Devine, Ph.D.
 (faculty)
 Mary A. Lemieux (staff)
 Rev. Bernard Frederick
 Langton, O.P. (faculty)
 Edward A. Sullivan, Ph.D.
 (faculty) ¶¶





Reflections from an (almost) Golden Friar

BY PATRICIA SLONINA VIEIRA '75

FIFTY YEARS AGO THIS SPRING, I was writing papers and preparing for exams that would conclude my first year at Providence College.

As a member of the first “coed” class, I had survived both the cultural transition on campus and the launch year of Civ — the Development of Western Civilization interdisciplinary course.

It wasn't always easy. Navigating the campus — where every path seemed to lead uphill — often left me breathless. (It would be three more years before open heart surgery would correct a congenital heart defect that limited me physically.)

I sometimes felt eclipsed by my peers in seminar discussions and excluded from the bonds connecting the women who lived on campus. I

was a hometown commuter from Pawtucket, R.I., dependent on a patchwork of car rides to reach campus and return home every day.

But what a gift that education was! Encouraged by a career counselor to pursue my love of books and writing through an English major, I found pastimes I enjoyed transformed into a passion and lifelong profession. I was blessed to study with faculty in the arts and sciences whose scholarship, talent, and dedication to students surely rivaled that available at any Ivy League institution. Poetry became the lens through which I observed and understood life.

Though unrealized at the time, these experiences shaped my life. Every day, some observation, prayer, poem, or other prompt reminds me of the grounding in life and literature, thinking and theology, I

that I earned at Providence College. Fast-forward 50 years and the title of “Golden Friar” is in sight. This approaching anniversary inspires reflection.

Providence taught us to be critical thinkers — people who recognize the complexity of human nature, consider the many approaches to an issue, and hesitate to make sweeping judgments or reach hasty conclusions. We are conscious of the sacred and seek spiritual significance in both the sweeping arc of history and the cadence of our daily lives.

Our eyes and ears are attuned to recognize beauty and reject banality. Having learned about or lived through the worst chapters of history (so far), we still chose to marry, parent, and grandparent with hope for the future. We are masters at Jeopardy! and crossword puzzles — pulling obscure details from Civ

“THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE — THE INDIVIDUAL AND CARING WAY A PHYSICIAN ENCOUNTERS EACH PATIENT — IS WIDELY REGARDED AS AN ART. AND IN THE DARKEST DAYS OF THE PANDEMIC, WHEN HUMAN TOUCH WAS FEARED, IT RISKED BECOMING A LOST ONE.”



memory banks, sometimes surprising even ourselves.

Now, we almost-Golden Friars have reached the time when more of life is behind us than ahead. Fittingly perhaps, the global pandemic has reminded us about the limits of medicine, both as science and art.

For all the injunctions to heed the science of medicine, it is more accurately defined as an applied science — one that adapts as knowledge grows,



Patricia Slonina Vieira '75, pictured at the top right of this page, was part of a triumvirate of first female editors of student publications. Vieira, seated at right, was the first woman to edit the *Alembic*, PC's literary journal. She is shown with Ann Frank Goldstein '75, seated left, the first female editor of *The Cowl*, the student newspaper, and with Ana Margarita Cabrera '75, standing, the first woman to edit the *Veritas* yearbook. Vieira keeps this photo on a bookshelf.

to the chagrin of ideologues on all sides. Yet every advance in medicine reveals how much more remains unknown.

The practice of medicine — the individual and caring way a physician encounters each patient — is widely regarded as an art. And in the darkest days of the pandemic, when human touch was feared, it risked becoming a lost one.

For people of faith, the art of medicine has another dimension — the transcendent presence of the Great Physician. One of my clients is a charity supporting a Christian missionary hospital in Kenya. Tenwek Hospital's motto reflects both responsibility and humility: *We Treat - Jesus Heals*.

Those four simple words echo my own faith in medicine's capabilities and God's providence. I owe my life to pioneers in pediatric cardiology and without question, God's healing presence. I have always believed my heart defect was a holy mark that infused my life with purpose. "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully

and wonderfully made." (Psalm 139:13-14)

My time at Providence helped me refine that purpose and equipped me — and all of us, I believe — to live with intention and gratitude through the closing quarter of the 20th century and the opening decades of a new millennium.

In this moment of reflection — looking back, glancing around, peering ahead — may we accept our human limits in a divinely created order and embrace the immeasurable grace we are offered. "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." (Psalm 73:26)

Patricia Slonina Vieira '75 is a poet and writer who served as the first female editor of Providence College's literary magazine, the Alembic. She was employed by the college for more than 20 years and is a freelance writer and editor, specializing in strategic communications for nonprofits. Two of her daughters, Jessica (Vieira) Vincent '05 and Whitney (Vieira) Tondreau '09, are alumni.



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NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR

Ed Cooley leads the Friars to the Sweet Sixteen / Page 34