

SPRING 2021

PROVIDENCE

COLLEGE MAGAZINE



Top of her **GAME**

Kirsten Fleming '00
ON DORIS BURKE '87



FEATURED WRITERS

Peggy Martin Weber '76
ON LEGACY

Jane Lunin Perel '15 Hon.
ON TRANSFORMATION

Eva (Weston) Irby-Davis '75
ON DIFFERENCE

Martha Reynolds '80
ON MEMORY

Ann Manchester-Molak '75
ON CHANGE



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MAGAZINE

IN THIS ISSUE

03 BLACK AND WHITE BUZZ
An Extra Dose of Friar Spirit

06 PC NEWS
College Developments

42 FRIARTOWN
Athletics Features & News

48 CONNECTIONS
Alumni Features, News, & Class Notes

60 IN MEMORIAM
Remembering Our Friars

64 THE LAST WORD
A Catholic and Dominican Perspective

On the covers:
FRONT: Doris Burke '87, '92G, '05Hon.
Photo by David E. Klutho.
REAR: Detail of "Mrs. Slavin" statue.
Photo by Chris Judge.

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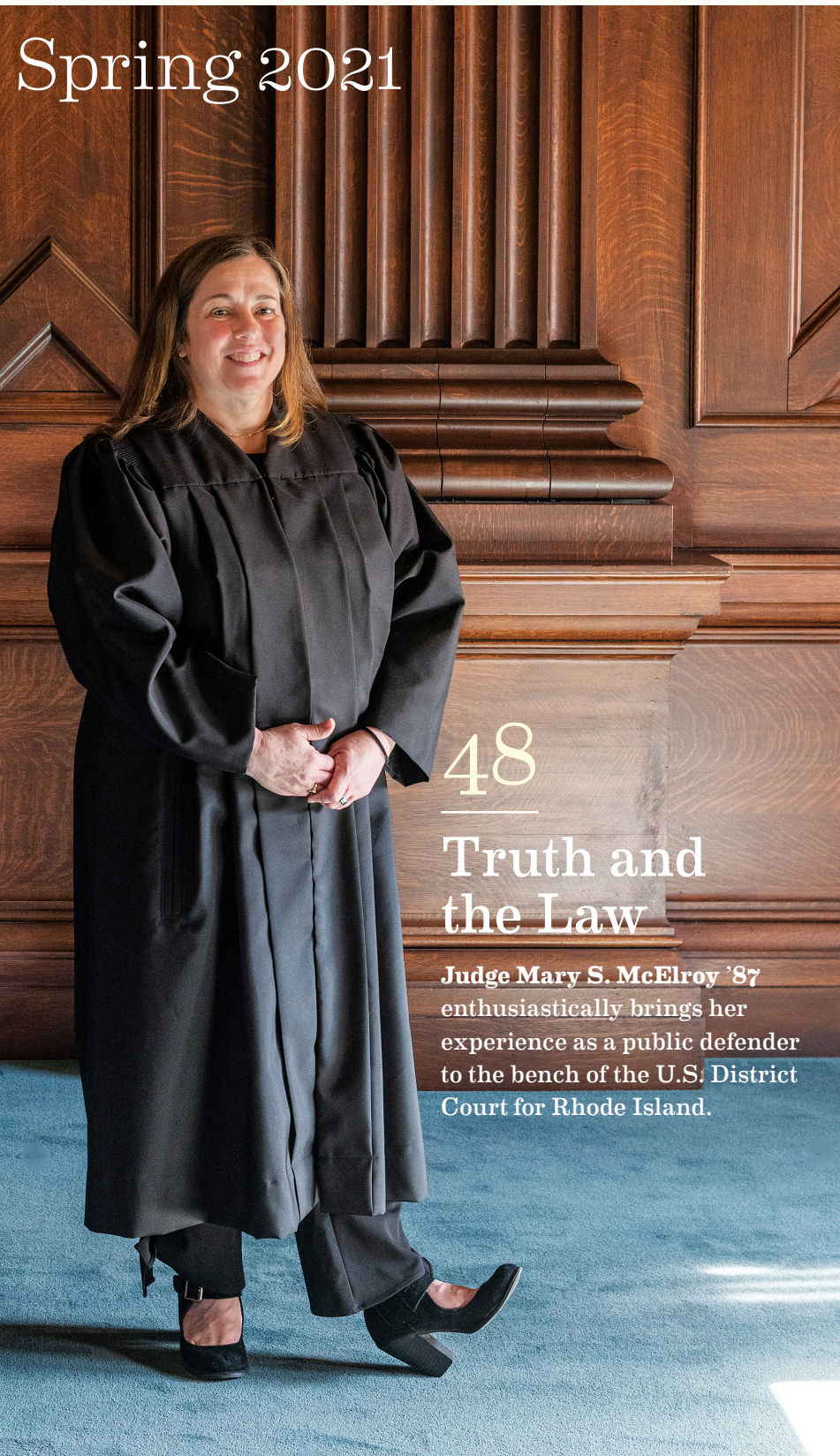
District I



2021 SILVER AWARD

Awarded for creative excellence in the production of the Fall 2019 and Summer 2020 issues.

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE SPRING 2021

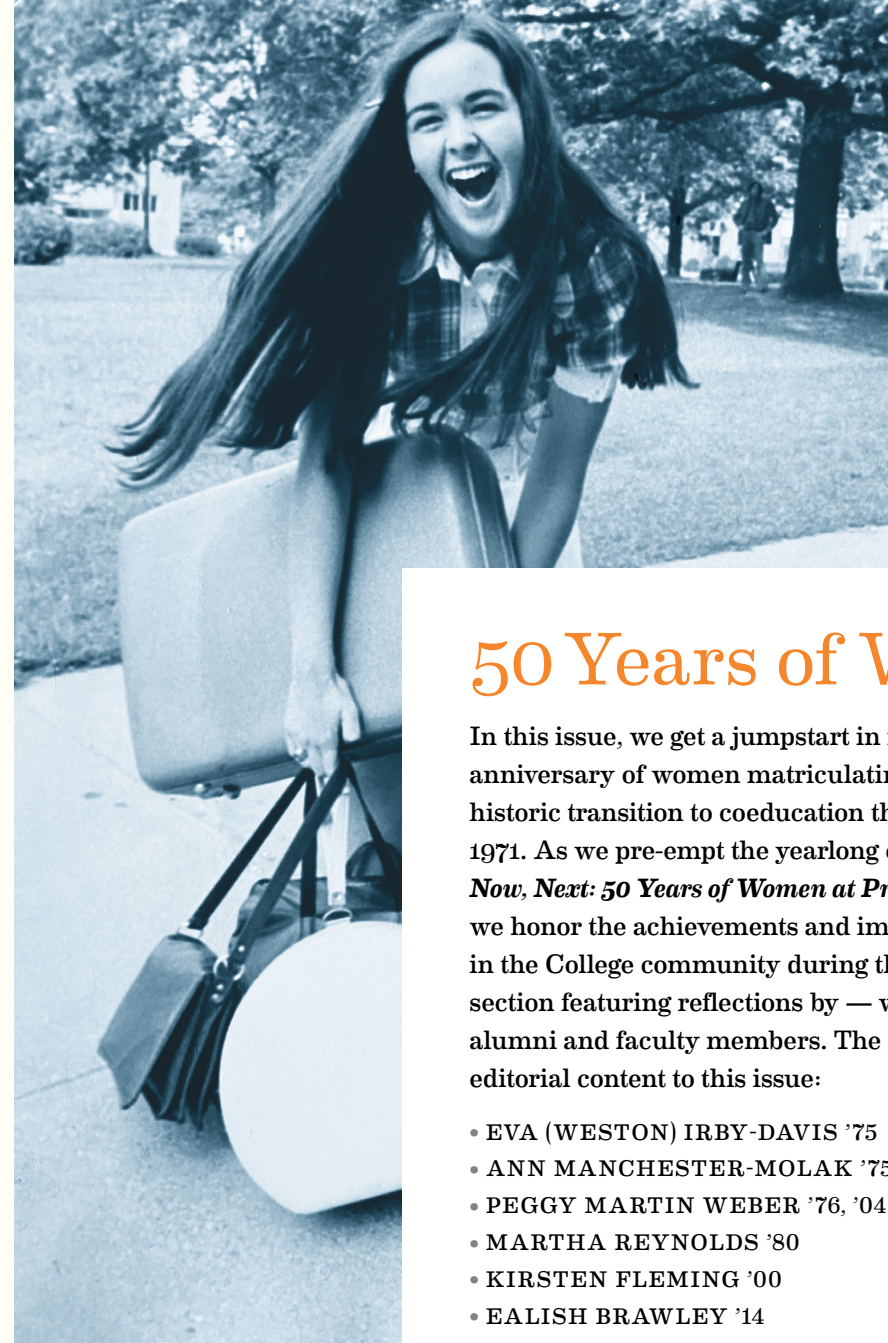


Spring 2021

48

Truth and the Law

Judge Mary S. McElroy '87 enthusiastically brings her experience as a public defender to the bench of the U.S. District Court for Rhode Island.



50 Years of Women

In this issue, we get a jumpstart in recognizing the 50th anniversary of women matriculating as students — a historic transition to coeducation that occurred in fall 1971. As we pre-empt the yearlong celebration of “*Then, Now, Next: 50 Years of Women at Providence College,*” we honor the achievements and impact of all women in the College community during that time in a special section featuring reflections by — who else — women alumni and faculty members. The following contributed editorial content to this issue:

- EVA (WESTON) IRBY-DAVIS '75
- ANN MANCHESTER-MOLAK '75, '11P
- PEGGY MARTIN WEBER '76, '04P, '06P, '10P
- MARTHA REYNOLDS '80
- KIRSTEN FLEMING '00
- EALISH BRAWLEY '14
- PROF. JANE LUNIN PEREL '15HON.

18



WELCOME TO FRIARTOWN!

With excitement on their faces and belongings in their arms and hands, a group of the first undergraduate women to move onto campus make their way to their rooms on Sept. 7, 1971. See the tribute section on "50 Years of Women at PC" beginning on page 18.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF PC ARCHIVES



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REUNION 2021 UPDATE

Dear Reunion Alumni: Details on the reunion 2021 celebration continue to evolve, based on the health and safety guidelines of the State of Rhode Island. Please visit providence.edu/reunion for up-to-date plans and information.



BUZZ

BLACK AND WHITE

PHOTO BY ALEXANDER NESBITT

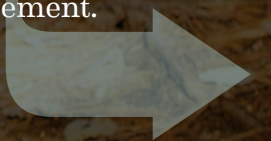


Luke Ventola '23 of Friar Divers stands on dry ground after completing his open water certification dive at Bigelow Hollow State Park in Connecticut in October 2019.

Immersed in another world

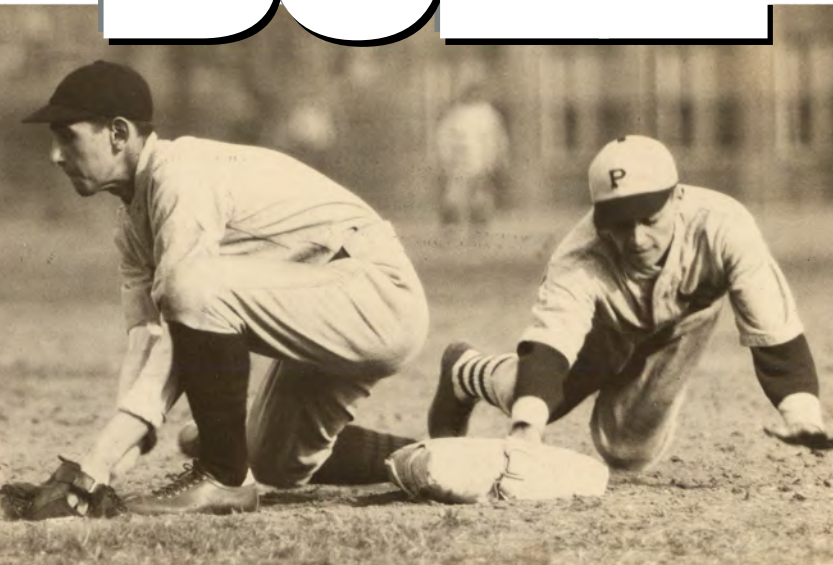
UNDER WATER IS THE ONLY PLACE the close-knit Friar Divers want to be. Founded in fall 2013 by Danny Hentz '17, the scuba diving club is 31 members strong — 16 women and 15 men — though it's currently on pause due to the pandemic. A total of 101 students have been certified as divers, through campus classes and training, as well as open water dives in salt and fresh water — all overseen by instructors from Enfield Scuba & Watersports in Connecticut. Advanced-training trips to places like Florida and the Grand Cayman Islands are another club enticement.

▶ READ MORE: PROV.LY/PC-LONG-READS



BUZZ

BLACK AND WHITE



Dr. Rachael E. Bonoan with a swarm of bees



Defensive decorating

In December, **DR. RACHAEL E. BONOAN**, assistant professor of biology who studies insect pollinators, discussed with *The New York Times* recent research on “fecal spotting,” a phenomenon in which Southeast Asian honeybees put animal manure around the entrances to their hives to ward off giant hornets in the genus *Vespa*. This genus includes 2020’s infamous “murder hornets.” “We think of bees visiting pretty flowers and collecting sweet nectar,” she told *The Times*. “This is the complete antithesis to that.”



Diamond tribute emerges from independent study

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AFTER the founding of the Providence College baseball team, and 22 years after the team’s final game, Thomas Zinzarella ’21 (West Hartford, Conn.) has created a 27-minute video tribute to the Friars. Zinzarella’s documentary, created through an independent study with Rev. Kenneth Gumbert, O.P., professor of film studies in theatre, focuses on the Friars’ final season, when they won the BIG EAST title and qualified for the NCAA tournament. Among those interviewed: former coach Charlie Hickey, former athletic trainer John Rock, now PC senior associate athletic director, and players Marc DesRoches ’99, Scott Palmieri ’97, and UConn transfer Mike Scott.

► LEARN MORE AND WATCH THE FILM: [PROV.LY/PC-LONG-READS](https://prov.ly/pc-long-reads)

THE HILLBILLY THOMISTS

Bluegrass-loving friars

DOMINICANS AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE and elsewhere have taken their love for music to a charts-worthy level. The Hillbilly Thomists, including associate chaplain Rev. Peter Gautsch, O.P. and assistant chaplain Rev. Justin Bolger, O.P., are a bluegrass band of friars that released its second album on the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas in January. “Living For the Other Side” was briefly ranked #1 for new folk releases on Amazon. The Thomists even have their own website (hillbillythomists.com) and video. In fact, inspired by the band, several PC Dominicans took to the streets around campus in a golf cart during the fall semester to play, sing, and spray holy water for COVID-19-weary students.



► LEARN MORE ON THE PC PODCAST: [PROV.LY/PC-LONG-READS](https://prov.ly/pc-long-reads)

PHOTOS OPPOSITE PAGE: BASEBALL ACTION: COURTESY OF PC ARCHIVES. DR. RACHAEL E. BONOAN AND BEES: SHUTTERSTOCK. THIS PAGE: HILLBILLY THOMISTS: COURTESY OF DOMINICAN PROVINCE OF ST. JOSEPH. MOTIF COVER: NAT REA.



INSPIRING cover art

ART BY ANJEL NEWMANN, a PC master’s in urban teaching student and graduate assistant at The Center at Moore Hall, graced the cover of the February 2021 issue of *Motif*, a Rhode Island arts and entertainment magazine, in honor of Black History Month. Newman is director of programs at AS220, a Providence arts non-profit. She was chosen to be the face of the arts organization for a mural by artist Shepard Fairey. ❧



Dr. Iain Bernhoft, visiting faculty in English, leads a class at the outdoor classroom at Hickey Hall



“WILL LIFE ON CAMPUS BE EXACTLY LIKE IT WAS BEFORE THE PANDEMIC? NO, BUT GOD WILLING, IT WILL BE VERY CLOSE.” —COLLEGE PRESIDENT REV. KENNETH R. SICARD, O.P. '78, '82G



The academic year: triumph over typical

Academic year 2020-21 wasn't a typical one at Providence College, but students found ways to thrive despite mandatory mask mandates, social distancing, and twice-weekly COVID-19 testing.

The fall semester brought new outdoor teaching spaces, movies and food trucks on the Slavin Center lawn, and picnics featuring take-out meals from Raymond Dining Hall. Contact-less intramural sports resumed. Free T-shirts, pumpkins, pizza, apple cider doughnuts, and coffee were perks of a fall campus festival.

As the cold weather arrived, students were able to reserve fire-pit tables on Slavin lawn. They worked out in Concannon Fitness Center by booking one-hour workout blocks through an app and wearing masks even when using cardio equipment. Beginning in March, limited numbers of students were allowed to attend outdoor athletic competitions for lacrosse, men's and women's soccer, and men's and women's track and field.

Student services adjusted as well. The Personal Counseling Center offered 24-hour crisis counseling and virtual support. The Office of Academic Services

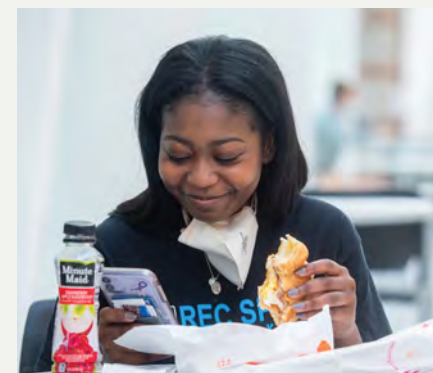


Elizabeth Reynolds '23, left, shares a table outside Slavin Center with friends.

switched to a virtual platform to provide tutoring, writing, and disability assistance. The Office of Career Education and Professional Development hosted a Find a Friar networking series that drew 100 alumni and 400 students to 21 virtual programs over eight days.

College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G has announced plans for a fully in-person semester in fall 2021.

“Will life on campus be exactly like it was before the pandemic?” asked Father Sicard in a message to the College community. “No, but God willing, it will be very close, and that is an exciting prospect for all of us.”



Clockwise, from top right: I Cantori and Concert Chorale members practice in a new outdoor classroom space on the Smith Center quad. Peterson Recreation Center was repurposed for COVID-19 testing of students, staff, and faculty throughout the academic year. Yolanda Lewis '24 enjoys the company of friends during lunch in Raymond Dining Hall. Jacob Conway '24 takes advantage of the Slavin Center lounge as a homework space. A family takes a break from Move-In Day duties. Isabelle Ganley '23 studies near Calabria Plaza.

PHOTOS THIS PAGE: STOP SIGN: ASHLEY MCCABE. PROFESSOR: KEVIN TRIMMER. THREE STUDENTS: ASHLEY MCCABE. OPPOSITE PAGE: STUDENT STUDIES OUTSIDE: ASHLEY MCCABE. FAMILY: CHRIS JUDGE '05, '07G. STUDENT STUDIES INSIDE: ASHLEY MCCABE. STUDENT DINING: ASHLEY MCCABE. TESTING CENTER: CHRIS JUDGE '05, '07G. STUDENTS SING: KEVIN TRIMMER.



Dr. Laurie Santos



Duane Bouligny '94



John Chan '74



Emily D. Leary



E. James Mulcahy Jr. '66

director/leveraged finance, Wells Fargo Securities; John Chan '74, restaurateur, music promoter, painter, and photographer; Emily D. Leary, humanitarian and philanthropist; and E. James Mulcahy Jr. '66, trustee *emeritus* and retired managing director/complex manager, Morgan Stanley.

At the SCE and graduate ceremony, the guest speaker will be Adam Benjamin '91, the CEO and co-founder of UpperCampus, a career discovery organization focused on connecting high school and college students with universities and employers that match their career goals.

"I am delighted that we will be able to provide the Class of 2021 with an in-person commencement experience," said College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G.

"While the setting will be different from what we have become used to, the ceremony will continue those traditions we hold most dear, including individual recognition for each student, a commencement speaker, and the presentation of honorary degrees. I have no doubt that it will reflect in glorious ways the trademark Providence College resiliency and spirit that have been tested but remain unbroken after many months of challenges."

In a January survey, members of the class indicated that having an in-person ceremony was their top commencement priority. A Commencement Mass is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, at 4:30 p.m.

PC will honor the Class of 2020, which received its degrees virtually last May, during an event at the 2021 Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 1-3. The social event will include elements of a typical commencement ceremony, including the opportunity for class members to cross a stage and be recognized and a keynote address. ❧



Taiwo Adefiyiju-Monwuba '14 felt compelled to return to her alma mater to work directly with students of color.

Taiwo Adefiyiju-Monwuba '14 returns to Friartown

BY LIZ F. KAY / PHOTO BY NAT REA

Though her job titles have changed several times since Taiwo Adefiyiju-Monwuba '14 returned to Providence College, her goal has never wavered — to help fellow Friars tell their stories and to feel like they belong.

The Providence native majored in health policy and management, but experience as a resident assistant and as a leader of the African-American Society and Board of Multicultural Student Affairs ultimately led her to choose student affairs as a career.

After Adefiyiju-Monwuba spoke with Dr. Wanda Ingram '75, senior associate dean of undergraduate studies; Karen Vargas, then associate dean of admission; and Dr. Steven Sears, now vice president for student affairs and dean of students, she chose Loyola University Chicago for her master's degree in higher education administration.

Days before commencement, however, her family's home caught fire. No one was injured, but their house was destroyed. Adefiyiju-Monwuba thought she should stay, but her PC support network convinced

her she couldn't let this tragedy derail her plans.

While hunting for post-graduate school jobs, Adefiyiju-Monwuba learned about student activism on PC's campus, including a sit-in in the president's office, and knew she wanted to return.

"I wanted to change that experience for students of color ... I don't want them to feel so defeated, undermined, not supported, not having a sense of belonging," she said.

As the adviser for the Board of Multicultural Student Affairs in the Office of Student Activities and Cultural Programming, Adefiyiju-Monwuba found herself offering unofficial career advice. After a year, she became a career coach for the Center for Career Education and Professional Development, helping liberal arts and science majors understand their identities and its impact on their ambitions.

Then Adefiyiju-Monwuba, whose family is Nigerian, began assisting students with mental health concerns who had grown up in cultures in which prayer is considered the only solution — not therapy or anything else — and helping them understand the value of counseling. "We are the generation that can make that change," she said.

Two years later, Adefiyiju-Monwuba joined the Office of the Dean of Students as an assistant dean and director of cultural education, where she can pursue all her passions: working with student organizations, coaching, and supporting students' mental health needs.

In fall 2020, Adefiyiju-Monwuba started a doctorate in educational leadership at Johnson & Wales University. Her dissertation focuses on helping students of color create a sense of belonging at predominantly white institutions, as well as storytelling.

"If you heard my story, you would see where my passion, where my strength, comes from. It was because of that fire, my family, and most of all, my faith," she said. ❧

Concannons' \$2M gift to endow fitness center, scholarships for underrepresented students

BY VICKI-ANN DOWNING

A \$2 million gift to Providence College from trustee William F. Concannon '77 and Claudia Concannon will establish a \$1 million endowment for the Concannon Fitness Center and a \$1 million scholarship fund to close the financial gap for underrepresented students.

"This wonderful gift exemplifies the commitment and generosity that have made Bill and Claudia leaders committed to Providence College and its mission," said College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G. "Their investment will help Concannon Fitness Center continue as a shining beacon for our students, while also supporting priority initiatives related to access and to diversity, equity, and inclusion. I am grateful for their support and for this indelible signal of their faith in Providence College and our aspirations for the institution's future."

In 2007, Bill and Claudia Concannon's lead gift of \$2 million made possible the construction of the Concannon Fitness Center, a two-story, 23,000-square-foot facility that quickly became a favorite of students, faculty, and staff. The Concannon gift was the largest in College history at the time supporting a fitness and athletics initiative, and it was the first major gift in the presidency of Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. '80.

With their second \$2 million gift, the Concannons are signaling their confidence in Father Sicard, who became the College's 13th president last year. It was the first principal gift of his presidency.

Bill Concannon is global group president, clients and business partners, at CBRE, a commercial real estate



William F. Concannon '77 and Claudia Concannon are supporting the fitness and health of the College community and providing financial assistance to underrepresented students in their latest \$2 million gift to PC.

"I WAS FORTUNATE ... TO HAVE THE PC DOOR OPENED TO ME, AND I WANT TO ENSURE THAT OTHERS CAN HAVE THAT EXPERIENCE."

—WILLIAM F. CONCANNON '77

services and investment firm headquartered in Dallas. He serves as a member of the trustees' Building and Property Committee and the Development and Alumni Affairs Committee. He also was a trustee from 2002-2010.

"I've had a career in business leadership, so the first quality I think about is a person's fit for the role," Concannon said. "Father Shanley and Father Sicard share a deep understanding of the PC experience because they were both students at PC. But like any two leaders, each has his own unique way of leading."

"The timing of this presidential transition in a pandemic has allowed the skills of Father Sicard to shine through. His empathy, the pace of his decision-making, and his readiness to take on the level of decision-making necessary to keep the campus and students safe have been impressive."

Their decision to allocate \$1 million to endow the fitness center ensures that it will be a state-of-the-art facility for years to come.



The Concannons' decision to allocate \$1 million to endow the Concannon Fitness Center ensures its future as a state-of-the-art facility for students and other members of the College community.

"One of the elements of my career focus has been managing commercial office properties for clients. Maintenance and repairs of real estate is part of that," Concannon said. "You don't just own what you own, you take care of what you own. Claudia and I also appreciated that fitness and health are important to everyone."

The \$1 million in scholarship money will establish the William '77 and Claudia Concannon '08P Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will award scholarships each year to deserving students whose financial aid package does not meet all of their demonstrated need. Closing the financial gap for underrepresented students, including first-generation college students and students of color, is near to Concannon's heart. The son of Irish immigrants, he was a first-generation student himself.

"I was fortunate at a key moment in high school to have the PC door opened to me, and I want to ensure that others can have that experience," Concannon said. "Father Sicard has wanted to advance admission in a way that allows underrepresented students to have a path to experience Providence College. Given my background, it was an easy choice."

Concannon worked as a resident assistant in Guzman Hall and in campus security to help afford his education. He studied accountancy but also loved philosophy. He captained the club football team, a competitive squad that traveled to play in New England and New York.

Claudia Concannon is a graduate of the University of Connecticut. On their second date they watched the Friars play UConn in basketball. "The Huskies won, and she does not let me forget it," Bill said. The couple will celebrate their 39th wedding anniversary this year and are the parents of three, including Molly Concannon Denihan '08.

"It's a nice feeling to have your spouse by your side all these years in the role of giving back to PC," Concannon said. "Claudia is inspired to help people advance themselves through education. She has supported giving to PC as our way of recognizing how much the college experience meant to me and how important it is to give back to others in order to provide a foundation for the future. We both hope our gift will inspire others to give and to financially support the priorities of Father Sicard." ❧

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE: COURTESY OF WILLIAM F. CONCANNON '77 AND CLAUDIA CONCANNON. OPPOSITE PAGE: ASHLEY MCCABE.

Black Studies Program marks 25th anniversary



Dr. Zophia Edwards

Providence College's Black Studies Program commemorated the 25th anniversary of its founding during the 2020-21 academic year with a series of virtual events inspired by the theme, "Remembrance, Resistance, and Revolution." Among the highlights was an event including alumni and students, "#PCBreakTheSilence."

The celebration comes during a pandemic that has had significant impact on communities of color, and after nationwide protests last summer over racial injustice, sparked by outrage over police violence. As Dr. Zophia Edwards, assistant professor of sociology and Black Studies Program director, wrote in the Fall 2020 issue of *Heritage*, the program's journal, "Black studies at Providence College remains needed now just as much as it was needed when it was started."

In the 1990s, students and faculty advocated for the creation of the program to address gaps and structural problems in the College's curriculum. In 1995, the Black Studies Program was established, offering a Black studies minor. Dr. Cyril Daddieh, professor of political science, was its first director.

Hear Edwards discuss the program's history and future, student activism, and more on the Providence College Podcast: prov.ly/black-studies-25

Magazine honored with silver award from CASE

Providence College received four honors in the 2021 District 1 Excellence Awards competition of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, known as CASE. The honors represent work produced by the Division of Marketing and Communications and the Office of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations.

A silver award went to *Providence College Magazine* for the Fall 2019 and Summer 2020 issues.

Gold honors went to PC's new virtual alumni events program, Friar T.I.E.S., in the category of "Alumni Relations in a Pivot." *Welcome Home*, a film featured at a recognition event for PC donors, also received a silver award. An invitation designed for Homecoming Weekend 2019 earned a silver award as well.



PC wins BIG EAST Startup title

Providence College topped 10 other BIG EAST schools to win the 2021

BIG EAST Startup Challenge, an annual competition in which student teams pitch product ideas to a judging panel of experienced entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, and BIG EAST alumni.

Owen Delaney '22 (Hopkinton, Mass.), a finance major; Jacquelyn Ryan '21 (Acton, Mass.), a history major; and Faith Linscott '21 (Tucson, Ariz.), a psychology major, won first place and \$750 for "UMeal," a meal kit that can be assembled from ingredients in a college dining hall and prepared in a student room. They were advised by Eric E. Sung, associate professor of photography and director of the Business and Innovation Minor Program.

PC's team took third place in the inaugural competition in 2019. Last year's event was canceled.

PC retains #1 ranking

Providence College was ranked #1 in the 2021 *U.S. News & World Report* annual college and universities rankings, "America's Best Colleges." PC was tops in the "Regional Universities - North" category with a perfect score of 100, tied with Bentley University. The College also was ranked #1 in 2020.

This year, PC also was #1 for "Best Undergraduate Teaching," #10 in "Best Value Schools," and tied for #15 in "Most Innovative Schools." The College's 93% first-year retention rate was second-highest among the top 10 colleges and universities in its category.



Rev. Jordan Zajac, O.P. '04, rear center, was the main celebrant for the RCIA Mass held at St. Pius V Church last November.

RCIA program overcomes pandemic

Students who were on track to receive the sacraments last spring through Campus Ministry's Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program were successful despite being interrupted by the pandemic.

Five students in the Class of 2020 received the sacraments during the summer in their home parishes. In September, Most Rev. Thomas J. Tobin, D.D., bishop of Providence, confirmed 15 students in St. Dominic Chapel. In early November, Rev. Jordan Zajac, O.P. '04, now visiting faculty in English and a former member of the Campus Ministry staff, was named the bishop's delegate to confer the sacraments on 10 alumni in St. Pius V Church, across from campus.

It was a special moment for Father Jordan and the newest members of the Church. They had begun their RCIA training with him in the fall of 2019, then watched his priestly ordination via livestream from St. Dominic Chapel in May 2020.

Goldwater selects Agostino '22

Colby Agostino '22 (Andover, Mass.), a double major in biochemistry and computer science and a member of the Liberal Arts Honors Program, was named a Goldwater Scholarship recipient for 2021-2022. The Goldwater award is the most prestigious undergraduate scholarship in mathematics, natural sciences, and engineering in the United States.

Agostino was one of 410 students chosen from 1,256 nominees this year. He is the second PC student in two years to receive the honor. Emma McLaughlin '20, an applied physics major, now is a Ph.D. student at Columbia University.

RCIA PHOTO: STEW MILNE



Fulbright 'top producer' again

Providence College was named a top producer of Fulbright students for the second consecutive year, an honor acknowledged in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. PC was listed in the master's category of colleges and universities that produced the most students for the competitive Fulbright U.S. Students Program, which awards fellowships to graduating college seniors, graduate students, professionals, and artists to study, conduct research, or teach abroad.

Four PC students were offered Fulbright Teaching Assistantships for the 2020-21 academic year, the most in any single year.

Pair chosen Vision Award honorees

Dr. Saaid Mendoza, assistant professor of psychology, and Christina Roca '21 (Stamford, Conn.), a double major in global studies and sociology, were chosen as the 2021 recipients of the College's Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Vision Award. This annual award honors individuals or groups who exemplify the teachings, spirit, and principles Dr. King embodied: social justice, advocacy, equality, human rights, the promotion of faith, and freedom.

As a faculty-in-residence member for the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Mendoza provides educational talks across campus, consults on assessment initiatives, and helps oversee DEI training opportunities for students, faculty, and staff. He is the principal investigator of the Social Perception & Attitudes Lab, which trains undergraduates to conduct experimental research on intergroup biases.

Roca has been a dream coach for the Transitions Pre-Orientation program for the past three years, serving as a mentor for first-generation and students of color in their transition to college. She was a co-facilitator of a global service-learning course, Global Border Crossings in Tijuana, Mexico, during the spring 2019 semester and serves as president of the Providence Immigrant Rights Coalition student club at PC. ➡

Abdul-Jabbar highlights MLK Convocation



Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, athlete, political activist, and advocate for education, was the featured speaker at Providence College's fourth annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation in February. Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's all-time leading scorer, six-time champion, and only six-time MVP, was presented with

the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, by President Barack Obama in 2016.

Abdul-Jabbar spoke to PC students, faculty, staff, and alumni via Zoom. The discussion was moderated by Julia Murphy '21 (Pittsfield, Mass.), a political science major, member of the softball team, and president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Council, and David Duke Jr. '22 (Providence, R.I.), a business major and member of the men's basketball team, who later left the program to enter the NBA Draft.

Trustees form diversity panel

The Board of Trustees has established a committee dedicated to overseeing the College's diversity efforts. The Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, established in the fall of 2020, will ensure that the College's commitment to those ideals, as defined by Catholic teaching and St. Dominic's wide embrace of all people, informs all facets of the academic and social life of the campus community.

Members include trustees Andre E. Owens '85, Christopher K. Reilly '84, Rev. Francis Belanger, O.P. '99G, and Maureen Davenport Corcoran '79; faculty members Dr. Christopher Arroyo, professor of philosophy, and Dr. Alexander Orquiza, assistant professor of history; community representative Marta Martinez '79, '19Hon.; and students Joseph Adeboyeaga '21 and Sabrina Mercado '23.

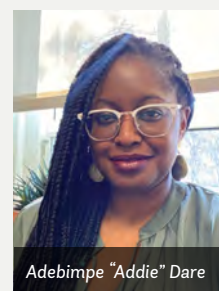
College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G and Executive Vice President Ann Manchester-Molak '75 are members, along with Jacqueline Peterson, special

advisor to the president for IDEI, and Rev. James Cuddy, O.P. '98, vice president for mission and ministry.

Panel to advise the president and cabinet on racism

College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G has established the Presidential Committee to Address Systemic Racism, which will advise him and the cabinet on effective practices and strategies to eradicate systemic racism and ensure the fulfillment of the PC200 Strategic Plan.

Members include Jacqueline Peterson, special advisor to the president for IDEI; Dr. Bret Cormier, associate professor of education; Dr. Maureen C. Outlaw, associate professor of sociology and of women's and gender studies; Dr. Robert G. Hasson III, assistant professor of social work; Wendy McRae-Owoeye, assistant vice president for human resources; Pam Tremblay, campus minister; and students Beah Cyrus '22, Haley Gervino '22, and Ernest Frimpong '22.



New dean for multicultural student success

Adebimpe "Addie" Dare was named assistant dean/director of multicultural student success in the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies in February. She will direct academic advising and mentoring of multicultural and first-generation students, oversee the Multicultural Scholarship Program, and collaborate with other divisions to coordinate the Transitions Program and the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation.

Dare previously worked at Manhattanville College as director of the Center for Inclusion and director of the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership. She holds a master's degree in intercultural relations from Lesley University and a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. ❧

Dr. Cornely named first Robert H. Walsh '39 Endowed Professor

Dr. Kathleen Cornely, a professor of chemistry and biochemistry at Providence College for more than 25 years, has been appointed the Robert H. Walsh '39 Endowed Professor in Chemistry and Biochemistry, the College's first endowed chair in the sciences.

The professorship was created through a \$6.5 million bequest to the College from Robert H. Walsh '39, '66Hon., who died in 2011. Mr. Walsh earned degrees in business and chemistry from PC before beginning a 40-year career with DuPont Chemical Corp.

The Walsh professor must exemplify excellence in teaching, maintain a program of research involving undergraduates, and present scholarship at leading conferences.

Cornely, who will serve a three-year term, was the unanimous choice of her colleagues for the position.

"I am honored to be the first recipient of the Robert H. Walsh '39 Endowed Professorship," said Cornely. "I aspire to live up to the legacy Mr. Walsh established."

"During her time at the College, Dr. Cornely has nearly single-handedly shepherded our biochemistry curriculum, tirelessly devoted her energy to innovative pedagogy in the classroom, and productively mentored students in the research laboratory," said Dr. Kenneth Overly, associate professor of chemistry and department chair. "Choosing Dr. Cornely as the inaugural Walsh professor most genuinely honors Mr. Walsh's wishes and fittingly rewards Dr. Cornely's contributions to the College and our students."

Cornely holds a Ph.D. in nutritional biochemistry from Cornell University. A member of the PC faculty since 1992, she specializes in mycobacterial phage — bacteria-killing viruses commonly found in soil.



Professor's NSF grant a first on two fronts

Dr. Jessica Mulligan, professor of health policy and management, has received a collaborative research award from the National Science Foundation that is unprecedented on two College levels.

The grant is especially significant because it marks the first large-scale, federal research award to a faculty member in the Department of Health Policy and Management. It also is the first NSF award that a program in the School of Professional Studies has received. NSF is highly competitive, typically funding less than 25% of submitted proposals.

Mulligan's project, "Ethics of Care and Compounded Disaster," merited a \$173,048 grant over three years and is a collaborative initiative with Kalamazoo College in Michigan.

The project will document how health care workers respond emotionally to major natural disasters, care for patients in such crises, and work to rebuild health care systems following a natural disaster. Mulligan's project focus is Puerto Rico, whose infrastructure was devastated by the Category 4 Hurricane Maria in 2017.

"One of our main goals is to understand what motivates and inspires them (health care workers) to keep doing the work that they're doing," said Mulligan, who took a group of students to Puerto Rico in 2018 to conduct preliminary research and who will continue to oversee students for the grant portion of the project. ❧



Dr. Kathleen Cornely, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, works in her phage research lab with Ethan Dionne '22, left, and Colby Agostino '22.

PHOTO: DR. KATHLEEN CORNELLY IN PHAGE LAB. JUSTIN JAMES MUIR.

Top-scholar honors presented to trio for achievements

Congratulations to these Providence College faculty for recognition of their achievements as scholars and educators during the past two academic years:



• Dr. Thomas F. Strasser, professor of art history, is the recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Scholar Award for 2021. His research focuses on Aegean prehistoric archaeology — roughly the Homeric period of Greece and Western Turkey, prior to approximately 776 B.C. — and makes special reference to the Cretan Stone Ages, island archaeology, and ancient seafaring. He has received more than \$298,000 in research funds since joining the PC faculty in 2005, from organizations such as the National Geographic Society, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.



• Dr. Anthony K. Jensen, professor of philosophy, was honored with the Outstanding Faculty Scholar Award for 2020. A specialist in late modern philosophy, especially the figures of Friedrich Nietzsche, Arthur Schopenhauer, and Goethe, he focuses thematically in philosophy of history, philosophy of psychology, and epistemology. Jensen has written three books and received five fellowships from organizations including the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Fulbright Foundation.



• Dr. Deborah I. Levine, associate professor of health policy and management, received the 2019-20 Joseph R. Accinno Faculty Teaching Award, the College's top teaching award. A medical historian, Levine focuses her research on the history of medicine, health, patient experience, health insurance, and disease. One of her students wrote: "Dr. Levine loves history and used this passion to make sure that students enjoyed these topics, as well. For insurance, she used very relevant current events to emphasize how important a topic this was."



Dr. Mary L. Bellhouse works with a student during the 2001-02 academic year.

Six faculty retire after nearly 200 years of service

Six full-time members of the ordinary faculty retired from teaching at the College at the end of the 2019-20 academic year. They enlightened the minds of thousands of students for a combined 196 years. Leading the ranks of service was Dr. Mary L. Bellhouse, professor of political science, who retired after 43 years. The retirees, by name, rank, year start date, and administrative roles (where applicable), are:

- **Dr. Mary L. Bellhouse***, professor of political science; 1977
- **Richard "Chard" deNiord**, professor of English; 1998
- **Dr. Deborah J. Johnson***, professor of art history and of women's and gender studies, 1988; director, Women's Studies Program, 2003-04
- **Dr. Patricia M. Lawlor***, professor of French; 1982; department chair, 2002-08, and acting director, Women's Studies Program, spring 2009
- **Judith M. Morse**, assistant professor of accountancy; 1989; department chair, 1997-2006, spring 2008, and spring 2015
- **Dr. David A. Zalewski***, professor of finance; 1990; department chair, 2019-2020
*Accorded emeritus status on July 1, 2020

Also retiring at the end of the 2019-20 academic year after contributing 50 years of service to PC as a part-time faculty member and administrator was **Rev. J. Stuart McPhail, O.P. '61**. Father McPhail taught as a special lecturer in theology for his final 13 years after serving as a special lecturer in history and religious studies earlier in his service. ☒

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ARCHIVES

Scholar Power

DR. MARGARET M. MANCHESTER '83G

TITLE: Associate professor of history and of women's and gender studies

HIGHEST DEGREE ATTAINED: Ph.D., Clark University

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: American women; Cold War; American diplomatic history

NEWSWORTHY: Manchester, whose family fled to western Europe during the Hungarian revolution when she was a toddler, is shifting her research from examining a Cold War spy case involving an American businessman in Hungary. She now is studying the ways in which American multinational corporations and business associations, such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, contributed to the formulation of America's Cold War policies.

She also received a 2020 Marion and Jasper Whiting Fellowship for her project, Peace and Reconciliation in the Middle East. With the funds, she will travel to religious and historic sites, including war memorials, cemeteries, and other monuments, in Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Jordan, and Egypt. She also will meet with local philanthropic organizations promoting interfaith dialogue and cross-cultural understanding to develop a Maymester course for PC students. The course will explore war and collective memory, living history, and peace and reconciliation efforts in the modern Middle East.

TRIPS OVERSEAS WITH STUDENTS: Germany, Poland, Hungary, and Japan (three times)

HOBBIES: Travel, gardening, golf, tennis, biking

YEARS AT PC: 26



“My goal as a historian and an instructor is to enable students to see the many ways in which historical, economic, and cultural forces shape the world in which we live.”

PHOTO: KEVIN TRIMMER



50

YEARS

of Women

AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE



IDENTIFICATIONS: NEXT PAGE



The way things were

▶ SEE MORE: PROV.LY/PC-LONG-READS

Portraits identifications on pages 18-19: Those depicted represent a cross-section of PC women alumni and others who exemplify the personal and professional accomplishments of tens of thousands of their fellow Friars over the decades.

First row, from left: Gertrude Alagero '86; Fay Rozovsky, J.D., M.P.H. '73, '08Hon.; Vicki Movsessian '94; Maegan Renaud '17; Dr. Aurelie Hagstrom '85; Helen Bert; Dr. Katherine Helming Walsh '09; Cammi Granato '93, '12Hon.; Marta Martinez '79, '19Hon.; Jermoh Kamara '15; Saadia Ahmad '14; Emily Benfer, J.D. '99.

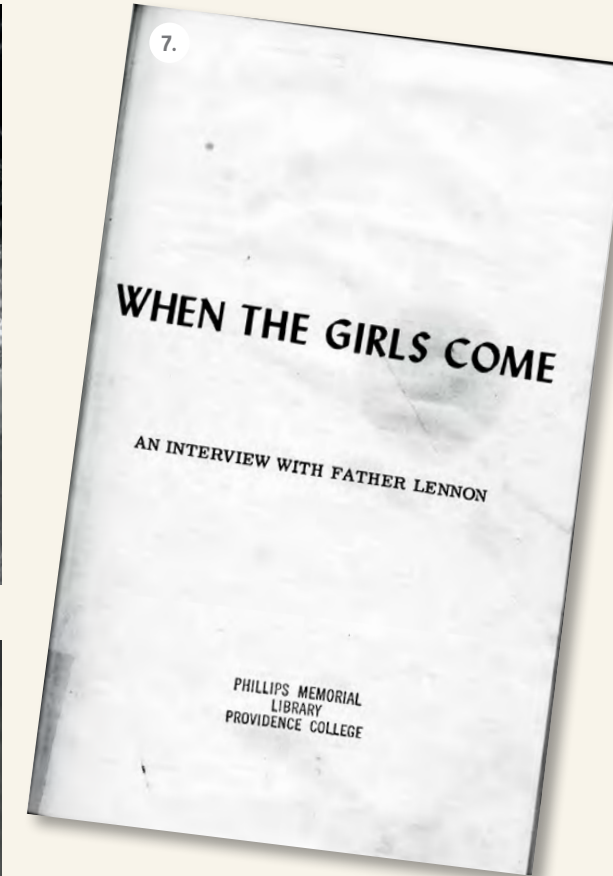
Second row: Cayleigh Griffin '14; Genevieve Lacasse '12; Catherine Little Bert '77; Yemery Villafana '17; Emma Burgess '18; Kate Kennedy '92; Sister Sophia Lopez, O.P. '05; Kim Smith '05; Sister Gail Himrod, O.P.

Third row: Sandra A. Miller '75; Brianna Munoz, D.M.D. '12; Emily Sisson '14; Dot Marcello; Junielly Vargas '21; Elizabeth Flynn-Lott '82, '17Hon.; Dr. Alison Espach '06; Hon. Maureen McKenna Goldberg '73, '09Hon.; Dr. Gladys Ganiel '99.

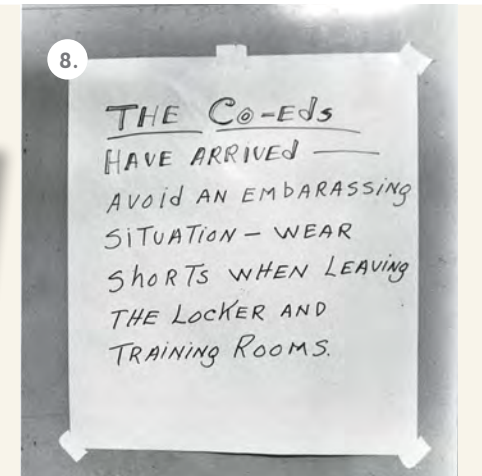
Fourth row: Jennifer Rivera '06SCE, '13G; Erin O'Malley '12; Katie Breen '08; Simran Madhani '18; Emma McLaughlin '20; Meghan K. Welsh '06; Nancy McNamara '84; Dr. Michelle Tolini Finamore '91; Dr. Terza Lima-Neves '00.

Fifth row: K.J. McSweeney '22; Ann Galligan Kelly, C.P.A. '78; Asha Ahmed '16; Joan Miller '18; Dr. Sally Thibodeau '66G; Dr. Donna McCaffrey '73G, '83Ph.D., '87G; Katherine Uchupailla (Martinez) '20; Sara DeCosta Hayes '00; Kathy Finn Hill '84.

Sixth row: Rosie Khalife '13; Dr. Jillian Rose '04; Dr. Constance Rousseau '80; Jeanine Justiniano, M.D. '16; Dr. Suzanne Fournier '77; Christine D'Auria Donovan '86; Mary-Pat Larkin Caputo '79; Phoebe Jean '18; Dr. (Col.) Lisa Thibault Schenck, J.D. '83, '18Hon.; Sheila Harrity '87; Emily Roblee, M.D. '13; Phuong Pham '19.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF PC ARCHIVES



1. Students get settled in a dorm room in September 1971.
2. Graduates march to Commencement Exercises at the War Memorial Grotto on May 27, 1975.
3. Students are interviewed during Freshman Orientation in 1971.
4. Students get acclimated at Freshman Orientation in 1971.
5. Members of one of the coeducational cheerleading teams in the early 1970s.
- 6.
7. The cover of the 1971 interview transcript with Rev. Joseph L. Lennon, O.P. '40, VP for community affairs.
8. A sign posted in Alumni Hall in 1971.
9. Male students at the referendum on coeducation in 1971.
10. A graduate accepts her diploma at Commencement Exercises on May 27, 1975. At left is PC President Very Rev. Thomas R. Peterson, O.P. '51, '85Hon., standing next to Most Rev. Louis E. Gelineau, D.D., bishop of Providence.

Transforming and Transformed by Providence College: 50 Years of Women

By Professor Emerita Jane Lunin Perel '15Hon.

For the Women Students, Faculty, Staff, Nuns, Administrators, Trustees, and Department and Program Directors, including Women's Athletics and the Women's and Gender Studies Program, without which the College would not have its striking, historical record of women's advancement and achievement. And, in recognition of our first Executive Vice President and Alumna of the Class of 1975, Ann Manchester-Molak.

WELCOMING CEREMONY — SEPTEMBER 1971

We lined up and climbed narrow stairs when each of our names was called on a loudspeaker or microphone, with our paper identities citing names and home states in magic marker swinging from our necks. Father Thomas Peterson, O.P. — of blessed memory — called each of us forward with the soft bonfire of his voice. We walked across that stage alone but bound by what I shall never forget: our exuberance and desire to learn, succeed, and fulfill the mission of the College, although we did not have the foresight then to know how it would shape us or we it.

Some of us felt a curl of dread, which is only human when facing the unknown. Some viewed us as a lamentation of swans alighting into a Holy Place. Our gender was a sign of difference. "Are they truly rational?" some questioned. Others thought that absurd, having been raised by powerful mothers and quick-witted sisters. There, I was dropped into this New World Order, only seven years older than the "cygnets" I was to teach. I became magnetized, seeking not mere intellectuals, but cosmic thinkers living within a spiritual dimension who welcomed me fully.

The students have always drawn from us whatever good lies in us with their own goodness, their humor, their pain, their need to seek their own intellectual and spiritual depths, and to gratefully accept the empathy and imagination given to them as Divine Gifts.

It is a privilege to celebrate these 50 years of women at the College and of the priests and laymen who accepted us, with whom we still strive to achieve and extend diversity, equity, and inclusion. Congratulations to all who have worked so diligently to reach this historic anniversary! I wish to extol all the students, faculty, staff, administrators, trustees, and workers in every capacity in the College's history, from its founders to those working toward its future, as well as to those who were, are, and will be nourished by Providence College, as it is written:

"We came to the land which You sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit." — NUMBERS 13:27 ❧

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ARCHIVES

JANE LUNIN PEREL '15HON.

Professor *emerita* Jane Lunin Perel, who received an honorary doctor of fine arts degree from Providence College in 2015, was the first poet hired to teach creative writing by the College's Department of English in 1971. During her career, she developed, along with others, the courses that would evolve into the minor and major in creative writing in poetry and fiction. She is the founding director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program. She also was the first formal director of the Providence College Poetry and Fiction Series. In 2014, her husband, Dr. Morton Perel, established the Jane Lunin Perel Poetry and Fiction Series, which brings distinguished writers to the College annually for readings and lively discussions. She retired in 2014.



Jane Lunin Perel '15Hon.
writes at her desk in 1977.



Peggy Martin Weber '76 is captured by a Providence Journal photographer after the handle of her sweater bag breaks and falls to the ground as she arrives at McDermott Hall on her first day at PC.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEGGY MARTIN WEBER '76

Coeds to Concannon:

Staying true through decades of change

BY PEGGY MARTIN WEBER '76, '04P, '06P, '10P

He, of course, had the last laugh as he got his candid photo and put me in the paper.

It was a strange and humbling beginning, but the rest of my years at PC were a joy. I loved my time there so much that I asked my oldest child, Kerry, to consider my *alma mater* when she began to look at colleges. She resisted but eventually gave in, and in the fall of 1999 we found ourselves strolling around Slavin Center. At the time the student mailboxes were located in the basement, exactly where they were when I was a student. I walked up to my old mailbox and tried the combination — middle of H, left side of V. The box opened. Kerry was horrified and amazed. She looked around as if we were going to be arrested. I laughed out loud to think the combination was the same from 27 years ago.

And then we saw something else that had not changed. We wandered toward Alumni Hall and heard music coming from the gym. It was the Mass for Freshman Parents' Weekend — sweet and solemn. Suddenly, I had tears in my eyes. We witnessed that the importance of faith was as strong as ever. Kerry must have seen this, too, because she decided to apply to the school.

I was among the second class of women admitted to PC, and female students — or coeds, as we were known — were in the minority. But long before the time Kerry moved her belongings into McVinney there were more women than men at PC. Back then, her hair dryer did not weigh 15 pounds. She did not yet have a cell phone and used the landline in her room to call home to talk of new friends and amazing professors. We even had some of the same great



ON MY SECOND DAY AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE IN 1972, the man who punched my meal card spoke to me like a dear friend. He smiled and said, "You're the girl from the newspaper."

I looked at him with confusion, an even greater look of confusion than the one I had been showing since becoming a college freshman. He told me my picture was on the front page of *The Providence Journal* and offered to bring the paper in the next day. But I didn't need to see the front page to know what would be depicted.

You see, my first day at PC began with another strange interaction. A *Providence Journal* photographer approached me as I arrived on campus. It was a bright, sunny Sunday and I was eager to move into my triple on the third floor of McDermott Hall. He asked me to stand next to my luggage for a picture. With all the wisdom of my 17 years and a full semester of high school journalism in my tool belt, I told the man that posed pictures were not the best and he should look around for a candid. We chatted. I told him my name and that I was from Springfield, Mass. I hoisted my under-the-bed sweater bag, purse, suitcase, hair dryer (which came in a case that was larger than some microwaves today), and my trusty electric typewriter. Then the handle broke on the sweater bag and everything slipped. I looked up to see the man snapping photos of me. I laughed and thought no more of it.



Peggy Martin Weber '76, second from right, and her husband, John, left, attend the Liberal Arts Honors Program Convocation in October 2014 with their children, from left, Matthew '06, Kerry '04, and Elizabeth '10. Kerry was the keynote speaker. All three Weber children are honors program graduates.

ones — Drs. Rodney Delasanta, Richard Grace, and Brian Barbour.

The campus underwent changes, and even the mailboxes found a new home. They were moved to Mural Lounge, a space I knew well. I worked there serving “continental breakfast.” The name sounds fancy but it was just coffee and donuts. My job was to punch the meal tickets of those attending. In addition to a paycheck I was given the name “Peggy Donut.” It was a tradition. I worked with my good friend, “Mary Donut.” Her job was to refill the trays of donuts and keep up the supply of paper plates. I loved that job and had a soft spot for the lounge. Kerry would often hear me bemoan the fact that Mural Lounge was now devoted to mailboxes.

“I used to go there at night for a snack. And I worked there every morning,” I would say. She would sigh and say, “Enough about the mailboxes!”



“Little did I know when I dropped my luggage outside of McDermott what would happen to me in the next four years of PC or the next five decades of my life.”

My son, Matthew, followed two years later. On our visits, I noticed that the cafeteria had a fancy waffle iron and more food choices than I ever had. But the kindness and sense of welcome from the staff were the same.

By the time my youngest child, Elizabeth, arrived on campus in 2006, laptops were the norm and everyone had cell phones. The new (Concannon) fitness center was nothing like the small exercise room female students had in my day. And I knew that no matter how many buildings changed on campus that PC was still a place that encouraged academic excellence and the pursuit of truth.

In my decades of connections with PC I saw many dramatic changes, especially with the expanding campus and services, but I also saw that it remained a community that stayed the course on what matters. St. Dominic Chapel was dedicated shortly after Kerry began at PC. It is a beautiful space, but I especially appreciate the way in which this “new” chapel incorporated a little alcove to pray for the PC women who died in the tragic fire on Dec. 13, 1977. Whenever I visit, I make a point of stopping there to pray for those women. This habit of remembering and praying transcends the years.

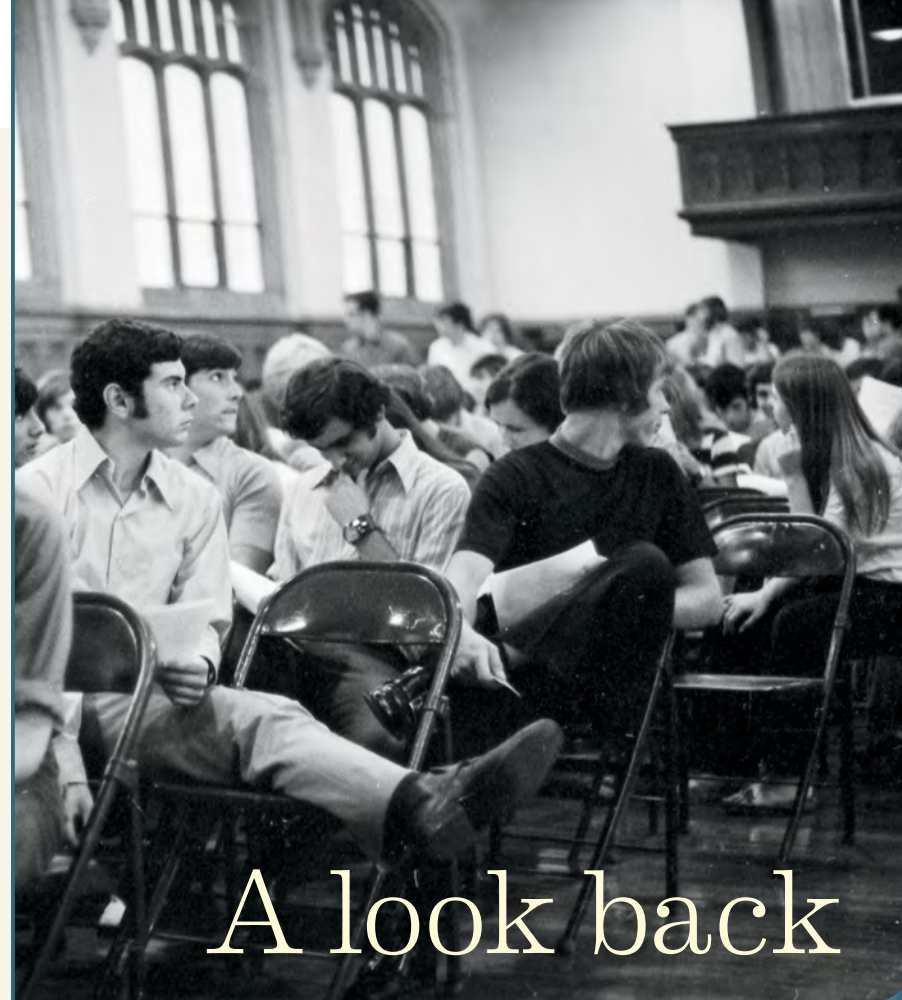
Each time I moved my children into their dorms, they arrived with different technology, personal items, and styles of clothing. (None of them, thank God, wore painter’s pants or overalls, as I did.) But they came with hopes, dreams, and a chance to become more. They also felt a deep sense of welcome, just as I did in 1972. And they, like me, left with a more mature faith life and a great education.

Little did I know when I dropped my luggage outside of McDermott what would happen to me in the next four years of PC or the next five decades of my life. So much has changed on campus and in the world, but PC is still a special place for faith and learning. I hope I live to see a few of my eight grandchildren graduate from there.

And I will even help them move into their dorms. ☞

Peggy Martin Weber '76, who majored in English and worked for The Cowl, is an award-winning journalist who spent most of her 37-year career in Catholic communications with the Diocese of Springfield, Mass. She is the author of the self-worth book Enough As You Are (Loyola Press; 2019).

PHOTO BY VICKI-ANN DOWNING



A look back

“Some Dominicans were not in favor. Some felt it would be a good experience for the school. And some thought it would make the College financially stable, help with student recruitment, and make the College stronger.”

—REV. J. STUART MCPHAIL, O.P. '61, FORMER SPECIAL LECTURER AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

“For several years, the young men were heavily affected by the prospect of being drafted and sent to Vietnam. The arrival of women lifted much of the somber atmosphere. They brought a brighter spirit to the campus.”

—DR. RICHARD J. GRACE '62, '17HON.; PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF HISTORY

“Women were an overwhelming success for the school.”

—PAUL A. LENAHAN '72, '77G, FRIARS CLUB PRESIDENT IN 1971-72

“I have fond memories. A lot of it had to do with the College going coed. I wouldn’t have met my wife if we hadn’t gone coed.”

—MICHAEL A. TROY '72, WHOSE WIFE, ELIZABETH, ATTENDED PC FROM 1971-73

“Women cleaned up the campus. Guys were more careful in their appearance ... in their clothing, and they would shave more often.”

—KEN RYAN '72, EX-FRIAR SOCCER TEAM CAPTAIN

“We got a lot more women on the board. They were much more interested than the men. I was thrilled at what they did. They introduced more arts events and performances, like concerts.”

—PAUL WHALEN '72, STUDENT CONGRESS SOCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR HIS JUNIOR AND SENIOR YEARS

“We are so much smarter and mature. We are so much more aware of challenges ... it was a reaction, a wakeup. It certainly saved the College.”

—MICHAEL J. DONOHUE, JR. '73, FORMER COWL EDITOR

“Many guys didn’t want to attend men’s-only colleges anymore. Thank goodness for the bravery of those women who chose to attend PC.”

—JIM HUGHES '73, MARRIED TO CHRISTINE (MAHONEY) HUGHES '75



Eva (Weston) Irby-Davis '75, right, celebrates with friends Brenda Chapman McGill '75, left, and Wanda Johnson Ingram '75 at their commencement on May 27, 1975.

THROUGH A different lens

BY EVA (WESTON) IRBY-DAVIS '75



COME, TAKE A WALK WITH ME. Time.

A celebration. 50 years in the making. Knowing what I know now, would I want to go back and do it again? I think not. Once lived is enough. We are older, grayer, and thicker, but for some the clock has not moved much. Same day, different time; it's all about time and reflection.

Make something good out of a bad situation. Rev. Robert A. Morris, O.P. '46, '82Hon., Dr. Pat MacKay '20Hon., and Dr. Rodney K. Delasanta '53, among many others, created the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Program after Dr. King's assassination in 1968. It was a time to help promising students of color, who may not otherwise have had an opportunity, attain a college

education. My dad was all about education and making sure his daughters would be able to take care of themselves, married or not. It was not about finding a good husband, but about being all we could be.

Providence was not the metropolis it is today. Back then it was in bad condition and the mob was active. We had no desire to head downtown. Providence College decided to allow women to become part of the all-male domain. Some upperclassmen were not so thrilled, but who was asking them? I was so proud to be a part of this historic event. When I was accepted, my great-grandmother asked why I would want to go to a school that would cause my father to work even more to pay for it; I lucked out and was offered the MLK Scholarship. Responsibilities.

I was looking for a chance to find out what it really meant to be young, gifted, and Black. Having grown up in a predominantly white community in Bellingham, Mass., I found myself quite naïve. I was a stranger in a strange land. I did not know how to stand up for myself. You get mad, frustrated, and want to give up before you've even got started. (I even had a faculty member ask me "had the standards been lowered to allow us in?"). Al Cooks '72, a senior at the time, said, "Hang in there, it does get better."

I had to figure out how to fit in; an aspiring young woman forging a future. To be judged on my capabilities and character, not the color of my skin. It was exciting to be a part of the enthusiasm and hunger felt in Aquinas Hall, our residence, our fortress against the many men on campus. We were looked upon as helpless and in need of protection, when we were itching to let loose our wings and fly. We went from a guidebook of instructions called "When the Girls Come" to men outside our dorm chanting, "Let the girls out." We, in turn, had to have all window shades drawn at dusk.

Different. Hot pants, platform shoes, afros. Relationships. Do you really love me? Did people other than ourselves understand? Did they care? Could they empathize? Or were we just being tolerated? Our humanity makes us the same, but you find the color of our skin a threat. All that we strive for — to be of a same caliber, equal — is found to be a problem. People of color were said to be taking away jobs they didn't deserve.



At her wedding in 2007, Eva (Weston) Irby-Davis '75, center, is joined by her lifelong friends, Wanda Johnson Ingram '75, left, and Brenda Chapman McGill '75.

"I was looking for a chance to find out what it really meant to be young, gifted, and Black."

I managed to navigate through it all successfully, graduate, and am here to say I still love Providence College, the people I met and the time I spent there, and I continue to return to it. From Joe Brum '68, '18Hon., who told the first group of cheerleaders to wear our uniforms and big smiles when we went to the State House to raise travel money. Father Morris, who took every step along our journey with us, our rabbi. Off-Campus Connections, in which we brought students to alumni homes for dinner and conversation. Concerts, weddings, funerals, until we said, "Goodbye for now." Bob Ferreira '83 and all staff through the years in the Office of Institutional Advancement, who worked with Black alumni to put on events for us. My eight years on the Alumni Board of Governors representing alumni/alumnae of color and my time with W.I.N. (Women's Involvement Network). Dr. Wilesse Comissiong and Dr. Robert Hamlin '79G, who guided us academically and were a harbor for students in the Balfour Center and remain personal friends forever. And lastly, my biggest thank you goes to the women and men I befriended and love as family. You have all touched my life more than you know through the good and bad.

This is us. We will forever bleed the black and white and will be in that number when the saints go marching in. Go Friars. God bless. 🙏

Eva (Weston) Irby-Davis '75 returned to Bellingham after graduation to marry and work five years in the school system. She also worked 10 years for her father, Dan Weston, whose business, Weston Graphics and Advertising, printed The Cowl. She retired after nearly 20 years as a security supervisor and now is married to Mallory Davis '81, who pastors their church in Westerly, R.I. She encourages all alumni of color to check out the Friar Faces group on Facebook.

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE, COURTESY OF PC ARCHIVES; OPPOSITE PAGE, COURTESY OF EVA (WESTON) IRBY-DAVIS '75.



The Aquinas Hall fire memorial alcove in St. Dominic Chapel.

PHOTO BY NAT REA



A BOND FOREVER

BY MARTHA REYNOLDS '80

THE FAMILY TRADITION THAT IS PROVIDENCE COLLEGE has been manifested over the decades in many and various ways. Generations of Friars have attended PC. (In my case: my dad '40, my cousin Kathy '73, my sisters Ann '78 and Mary Beth '84, and me '80.) It's a family tradition! Many of my classmates have sent their children to PC. For those of us who were students in the late 1970s, there is one event that has, and always will, define us.

To write about the Aquinas Hall dormitory fire of Dec. 13, 1977, a tragedy that ultimately claimed the lives of 10 young women, prompts sharp and difficult memories. Memories of youth and innocence, of traveling back through time to golden days full of promise and hope. And in one night, much of our innocence and sense of invincibility was lost.

In 1977, there were no cell phones, no internet, no texts or Skype or Zoom. There was no Netflix or Hulu, no TSA at the airports, no ATMs, no AIDS. The Berlin Wall still stood, and Jimmy Carter was the president. There was great (and not-so-great) music, and if you were dining in Raymond Cafeteria, you might have heard Donna Summer singing about leaving a cake out in the rain at "MacArthur Park" over the intercom system. We wore clogs and Fair Isle sweaters, and we sported Dorothy Hamill haircuts.

For many young women in the mid-1970s, going away to

college was an important part of the rite-of-passage experience. A different state perhaps, a new dormitory adventure, and roommates! For some of us, the entire experience was unfamiliar. And daunting. But that's how bonds begin. Everyone is starting out and going through the same unfamiliar rituals, to varying degrees. Few of us had cars, so our entertainment consisted of basketball or hockey games at Alumni Hall or Schneider Arena, tipping a few pitchers at the Rat, the occasional concert or lecture at '64 Hall, or just hanging out in each other's dorm rooms or in Mural Lounge, where the hot ham and cheese grinder was \$1 and an ice cream cone was just a quarter.

There were three dorms for girls (which is what we were in those days): Meagher, McVinney, and Aquinas. Each dorm had its own personality, and all three buildings faced what is known as the Quad — a quadrangle of green space flanked by the three women's dorms, plus McDermott Hall for boys. There were girls who met each other as roommates freshman year and stayed friends forever. And there were attachments forged through tragedy.

I've written about that December day, listing all 10 of the young women, even though I only knew two of them well enough to greet by name. But because we're so connected, because we're family, all of us, our Friar community is linked by the tragic Aquinas fire.

✝️ **“WHEN I RETURN TO THE PROVIDENCE COLLEGE CAMPUS, I PAUSE TO LOOK UP AT THE FOURTH-FLOOR WINDOWS OF AQUINAS AND OFFER A PRAYER FOR THE GIRLS WHO PERISHED, AND FOR THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS. BUT I ALSO PRAY FOR THE GIRLS WHO SURVIVED.”**



Family members and friends of the fire victims receive Holy Communion during a memorial Mass at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence on Dec. 18, 1977.

When people die young, at the very beginning of their adult lives, one can't help but imagine what they would have become, how their lives might have turned out. The 10 girls who died in the fire that snowy night will remain youthful in our memories.

Every year in December we stop to remember, because we can't ever forget. When I return to the Providence College campus, I pause to look up at the fourth-floor windows of Aquinas and offer a prayer for the girls who perished, and for their family members. But I also pray for the girls who survived. One of those survivors told me that for many years, she tried to figure out why she

was saved, what was her purpose. Was it her marriage? The birth of her child? She said it took decades to realize she was saved for many reasons, and she tries, even now, to understand. It's a question that is beyond comprehension, she said. So she focuses on what matters in her life: kindness, expressing to loved ones how much they mean, letting go of anger, cherishing friends.

All these years later and the memories can be as sharp as yesterday. That's the thing about memory, even as we grow older. Now in our 60s, we often joke about forgetting the most meaningless things, yet none of us can forget the fire. I can remember a conversation with Katie, or the last time I saw Debbie.

Life is filled with moments — some so happy you'll swear you must be dreaming, and some so tragic you wonder, for years, why they occurred. But if I can learn a lesson from my friend Kim, it is to find joy in small moments, to express kindness, and forgiveness, whenever possible, and to give thanks to the tightly knit community that is Providence College. ❧

Martha Reynolds '80 ended an accomplished career as a fraud investigator and in the past 10 years has written nine novels. Her novel, Villa del Sol, was awarded the 2018 Book Prize in Literary Fiction by the Independent Publishers of New England.



On Dec. 13, 2002, the 25th anniversary of the Aquinas Hall fire, Providence College dedicated an alcove in the new St. Dominic Chapel to the 10 women who died. A plaque on the alcove wall, at left, lists the names of the women, who are remembered at a memorial Mass in the chapel each December. The Mass was livestreamed for the first time in 2020. Below are their photos.



KATHRYN JEAN ANDRESAKES '80
Montclair, N.J.



JACQUELINE LUIZA BOTELHO '79
Bristol, R.I.



BARBARA JEAN FEENEY '81
Taunton, Mass.



DONNA BERNADETTE GALLIGAN '81
Closter, N.J.



SALLYANN GARVEY '81
Enfield, Conn.



GRETCHEN KAY LUDWIG '81
Saugus, Mass.



CATHERINE ANNE REPUCCI '81
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.



LAURA MARIE RYAN '81
Mineola, N.Y.



DEBORAH ANN SMITH '78
Milford, Conn.



DOROTHY ANNE WIDMAN '81
Cheshire, Conn.

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE: COURTESY OF PC ARCHIVES; OPPOSITE PAGE: MEMORIAL PLAQUE: NAT REA.

Top of her Game

BY KIRSTEN FLEMING '00 • PHOTO BY DAVID E. KLUTHO

DORIS BURKE '87, '92G, & '05HON, was cooking dinner in her daughter's Philadelphia apartment in 2016 when she received an ominous text from a friend who was working the Raptors game in Toronto.

The message instructed her to turn on the game and read: "You are about to blow up the internet," Burke recalled. Immediately, the NBA analyst for ESPN went to the darkest place.

"I was rifling through my head. My great fear was that I said something I shouldn't have," she said.

But the fuss wasn't about what anyone said. Rather, it was what someone was wearing. Specifically, Canadian superstar rapper Drake, who turned up at the game, kitted in a black sweatshirt emblazoned with Burke's smiling bespectacled face and the words, "Woman Crush Everyday."

"My daughter and I just looked at each other. We didn't know how to react. I was stunned and flattered," said the mother of two, sounding like a recently crowned prom queen who doesn't know she's a knockout.

In a courtside interview, the "Hotline Bling" rapper piled on the praise for her talent, and added a schmoopy declaration. "I love Doris with all my heart, so I hope she knows that," he said.

Drake's affection for the 55-year-old is a consensus in the hoops world. Widely known as a basketball savant with a no-frills broadcasting style, she has been openly praised by players like LeBron James and JJ Reddick and championed by industry giants like Mike Breen and Jeff Van Gundy.

Closeup of ESPN NBA analyst Doris Burke '87, '92G, '05Hon. during the telecast of a Golden State Warriors vs. Detroit Pistons game at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit, Mich.



Canadian rapper Drake, wearing a Doris Burke T-shirt, cheers on his Raptors in Toronto in 2016.

The message instructed her to turn on the game and read: “You are about to blow up the internet.”

But as Drake’s sartorial tribute boomeranged around the internet beyond hoops circles, it became clear that it wasn’t just a cute viral Twitter moment. For Burke, it was a full pop culture coronation — catapulting her into another echelon of celebrity.

When Burke finally met the rapper at a game a year later, she thanked him for the gushing gesture.

“I appreciated that here was a guy who is a huge basketball fan, and a generational talent, and yet he enjoyed when I called games, and him acknowledging me publicly did have a profound influence on probably another demographic. It was a powerful thing,” she said.

Not that she needed the validation or a run on Drake T-shirts (That one and a handful of other Doris shirts are available online for \$20.).

But it underscored a sentiment that Burke — who started her broadcasting career in 1990 when there were few women in the field — often repeats: “It takes everyone for a change to happen.”

In other words, she not only needed the same talent, knowledge, and work ethic as her male counterparts, she also needed her peers and the players to embrace her.

“If LeBron has no objection to me interviewing him, why should the fans?” she said.

According to ESPN colleague and longtime NBA player Jalen Rose, her former co-host of “NBA Countdown,” that was never a hard sell for people in the basketball orbit.

“Let me pay homage to greatness,” said Rose, who is the son of late Friar great and NBA all-star Jimmy Walker ’67. “You have people from Magic Johnson to Drake to anyone in corporate America to LeBron James who understands that Doris Burke is not only a basketball intellect. She also can do this while wearing high heels, dribbling a basketball behind her back live on national television.”

He was referring to the 2016 Memphis Grizzlies game when she hustled off the floor in pumps (not the Reebok variety), seamlessly bouncing the ball behind her back.

“I want everybody to know what they see as a public persona or whatever she has been able to accomplish as a terrific broadcaster, she is a much more wonderful human being,” added Rose.

The ESPN suits agreed. Before the 2017-18 season, she was promoted to full-time, regular-season NBA analyst, making her the first female to fill that role. It might have been the glossiest pinnacle, but it was the latest in a litany of norm-shattering moments on Burke’s résumé. Employed by ESPN since 1991, she’s been covering both men’s and women’s college basketball, as well as the WNBA. And in 2000, she was the first woman to call a Knicks game on both radio and television.

It’s a remarkable bundle of feats for someone who often says her trailblazing career happened by “accident.”

HER PLAYING CAREER, though, seemed to be preordained; guided by a moving van and an object left behind.

The youngest of eight children, Burke, née Sable, was born on Long Island. At 7, her family moved to Manasquan, a beach town on the Jersey Shore.

“We pulled up in a moving van, and a 7-year-old isn’t going to be much help,” she said. The previous owners of the home left a basketball in the yard, which her mother employed as a babysitter. She sent her youngest to the adjacent Indian Hill Park to occupy herself while the adults tended to the business of moving house.

Something clicked that day, and she became a creature of the court, conjuring up game scenarios, reconstructing plays she’d seen on Saturday college basketball games, and untangling whatever messy knots life had thrown her way.

“You give me a problem to work out, you give me a ball, and a court, I will be fine,” she said.

It was there she also showed an early propensity for crashing the boys’ party. At a town gathering about 10 years ago, an older classmate recalled having to once physically remove her from the court.

“He said he and his friends would be playing full court, and I would be sneaking out there while they were on the other end. He said, ‘I remember distinctly we are coming full throttle at you and I had to pick you up and race you off the court, or you were going to get run over by a bunch of teenage boys.’ I sort of remember those boys coming and messing with my sanctuary.”

Burke was a standout point guard at Manasquan High School and later at Providence College, where she is “99 percent” sure she majored in education with the expectation she’d become a teacher and coach at her Jersey *alma mater*. She switched to health service administration and social work and upon graduating in 1987, became an assistant coach with the PC women’s team. On the court, she was a three-time All-BIG EAST selection and was named a District I All-American, and currently ranks second all-time in career assists with 602. ➔

“If LeBron has no objection to me interviewing him, why should the fans?”

—DORIS BURKE

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE: STEVE RUSSELL/TORONTO STAR. OPPOSITE PAGE: DAVID E. KLUTHO.



Doris Burke does what she calls a pre-game “hit” for ESPN’s “SportsCenter” show before the telecast of a Pistons-Warriors game in Detroit.

After two years, she left coaching to start a family, and moved to broadcasting, first calling PC women's games on the radio — a pivot done without the benefit of a fancy broadcasting degree.

"I felt prepared professionally, though I had no clue what that meant for me," she admitted. "I entered this profession with zero communications training."

She was also shy. And her first foray into television was not seamless. She could barely make eye contact with the camera, but like many performers, Burke had an alter ego. Within the confines of the hardwood, a cocksure personality emerged.

"I do marvel that the first game I ever did was in Alumni Hall at Providence, and the red light came on and I refused to look at it because it scared me," she recalled. "I guess I knew it was live television and there was a level of anxiety that came with it. But once I sat down at the table for the first time, the game started and I settled in."

Luckily at the time, there was no social media to capture the flub.

"I think unequivocally, if social media were a part of everyday lives early in my career, I don't know how I would have had the confidence to withstand the criticism," she said.

Not that the internet isn't good for a few laughs now and then.

"Recently on Twitter somebody said, 'Some days she looks 40 and some days she looks 70,' and I thought, 'Geez, is that a relative of mine?' Because that's exactly how I feel. Some of the stuff people write is funny," said Burke.

UPON HER GROUNDBREAKING promotion at ESPN, Burke was profiled for HBO's "Real Sports" and revealed that it was Van Gundy who pushed her to ask for the role, telling her: "You earned this opportunity."

Their association dates back to PC, where they met when Van Gundy was a graduate assistant under then coach Rick Pitino, and it's been an invaluable relationship for Burke.

"He is also the one pushing back on [negative] things people may have said over the years," she said.

Burke also leans on her fellow female broadcasters, some of whom have broken the same barriers in other pro sports, including Jessica Mendoza in Major League Baseball and Beth Mowins in the NFL.

"We have a text thread with me, Beth, Jessica, and Maria Taylor. The other day we were just appreciating the fact that it's become normal to hear Beth on a Sunday doing her thing," she said.

And then there is her "hero" and long-standing friend, Holly Rowe. About 20 years ago, Burke asked to meet the sideline reporter after seeing her interview Bobby Knight, then at Texas Tech, when he was down 15 points at the half.

"She didn't blink about having to interview the most cantankerous man in college basketball. Of all the people I've seen interview him, she was the most successful," said Burke. "If you are a woman in the broadcasting business and you aren't supportive of other women, you are doing something wrong."

And her first foray into television was not seamless. She could barely make eye contact with the camera ...



BURKE HASN'T PLAYED BASKETBALL since a few

weeks after her son, Matthew, was born. Golf is now her game. She is part of a regular foursome made up of three University of Connecticut grads they call "the Big Easter," and it's a bonding outlet for her and Matthew, who is a golf pro in Massachusetts. It was also the only escape from hotel confinement during her 67 days in the NBA bubble last summer.

"It was hard at times," she said of the stretch. "The one thing you could do was play golf. At some point, I said I can't play anymore," she said.

But after countless rounds, exhausting days covering both hoops, and the reaction within the league to the civil unrest erupting around the nation, Burke exited the bubble 12 days earlier than her colleagues. She was summoned out of her sweet spot by the only people who could pull her away: her children.

Her daughter Sarah, an attorney, was married in a small ceremony in September.

"I genuinely raised nice children," she said in a rare moment of self praise, detailing the long stretches of time she'd be away from home.

"It's not a typical schedule, and one that does come with challenges as any working parent will tell you. But I do take enormous pride that I was able to navigate both worlds." ➔



Top left: Doris Burke gets a pre-game hug from the Detroit Pistons' Andre Drummond before the Pistons-Warriors game in Detroit. Above: Burke (11) and her teammates celebrate as the Friars win the BIG EAST regular-season championship at home in 1987, her senior year. Below: She passes the ball during a game against the University of Rhode Island in the 1986-87 season.



PHOTOS: THIS PAGE: DAVID E. KLUTHO. OPPOSITE PAGE: TOP LEFT: DAVID E. KLUTHO; RIGHT AND BOTTOM: COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS.

Doris Burke puts up a shot in the lane against Boston University. She was a three-time All-BIG EAST selection.



PHOTOS: OPPOSITE PAGE: COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS. THIS PAGE: DAVID E. KLUTHO.



Doris Burke with telecast partner Dave Pasch before a Pistons-Warriors game.



NOW THAT BURKE IS AT THE TOP of her game, she's hoping her presence becomes less of a headline sparking novelty. For example, during last year's NBA finals, she asked to work as the radio analyst, as she had left the bubble early and there was a shuffling of staff.

ESPN agreed and sent out a press release, noting that she was the first female to take on that role. Instead of popping the champagne, Burke bristled at ensuing fawning stories over the announcement.

"Basically I thought, 'Is it a big deal?' I remember thinking the NBA fans and players are used to me. So is this really a story?" said Burke.

"I guess I long for a time where press releases like that are not important. Hopefully at some point that becomes the case." ❖

Kirsten Fleming '00 is senior features reporter for the New York Post.

"You give me a problem to work out, you give me a ball, and a court, *I will be fine.*"
—DORIS BURKE





John Thompson Jr. '64, center, meets with Robert G. Driscoll Jr., PC vice president and athletics director, left, and Friars' coach Ed Cooley prior to a PC-Georgetown game in Washington, D.C., a few years ago.

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE, COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS. OPPOSITE PAGE, LEFT, COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS. RIGHT, COURTESY OF GEORGETOWN ATHLETICS.

Coach Thompson '64 'a role model' to Cooley

BY BRENDAN MCGAIR '03

There's a good reason why Providence College's Ed Cooley and other college basketball head coaches throughout the country paced the sidelines with a white towel draped over their shoulder last winter.

It was done as a tribute to John Thompson Jr. '64, the Friar star and Georgetown coaching titan who became the first Black coach to win the NCAA tournament in 1984. Coach Thompson died on Aug. 30, 2020. Renowned in his coaching days for slinging a towel over his shoulder, the

Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame inductee led Georgetown to its first NCAA championship, seven BIG EAST Tournament titles, and a 596-239 record before retiring in 1999.

Wearing the towel, said Coach Thompson in his autobiography *I Came as a Shadow*, was a tribute to his mother. She wore one over her shoulder when she worked in the kitchen.

Coach Thompson was regarded as a trailblazer for Black coaches like Cooley, but at the same time he was looked up to by teenage players from inner-city backgrounds. In fact,

it was at a 1987 practice Georgetown was having at Providence's Central High in preparation for a BIG EAST game with PC that the two met. An all-state player at Central, Cooley went up to Coach Thompson and introduced himself. The coach invited him to stay for the practice.

As the years ensued, the two occasionally ran into each other at games after Cooley began collegiate coaching in 1994. First it was when he was an assistant at Boston College in the late 1990s, and then it was in 2007 when he was the head coach at Fairfield University. In 2011, the bond between Cooley and Coach Thompson tightened when the former became the coach of the latter's *alma mater*. The Hoyas' great often attended PC-Georgetown games in Washington, D.C.

"He was an inspiration to me ... a role model and a mentor, and somebody that I tried to emulate as far as not being afraid to be different," said Cooley. "I would always go over and give him a hug and tell him how much I appreciated him."



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"I remember telling him that my daughter (Olivia) loves Georgetown. He had a big smile. When she went there and we played them during her freshman year, both of us went over to say hello. It was unique and a very good relationship, on and off the court."

Before Coach Thompson cast a larger-than-life shadow in the coaching ranks, he was a star player for the Friars. The 6-10 center averaged 18.9 points and 14 rebounds for a 24-4 team that breezed to the 1963 National Invitational Tournament title. The following season, he averaged 26.2 points and 14.5 rebounds for PC's first NCAA tournament team.

In 2015, he was inducted into the College's "Friar Legends Forever" program and had his jersey retired. ■

Brendan McGair '03 is a freelance writer from Cranston, R.I.



Left: PC coach Ed Cooley wears a towel and a shirt in honor of the late John Thompson Jr. '64 during a Friars game last season. Here: Coach Thompson eyes his Georgetown Hoyas in an NCAA tournament game.

PC's Sara Hjalmarsson '22 eyes the puck in the NCAA game against Wisconsin.



East Tournament before falling in the championship game to Northeastern University, 6-2. The Friars, ranked #9 in the nation, earned an at-large bid to the NCAAs, losing to the University of Wisconsin, 3-0, in Erie, Pa. PC finished with overall and conference records of 12-8-1 and 10-6-1, respectively.

Individually, three student-athletes received all-Hockey East honors. Forward Sara Hjalmarsson '22 (Bankeryd, Sweden), who led PC in scoring with 17 points, was named a second team all-star. Selected to the third team were blueliner Lauren DeBlois '23 (Lewiston, Maine) and goaltender Sandra Abstreiter '21 (Freising, Germany).

Women's hockey team and Abbey Wheeler '21 reach NCAAs

HELD BACK BY COVID-19 FROM COMPETING during the spring 2020 and fall 2020 seasons, PC teams returned to action last winter, albeit with restrictions in place and few spectators other than program- and competition-related officials in attendance.

The only winter team to rise above the pandemic and complete a full schedule was men's basketball. Nevertheless, Friar student-athletes stepped up, headlined by the women's ice hockey team, which advanced to the NCAA tournament, and a female distance runner earning All-America accolades in an NCAA championship meet.

Women's ice hockey snags NCAA berth

The **women's ice hockey team** turned heads by qualifying for the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2005. Coach Matt Kelly's team won two games in the Women's Hockey



Abbey Wheeler '21 earned All-America honors in the 5,000-meter run for the third time.

Running to glory

Track and cross country standout **Abbey Wheeler '21** (Elmira, N.Y.) finished fifth in the 5,000-meter run in a time of 15:51.87 at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Fayetteville, Ark., claiming All-America honors for the third time in her career. A two-time USTFCCCA Northeast Region Women's Indoor Track Athlete of the Year, Wheeler previously achieved All-America status in the 5,000 at NCAA championship meets in the 2018 and 2019 outdoor seasons. Wheeler's best 5,000-meter time (15:50) of the season ranked in the top 10 nationally and came at the JDL Camel City Invitational in Winston-Salem, N.C., where she won the race.

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE: SARA HJALMARSSON '22: JIM PIERCE; ABBEY WHEELER '21: JOHN REID; OPPOSITE PAGE: TYCE THOMPSON '22: STEW MILNE; DAVID DUKE: COURTESY OF PC ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS; MARY BASKERVILLE '22: STEW MILNE

Forward Tyce Thompson '22 signed an entry-level contract with the New Jersey Devils at season's end.



Other winter highlights

Three other winter teams participated in post-season action:

- **Nationally ranked all season, the men's hockey team** advanced to the Hockey East Tournament semifinals, losing at the University of Massachusetts, 5-2. The Friars, who entered the tournament ranked #14 in the country and had defeated the University of Connecticut, 6-1, on the road in the quarterfinals, were 11-9-5 on the season, including 10-8-5 in Hockey East. Forward Tyce Thompson '22, who led the team in scoring with 25 points on 11 goals and 14 assists, was named a second team conference all-star for the second consecutive year. He also was a Hobey Baker Award nominee and a Walter Brown Award semifinalist. After the season's end, Thompson signed a two-year, entry-level contract with the New Jersey Devils, who drafted him in 2019.
- **The men's basketball team** earned a #6 seed in the BIG EAST Tournament, falling to DePaul, 70-62, in the first round. PC compiled a 13-13 record, including a 9-10 mark in regular-season conference play. Carrying the Friars and eclipsing the 1,000-point career plateau during the season were guard David Duke '22 (Providence, R.I.) and center Nate Watson '21 (Portsmouth Va.). Each earned several post-season honors, including second team All-BIG EAST and U.S. Basketball Writers Association All-District 1 recognition, while Duke also was named an Associated Press Honorable Mention All-American. Watson and Duke were the team's top two scorers at 16.9 and 16.8 points per game. At season's end, Duke announced he had



Guard David Duke '22, who plans to enter the 2021 NBA Draft, scored 1,051 points in 91 career games for PC.

hired an agent and intends to enter the 2021 NBA Draft, and Watson announced he will return in 2021-22 for his fifth season of eligibility, allowed under NCAA rules related to the pandemic.



Forward Mary Baskerville '22 was named to the All-BIG EAST second team.

- **The women's basketball team** won its first-round game in the BIG EAST Tournament, defeating Butler, 63-61, before being knocked out by Marquette University, 68-43. Powering the Friars (7-14 overall, 4-10 in BIG EAST) throughout 2020-21 was forward Mary Baskerville '22

(Enfield, Conn.), who was named to the All-BIG EAST second team. She ranked in the top 15 in the conference in six statistical categories and led PC in scoring and rebounding, averaging 12.8 points and 6.5 rebounds per game.

Fall student-athletes compete in spring

While not competing as part of a winter-season sport, **Maria Coffin '21** (Annapolis, Md.) was selected to participate in the 2020 NCAA Cross Country Championship, which was delayed from the fall until this March. Coffin, who finished fourth in the BIG EAST Conference Championship, placed 99th of 253 finishers at the NCAAs in Stillwater, Okla. In addition to **women's and men's cross country**, PC teams that had their fall seasons shifted to the spring were **men's and women's soccer, women's field hockey, women's volleyball, and men's lacrosse.** 🏏



From left, U.S. National Team head coach Nate Leaman, Patrick Moynihan '23, Brett Berard '24, and video coach Theresa Feaster '14, '16G gather for a celebratory photo after the gold medal-clinching game.

Leaman, 3 other Friars seize gold in World Junior Hockey tourney

FOUR MEMBERS OF THE PC MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM, including head coach Nate Leaman, helped the U.S. Junior National Team earn the 2021 World Junior Hockey Championship gold medal in January under a series of challenging circumstances.

Facing host country and previously undefeated Canada, the U.S. squad pulled off a stunning 2-0 victory in the title contest in Edmonton, Alberta. In capturing the gold medal, the Americans — like the rest of the 10-country field — competed under extremely restrictive pandemic protocols that made lineups unpredictable from day to day.

Leaman, in his third coaching stint at the World Juniors but first as head coach, became the third coach to win NCAA and World Junior titles. The Friars' 10th-year leader guided PC to its first NCAA championship in 2015. In April, he was named head coach of the 2022 U.S. Junior National Team.

Joining Leaman on the national team were PC forwards Brett Berard '24 (East Greenwich, R.I.) and Patrick Moynihan '23 (Millis, Mass.) and video coach Theresa Feaster '14, '16G, PC director of hockey operations, who was the first female member of a World Junior Championship coaching staff.

"I am so happy for the players," said Leaman, whose team lost just once in seven games. "They came together as a group and worked hard for each other. I am really proud of what they accomplished for their country and what they fought through."

Like Leaman, Feaster emphasized that being a member of the coaching staff and representing her country was special.

"I was so honored when Coach Leaman asked me. It was an incredible experience. I am proud to be a part of a great team and accomplish what we did," she said.

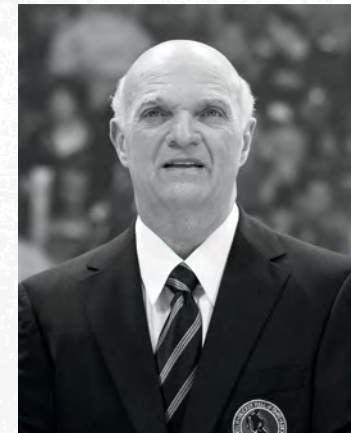
Berard finished the tourney with a goal and four assists for the team's third line. Moynihan tallied two assists in four games. ❧

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE: COURTESY OF USA HOCKEY. OPPOSITE PAGE: LOU LAMORIELLO '63, '01HON.; GETTY IMAGES; CAMMI GRANATO '93, '12HON.; COURTESY OF SEATTLE KRAKEN. BRIAN BURKE '77; STEW MILNE; BILLY DONOVAN '87; SIMON HURST.

Athletics' Graduation Success Rate hits 97%

The NCAA announced in fall 2020 that the College's athletics program posted a 97% Graduation Success Rate, up 2% over the year before. That tied PC for second place among BIG EAST Conference schools. The GSR formula removes from the rate student-athletes who leave school while academically eligible and includes student-athletes who transfer to a school after initially enrolling elsewhere.

Nine programs posted a perfect 100% GSR: men's and women's hockey, men's and women's swimming and diving, field hockey, women's cross country/track, softball, women's tennis, and women's volleyball.



Lamoriello chosen GM of the Year

Former PC men's hockey coach and athletics director Lou Lamoriello '63, '01Hon. was voted the NHL's Jim Gregory General Manager of the Year for the pandemic-delayed 2019-20 season. The general manager of the New York Islanders since 2018, he has served as a GM with three NHL teams for 34 years, including leading the New Jersey Devils to Stanley Cups in 1995, 2000, and 2003.

The Jim Gregory Award is presented annually to the general manager who best excelled in his role during the regular season.



Granato starts grants program for girls

Olympic gold medalist and U.S. Hockey Hall of Famer Cammi Granato '93, '12Hon. has launched the 21 Grants Program to encourage girls in the U.S. to pursue the game of hockey. The grants will be awarded to 21 girls between the ages of 4 to 12.

"It's a way to give young girls in hockey who may need extra financial assistance an opportunity to play," said Granato, who is PC's all-time women's scoring leader with 256 points. In 2019, she was named the first female NHL scout by the league's newest franchise, the Seattle Kraken, which will begin play in the 2021-22 season.

Two pro executives on the move

Two well-known PC athletics figures who work in the professional ranks have landed positions with new teams.



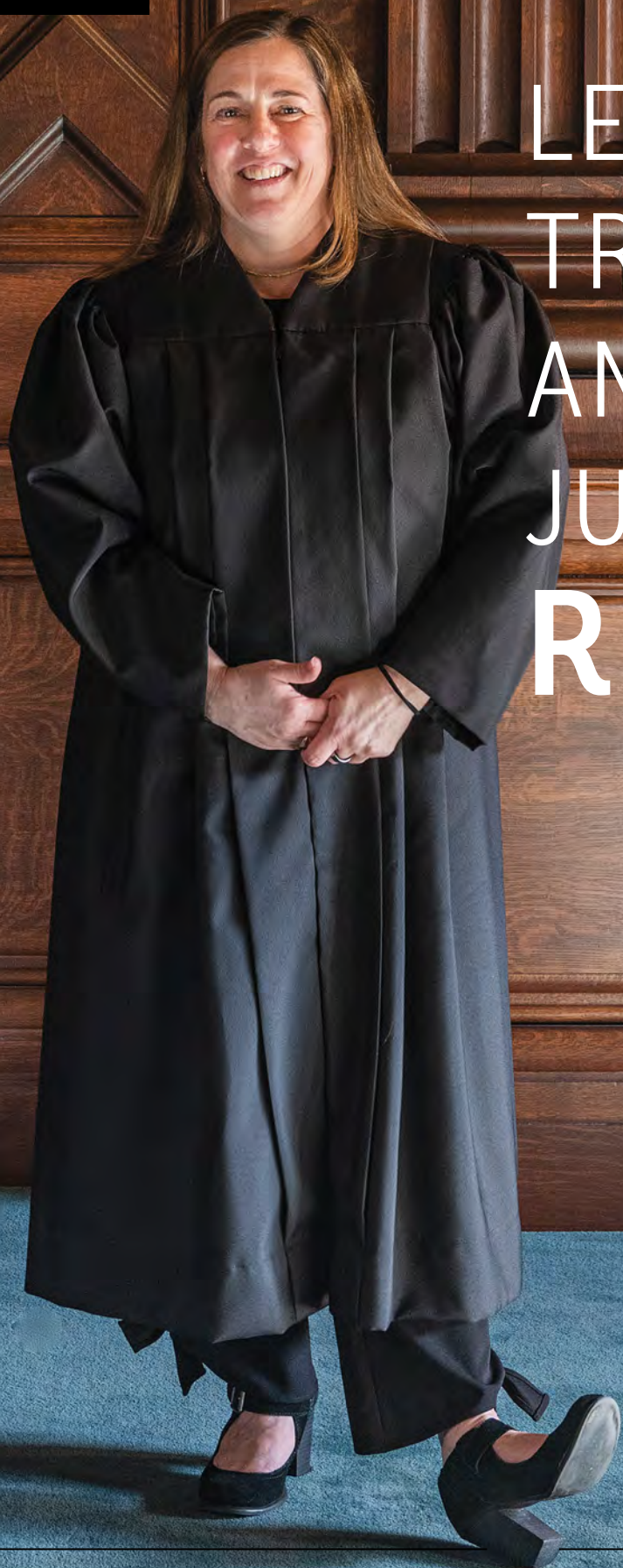
• Longtime NHL executive and former Friar player Brian Burke '77 was named president of hockey operations for the Pittsburgh Penguins in February 2021. Burke, who had been serving as a hockey broadcast analyst since 2018, has spent 31 years as an NHL executive. He helped lead the Anaheim Ducks to the Stanley Cup as general manager in 2007.



• Billy Donovan '87, a sharpshooter on the 1987 Friar team that advanced to the NCAA Final Four, was named head coach of the NBA's Chicago Bulls in September 2020. He had coached the Oklahoma City Thunder since 2015. Donovan coached at the University of Florida from 1996-2015, leading the Gators to NCAA championships in 2006 and 2007. ❧



LET TRUTH AND JUSTICE REIGN



Mary S. McElroy '87, pictured in the federal courthouse in Providence, has served as a U.S. District Court judge for Rhode Island since October 2019.

Public defender experience guides outlook of U.S. Judge Mary S. McElroy '87

BY EALISH BRAWLEY '14 / PHOTOS BY NAT REA

JUDGE MARY S. MCELROY '87 had to wait four years, through two presidencies and three nominations, for her appointment to the U.S. District Court for Rhode Island. Such a wait for a prestigious, lifetime seat on the federal bench would have frustrated most, but McElroy's passion for her previous job, that of public defender, helped her keep perspective.

"It wasn't one of those things that would have made me really upset if it didn't happen," she said. "I would have been happy being a public defender for the rest of my career."

McElroy has endeavored to make justice and the workings of the law more accessible to her clients and co-workers alike throughout her career. She said she brings the lessons she learned from practicing public defense in creating a federal courtroom experience where law and justice are in the spotlight.

As the record goes, President Obama nominated McElroy for the U.S.

District Court bench in Rhode Island in 2015, but the turmoil surrounding Justice Antonin Scalia's death caused her nomination to expire within Congress. In a move surprising to some, President Trump adopted his predecessor's nomination in 2018, but that nomination also expired. Trump nominated McElroy again in 2019, leading to congressional approval.

Like the nomination process, McElroy found the journey to the federal bench far from anything she could predict. She enrolled in law school without a clear plan for how she would use her degree and considered teaching law or working in private practice.

"Given my dislike of the spotlight, my career path seems ill-advised," said McElroy, joking about her discomfort with wearing the judicial robes and having her photograph taken. "Even though I am wearing that robe, I shouldn't be the center of the court. The center of the court should always be the litigants."

Upon graduating from Suffolk University Law School in 1992, she spent two years clerking and then working in private practice. It wasn't until she joined the Rhode Island Public Defender's office as an assistant public defender in 1994 that she fell in love with practicing law. She became an assistant federal public defender for the districts of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island in 2006 and returned to the Rhode Island Public Defender's office to become its first female chief in 2012. She served in that position until she was sworn in as U.S. District Court judge on Oct. 2, 2019.

McElroy said her years as a public defender prepared her for the inevitability of making difficult or unpopular decisions in U.S. District Court. "As a public defender, you are representing people whose relationships with their communities are complex and problematic on multiple levels. They often aren't everyone's favorite person. In that job, you have to be OK with feeling unpopular," she said. ➡



McElroy has carried her concern for her former clients and her desire to understand the complexity of their situations to the other side of the bench.

“You need to really listen to people in order to understand what brings them to you as a public defender. It could be poverty, drug addiction, mental illness. You need to get the full picture in order to help them more holistically. This applies to every part of the courtroom. All parties need to feel like they are being heard because the court belongs to everyone,” she said.

“A long-lasting legacy that Mary left behind in this office was to strive to break free of our silos and collaborate with unlikely allies to achieve lasting reform,” said a colleague, Matthew B. Toro, deputy director of the Rhode Island Public Defender’s office. He noted that this was most evident in McElroy’s significant contributions while serving on former Gov. Gina Raimondo’s Justice Reinvestment Working Group.

Toro said that McElroy, with other criminal justice stakeholders, collaborated and provided recommendations to the governor and General Assembly on ways to improve the administration of criminal justice in Rhode Island. In 2017, the General Assembly passed the Justice Reinvestment legislative package that updated probation and parole practices, supported court rule changes, and provided treatment options within the community for people with addictions and mental illness.



Rhode Island Gov. Lincoln D. Chafee looks over the commission he signed signifying Mary S. McElroy '87 as the state public defender in 2012, as McElroy and her daughter, Chloe Jordan, look on.

A history major at PC, McElroy cited her undergraduate education, especially Development of Western Civilization course work, as useful preparation for her career.

“In DWC, we learned that all parts of a society are related,” she said. “You can see so many influences in one piece of artwork: historical, cultural, religious, scientific. As a public defender, you look at your defendant, who may be sitting in front of you for the third time on the same charge, and you need to find out what their influences are. Their crimes are not isolated but are a reflection of what has happened to them and what is going on inside their person.”

McElroy’s concern for individuals’ humanity guides her relationships with her staff and co-workers as well. Upon



Mary S. McElroy '87 is joined by Rhode Island Supreme Court Associate Justice Donald F. Shea '50, '06Hon. at her swearing in as an attorney in 1992.

her return to the Rhode Island Public Defender’s office as chief in 2012, she worked to ease the burden of those with extra responsibilities outside of the office. She knew from her experience as an assistant public defender and a parent of two children with her husband, Robert F. Jordan '87, the challenge of managing schedules and caseloads.

“We need to honor the fact that people have lives and responsibilities outside of work, whether that be caring for their children, elderly parents, or a sick spouse,” said McElroy, whose father, Edward J. McElroy, Jr. '62, and sister, Elizabeth A. McElroy '94, also graduated from PC. “Sometimes that means letting people work remotely or move some of their hours to nights or weekends when needed. It’s a little

PHOTOS: THIS PAGE: COURTESY OF JUDGE MARY S. MCELROY '87.

“EVEN THOUGH I AM WEARING THAT ROBE, I SHOULDN'T BE THE CENTER OF THE COURT. THE CENTER OF THE COURT SHOULD ALWAYS BE THE LITIGANTS.”

—JUDGE MARY S. MCELROY '87

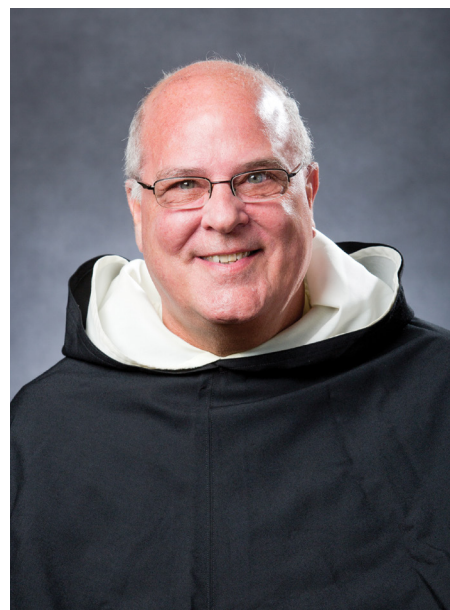
self-serving, too, because people do their best work when they feel valued.”

The timing and extent of COVID-19 has only reinforced McElroy’s outlook on the District Court bench. Only five months after her swearing in, the pandemic shifted most of the court proceedings online. It was a difficult, but not impossible, adjustment, and she saw some good in it.

“Lawyers would fly in from out of state for these conferences which could easily be held remotely. If we continue to hold some of these online, talented and hard-working people with important responsibilities at home won’t feel forced out of the profession,” she said. ▣

Ealish Brawley '14 is a freelance writer who lives in Providence.





Father Barranger welcomed back in new role as alumni chaplain

BY EALISH BRAWLEY '14

“Our hope is to build an alumni community that is connected to the mission and ministry of Providence College.”

— Rev. Joseph Barranger, O.P.

Former Providence College Chaplain Rev. Joseph Barranger, O.P. has been appointed chaplain of the PC National Alumni Association. He returned to campus this spring from St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish in Charlottesville, Va., where he served as pastor and prior since 2014.

Appointed by College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G, Father Barranger will lead an alumni chaplaincy staff that also comprises associate chaplains Rev. J. Stuart McPhail, O.P. '61 and Rev. James F. Quigley, O.P. '60. The College's previous alumni chaplain, Rev. John S. Peterson, O.P. '57, died in 2017.

With Father Barranger's appointment comes a renewed vision for the NAA chaplaincy ministry. In the past, alumni chaplains offered retreats, days of recollection, and Masses for regional clubs, as well as a prayer and consolation ministry for alumni upon request. The Office of Mission and Ministry, which oversees the alumni chaplaincy ministry, and the Office of Institutional Advancement hope to expand upon these services and add others, such as faith formation and service opportunities, with a focus on younger alumni and their families.

“There is no one better suited for this work than Father Barranger,” said Rev. James Cuddy, O.P. '98, vice president for

mission and ministry.

Father Barranger served as College chaplain and the first director of the student-based Campus Ministry program from 1993-2000. He was instrumental in forming Campus Ministry, which is home to many of the College's social, service, and spiritual activities.

“When he reaches out to many young alums, it will not be an introduction but a renewal of an important and formative relationship they began as students,” said Father Cuddy.

“Our hope is to build an alumni community that is connected to the mission and ministry of Providence College,” said Father Barranger. He plans to spend much of his first year reaching out to alumni through regional clubs to learn how the chaplaincy can best serve them.

Father Barranger looks forward to the next academic year when he can introduce himself to the Class of 2022 as their alumni chaplain. He hopes to provide pastoral support and continuity for new alumni as they envision and prepare for their life after PC, as well as when they transition into professional and family life.

“I am grateful to the College community and to the president for giving me this opportunity to serve as alumni chaplain. It feels like coming home,” Father Barranger said. ❧

▶ READ MORE: PROV.LY/PC-LONG-READS

Virtual alumni events program aces pandemic pivot

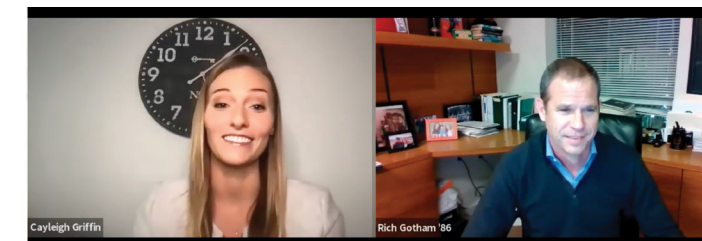


From the standpoints of programming, participation, and recognition, the new Friars T.I.E.S. (Totally Interactive Engagement Series) virtual alumni events program achieved its goal of engaging and informing the Friar family. Big time.

Launched by the Office of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations in April 2020 in response to the concern for keeping Friars connected during the COVID-19 pandemic, Friars T.I.E.S. produced more than 100 online events, including dozens of engagement activities, and hosted thousands of viewers. The program included events at both reunion and homecoming.

The virtual program left a distinct impression on the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, a resource organization for higher-education professionals. Friar T.I.E.S. was a gold award winner in the 2021 CASE District 1 Excellence Awards competition in the “Alumni Relations in a Pivot” category.

Through April 1, 2021, Friar T.I.E.S. drew 1,786 unique attendees. Seventy alumni, faculty, and staff members served




Cayleigh Griffin '14, sideline reporter for the Houston Rockets, left, and Rich Gotham '86, Boston Celtics president, take part in the “Courtside with Rich Gotham '86” program in March.

as presenters, including 25 alumni in a reunion year. The highest-attended events were “Courtside with Rich Gotham '86” of the Boston Celtics, “100 Nights to Reunion,” “COVID-19's Impact on Real Estate,” a “Fall Cocktails Class” with Zach Odachowski '11, and “College Search 101” featuring Adam Benjamin '91.

Homecoming was extremely popular, with 25 events drawing 1,602 unique attendees and featuring a political forum with former presidential candidates Chris Christie '23P and Michael Dukakis '23P. There were four other well-received reunion events: “Dive into PC History with Dr. Grace,” “Overcoming Adversity with Mike Leonard '70,” and two “Updates in Friartown,” led separately by Robert G. Driscoll, Jr., vice president and athletics director, and by Nick Sailor '17, director of training and education for diversity, equity, and inclusion. ❧

Alumni-led ‘Find a Friar Series’ delivers career appeal



Alumni and students take part in a “Find a Friar Series” session on Zoom. Clockwise from top left are Christine Kennedy '13, Christopher Suriano '08, Odalis Giron Flores '23, Brooke Vitulli '22, Lex Bramwell '06, Karalyn Rennie '17, Anthony Caragliano '16, and Phionna-Cayola Claude '18.

Spurred by the desire to provide students career and networking resources during the pandemic, Find a Friar created opportunities for students to interact with alumni in dozens of career fields. As many as four Zoom sessions were offered in one day.

Coordinated by the Center for Career Education and Professional Development and the Office of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, the series featured 21 virtual programs. It attracted more than 100 alumni professionals and more than 400 unique students, whose combined participation in all of the events surpassed 800 total attendees. Several of the College's regional alumni clubs lent support to series programming and logistics.

Find a Friar kicked off with “The Do's and Don't's of Networking,” sponsored by the Providence College Club of New York. It was the most highly attended session, with 111 participants. More than 400 students from all four class years and all majors attended at least one session, and 40% participated in more than one.

“I am still pinching myself that it came together as well as it did,” said Eileen Wisniewski, director of the career center. ❧

CLASS NOTES

SUBMISSIONS: prov.ly/alumninotes

1940s

'49

Francis J. O'Donnell '49 of Belleair, Fla., turned 100 years old on St. Patrick's Day 2021. He is the retired owner of a medical and surgical instruments and apparatus company. A biology major, O'Donnell has been a loyal and supportive alumnus over the years, regularly attending events in Florida and class reunions. He and his wife, Lois, attended a reception for then College President **Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P. '80** in Sarasota last year.

1960s

'68

Hon. Francis X. Flaherty '68 of Warwick, R.I., retired as Rhode Island Supreme Court justice on Dec. 31, 2020, a position he was appointed to by Gov. Donald Carcieri in 2003. During his career, he also served as mayor of Warwick from 1984-1991, a member of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education from 1988-2003, assistant city solicitor for Warwick, and a member of the Warwick City Council, as well as an attorney in private practice. Flaherty also served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam in 1969-1970.

1970s

'70

Nicholas DiGiovanni, Jr., Esq. '70 of Newburyport, Mass., received two legal profession accolades. He was named to *The Best Lawyers in America*© 2021 list in two areas: Employment Law: Management, and in Litigation: Labor and Employment. *Best Lawyers* is based on an extensive peer-review survey and highlights the top 5% of practicing attorneys in the

United States. DiGiovanni also was chosen a notable practitioner by the 2020 *Chambers USA Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers*. He is a partner at Morgan, Brown & Joy, a labor and employment defense law firm located in Boston, where he specializes in representing universities and advising clients on labor relations and collective bargaining.

'72

Robert Martin '72, '79G of Cumberland, R.I., was named president of the listing information exchange and transaction service by the Statewide Multiple Listing Service of the Rhode Island Association of Realtors. He is the broker and owner of CrossRoads Real Estate Group in Woonsocket and Glocester, R.I. In his 35 years as a Realtor, Martin has served on local and state Realtor committees and held the president and other officer positions with the Northern Rhode Island Board of Realtors and the Rhode Island Association of Realtors.

'75

Genevieve "Jenny" Pappas '75, '84G of Fall River, Mass., earned the RE/MAX Right Choice of Fall River's top producer designation for the third year in a row. During 2020, she produced a sales volume of more than \$10 million while helping 27 clients buy and sell homes in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. She has been with RE/MAX Right Choice since 2006 and is a member of their Hall of Fame and 100% Club.

'77

James M. Tracy '77 of Milford, Mass., was named president of Maristhill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Waltham, Mass. Maristhill offers long-term and short-term skilled nursing, hospice care, rehabilitation therapies, and spiritual care. He previously served as executive director at Wingate at Sudbury, Walpole Healthcare, and Golden Living of Norwood.

1980s

'80

Michael Alfano '80 of Exeter, N.H., serves as a judge with the New Hampshire Circuit Court. He was named editor of the Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education publication, *A Practical Guide to Divorce in New Hampshire*.

Charles H. DeBevoise '80 of Dover, Mass., was named to the 2020 Massachusetts Super Lawyers list. An attorney with Davis Malm in Boston, he specializes in banking, business, and real estate affairs, with a focus on debt finance. Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas.

'83

Maureen (McGwin) Geller '83 of Warwick, R.I., was appointed operations manager in the Consumer Product Marketing group at Atlanta-based Cox Communications. She joined Cox in 2007 and most recently served as the product manager of video services for the company's northeast region. Prior to joining Cox, Geller was a market development manager at *The Standard-Times* newspaper in New Bedford, Mass.

'84

Ann Marie Maccarone, Esq. '84, '89G of Cranston, R.I., earned her LL.M degree in taxation, with a concentration in estate planning, from Boston University School of Law. She serves as an attorney for Lambros Law Office LLC in Cranston. Her work focuses on representing individuals and businesses in estate planning, elder law, probate, and real estate.

'85

Gene D. Carlino, Jr. '85 of Lincoln, R.I., was a recipient of the 2020 *Rhode Island Bar Journal's* Lauren E. Jones, Esq. Writing Award for

his article, "A Review of the SECURE Act and Its Effect on Estate Planning with Retirement Asset." He is a partner at Pannone Lopes Devereaux & O'Gara LLC and has more than 30 years of experience in estate and tax planning and administration, probate administration and trust litigation, and Medicaid planning and elder law. He is married to **Maria A. (Albanese) Carlino '85**.

Joseph T. Corradino, Esq. '85 of Branford, Conn., was appointed state's attorney for the Judicial District of Fairfield by the Connecticut Criminal Justice Commission. He oversees the prosecutors and staff in three court locations. Corradino joined the Division of Criminal Justice in 1990. During his 30 years of experience as a prosecutor, he has tried nearly 90 cases to verdict, chiefly homicides. He attained the rank of major in the Connecticut National Guard during his service as a judge advocate from 2002 until his transfer to the retired service in October 2019. He is a lecturer in criminal justice at Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport.

'86 (35th Reunion Year)

Daniel P. Deegan, Esq. '86 of Sea Cliff, N.Y., was selected as a *Long Island Business News* 2020 Long Island Business Hall of Fame inductee. Inductees are chosen for their influence within their industry and in the Long Island business community. He is a partner at Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP in Uniondale, N.Y., and leads the firm's industrial development agency, municipal incentives, and government relations practices.

Mark Jendrysik '86 of Grand Forks, N.D., published his third scholarly book, *Utopia*, as part of the Key Concepts in Political Theory series by Polity Books. He is a professor of political science at the University of North Dakota.

Maria R. (Longo) Malec '86 of Riverview, Fla., wrote a book, *Dare to Declare: Greeting the Day with Intention* (Westbow Press, 2020), a self-development guide to mindfulness and sustainable wellness. She is a lifestyle consultant, author, speaker, and mother of five.



Rev. Francis Belanger, O.P. '99G



Gregory S. Christenson '89



Maureen Davenport Corcoran '79



Rev. Michael A. Mascari, O.P.



Teresa A. Lavoie, Ph.D., J.D. '89

Five elected to PC Board of Trustees

Five new members, including four alumni, joined the College's Board of Trustees on July 1, 2020. Approved by the full board and certified by the PC Corporation, they were elected to three-year terms. New members are:

- **Rev. Francis Belanger, O.P. '99G**, promoter of Catholic social teaching, Dominican Friars Province of St. Joseph, and pastor, SS. Philip and James Catholic Church, Baltimore, Md.
- **Gregory S. Christenson '89**, chief financial officer, Champion Petfoods, Boulder, Colo.
- **Maureen Davenport Corcoran '79**, executive vice president (retired), State Street Corporation, Boston, Mass., who previously served on the board from 2008-2017
- **Rev. Michael A. Mascari, O.P.**, academic dean and vice president, Aquinas Institute of Theology, St. Louis, Mo.
- **Teresa A. Lavoie, Ph.D., J.D. '89**, principal, Fish & Richardson, P.C., Minneapolis, Minn.

Father Belanger and Father Mascari also were elected to serve on the PC Corporation.

In addition, three members who completed their terms on June 30, 2020, were named as trustees emeriti by the board: **David J. Aldrich '79**, **Duane M. Bouligny '94**, and **Heidi M. Kenny '76**.

'88

Gregory R. Faulkner, Esq. '88 of Rocky Hill, Conn., was selected to *The Best Lawyers in America*© 2021. *Best Lawyers* is based on a peer review evaluation. Faulkner was named as Lawyer of the Year in Hartford, Conn., in the Litigation: Construction category. He is a partner with the national law firm Robinson+Cole in Hartford and currently

serves as chair of the Construction Group and member of the Firm Managing Committee.

John Wallace '88 of Portsmouth, R.I., serves as an independent director on the board of directors for two publicly traded companies, Avid Technology and Linus Technologies Ltd. He is the former president and chief executive

officer of Deluxe Entertainment Services, the media and entertainment industry's largest post-production company. He previously served as president of NBCUniversal's Operations and Technology Division and president of NBC's Television Stations Division.

'89

Andrew Galbreath '89 of Bartonville, Texas, joined Apache Corporation as assistant general counsel, on international assignment in Cairo serving as a key member of the Apache Egypt leadership team. Apache is an oil and gas exploration and production company with operations in the United States, Egypt, and the United Kingdom, and with exploration activities off shore of Suriname. Galbreath has been advising international petroleum companies for the last 15 years, with a focus on Egypt.

David Hardy '89 of Tampa, Fla., is an attorney and manages The Hardy Law Firm, P.A. in Tampa. He is board certified as an expert in criminal trial law by both the Florida Bar and the National Board of Trial Advocacy. In 2019, his article, "Simon a Slave v. the State of Florida," was the cover feature of the *Florida Bar Journal*. Hardy and his wife, Carolyn, are the proud parents of an 8-year-old daughter and a 6-year-old son.

1990s

'90

William H. Haemmerle, III '90 of Florham Park, N.J., joined Wiss & Company, LLP, a full-service accounting and advisory firm, as director of the firm's Transaction Advisory Services practice. He provides clients with merger and acquisition advice, financial and operational due diligence services, valuations, and strategic guidance. He has more than 20 years of experience in corporate finance and private equity. He was previously head of credit operations and business development at The Credit Junction.

John McAleavey '90 of New Providence, N.J., launched a new podcast, "The Quadcast," as a platform for the spinal cord injury community to share stories of struggles and triumphs. It can be accessed at www.quadcast.org. He suffered a life-altering spinal cord injury in 1992, and his own story is featured in an episode. McAleavey has coached 8th-grade boys' basketball and assisted the high school boys' team in his hometown for 20 years. He also is now the peer counseling coordinator at Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in West Orange. He facilitates mentoring sessions between people who recently have had spinal cord injuries and those who have been injured for some time, with a goal of helping them adjust to their new life.

'91 (30th Reunion Year)

Michael Shea '91 of Orlando, Fla., works as a board-certified intermediary and senior partner with Transworld Business Advisors, specializing in small-to-midsize business sales and acquisitions.

'92

Andrew Gazerro III '92 of Coventry, R.I., was named a Top Dentist by *Rhode Island Monthly* magazine. Now in his 22nd year of practice, he serves as chair of the Council on Dental Benefits for the Rhode Island Dental Association. Gazerro also was appointed as the first district representative to the Council on Dental Benefit Programs at the American Dental Association.

Gia Anselmo Renaud '92 of Somerset, Mass., wrote a book, *Developing Effective Special Educators: Building Bridges Across the Profession* (Teachers College Press, 2020), with **Martha McCann Rose '79, '91G** and another colleague, Alice Tesch Graham. The research-based guide outlines a program of collaboration to enable novice teachers to gain insight from their more experienced colleagues. Renaud has a master's degree from Simmons College and a doctor of education degree in educational leadership from Johnson & Wales University.

'96 (25th Reunion Year)

Kimberly (Yonta) Aronow '96 of New Brunswick, N.J., was installed as president of the New Jersey State Bar Association. She is serv-

ing as the leader of the largest lawyers group in the state of New Jersey with more than 18,000 members. Aronow continues her practice as a trial lawyer at her law firm, Yonta Law, LLC, in New Brunswick, representing criminal defendants in all phases of litigation.

Ryan Moody '96 of Darnestown, Md., was elevated from senior director to principal at KLNBN, a provider of commercial real estate services throughout the mid-Atlantic region. His focus is representing landlords in the leasing and sales of warehouse, flex, and office properties in northern Virginia and Maryland. He has 24 years of experience in the industry.

'97

Sarah (Barszcz) Lopolito '97 and **Sean Lopolito '97, '02G** of North Smithfield, R.I., are the owners of Lops Brewing, a nano brewery in Woonsocket that creates original craft beers. Their beers include "Friar Bock" and "Eaton Street" IPA.

Amanda Lynch '97 of South Portland, Maine, was named a member of the law firm Germani Hill & Hayes, in Portland. A member of the firm since 2005, she practices primarily in civil litigation, with a focus on insurance defense, construction litigation, fire losses, premises liability, and personal injury matters.

Dr. Rachel (Kloter) Stansel '97 of Vernon, Conn., was elected to the Connecticut Business and Industry Associate Board of Directors, the state's largest business association. The board represents a cross-section of Connecticut's business community, including a range of industry sectors, sizes, and geographical locations. Stansel is president of Environics Inc., a leader in computerized gas flow instrumentation, and the recipient of the 2021 SBA Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Small Business of the Year award.

'98

Steven Ascher '98 of Mamaroneck, N.Y., was promoted to executive vice president of A+E Studios in New York City. He develops and produces premium documentaries and documentary series. His current slate includes a project for HBO Max with Monica Lewinsky

called *15 Minutes of Shame*, a documentary about the culture of public shaming. His last documentary, *Black Patriots of the American Revolution*, with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, was nominated for an Emmy.

Brian P. Corrigan '98 of Garden City, N.Y., was elected to the American College of Trust and Estate Council as a fellow. ACTEC is a national organization of lawyers and law professors. Fellows are selected based upon their experience in estate planning, trust, and probate law, and their outstanding reputation, skill, and contributions to the field. Corrigan is a partner in the New York City and Uniondale offices of Farrell Fritz, P.C. where he is the practice group leader of the firm's estate litigation practice group.

'99

Kevin McNamara, PE '99 of Walpole, Mass., joined Vanderweil Engineers in Boston as an associate principal and leads the Commercial Interiors Group. Vanderweil Engineers was founded in 1950 and is consistently ranked among the top U.S. building services engineering firms. McNamara has more than 20 years of engineering experience across multiple market sectors, including commercial office, retail, hospitality, and data centers.

2000s

'01 (20th Reunion Year)

Federico Carmona '01G, '02G of Northridge, Calif., is a trauma therapist for victims of domestic and sexual violence at Peace Over Violence in Los Angeles. His article, "How to Help Domestic Violence Clients during Shelter-in-Place Situations," was published in April 2020 by the American Counseling Association in its online magazine, *Counseling Today*.

Karen (Jasinski) Phillips '01 of Ashland, Mass., earned a doctorate in education, with a focus on organizational change and leadership, from the University of Southern California in May 2020. She serves as associate dean for student experience in the College of Professional Studies at Northeastern University in Boston.

'02

Mark Brady, M.D., M.P.H. '02 of North Providence, R.I., accepted a position as assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Brown University. Prior to this, he was associate professor of emergency medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis. He also was promoted to commander in the U.S. Navy Reserves. Brady was deployed to New York

City during the first surge of the COVID-19 pandemic and worked at Elmhurst Hospital Emergency Department in Queens. He also produced a documentary, *Dying in Your Mother's Arms*, that was published on *The New York Times* video website.

'03

Andrea (Ricci) Keefe '03 of Cumberland, R.I., was promoted to assistant vice president for development at Providence College. Previously, she was director of major gifts. Keefe was named a 2020 *Providence Business News* 40 Under Forty honoree, a distinction awarded for career success and community involvement.

'04

Dr. Kenneth A. Duva '04G of North Kingstown, R.I., was given a one-year extension by the School Committee as superintendent of the Jamestown, R.I., School District, a role he has maintained since 2016. This was in part due to his leadership during the coronavirus pandemic. He was under contract through June 2022, but the committee extended that agreement through June 2023.

Emily Philbin '04 of Clinton, Mass., an English teacher for 16 years at Algonquin Regional High School in Northborough, Mass., was named the school's Teacher of the Year for



Shannon Rafferty Sullivan, MSW, MS '00

Appointed hospital's #1 administrator amid pandemic

As the coronavirus pandemic raged in Rhode Island in 2020, the Care New England health care system looked to one of its proven leaders, **Shannon Rafferty Sullivan, MSW, MS '00**, for stability at one of its core facilities.

Sullivan, a social work major as a PC undergraduate, was elevated to president and chief operating officer of Women & Infants Hospital in Providence in September. Less than four months earlier, she had been appointed interim COO of the hospital, where approximately 8,500 children are born annually. She began her career with Care New England as a clinical social worker in 2002 and worked her way up to director positions in family and patient support services and later, operations.

But COVID-19 was a new, and distinct, challenge. "This was such a novel virus," said the Barrington, R.I., resident. "Every phase has brought a new twist in operations."

Sullivan, who was interviewed this year on the PC Podcast about her work at Women & Infants and her career, was selected by *Providence Business News* for its 2020 Business Women Award for Healthcare Services in the Industry Leader category.

► HEAR SULLIVAN ON THE PC PODCAST: PROV.LY/PC-LONG-READS

2020. She was the committee’s unanimous choice and was honored for her continued service to the community, especially through her focus on equity, inclusivity, and excellence in the classroom and on the athletic field. In 2018, she was named the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association Coach of the Year for girls’ rugby. She is the Algonquin High coach.

Stephanie Pietros ’04 of Bronx, N.Y., was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of English at the College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale, the Bronx. She also is director of the Honors Program at the college.

Mark Schartner ’04 of Morristown, N.J., celebrated his 100th win as coach of the West Morris Central High School varsity boys basketball team. He has coached the Wolfpack for eight years, and this year’s team finished ranked eighth in the state. In 2019, Schartner was named Morris County Coach of the Year as well as president of the Morris County Boys Basketball Coaches Association. He and his wife, **Lindsay (Weber) Schartner ’06**, have two sons.

’05

Alena Mazotas ’05 of Fairfield, Conn., was named digital engagement manager with Everyday Democracy, a national organization that supports dialogue and community change to advance democracy. She previously worked as a communications strategist at Newman’s Own Foundation.

’06 (15th Reunion Year)

Jacqueline Thurston ’06 of Wallingford, Conn., was recognized as a 2020 Connecticut Teacher of the Year finalist and earned a Voya Unsung Hero Award. This award is a scholarship for educators to fund innovative classroom projects in their schools. Thurston has been teaching special education in North Branford for more than 14 years. In 2018, she was awarded a Fulbright Teachers for Global Classrooms

Fellowship and traveled to India to study global education and relations.

’07

Laura Bedrossian ’07 of Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., accepted a leadership position as senior vice president of communications and marketing at Terentia. It is a Toronto-based technology start-up focused on digital asset management and collection management solutions for the cultural institutions industry. In her role and as part of the management team, she oversees internal and external communications, branding, and marketing.

Matthew Korn ’07 of Lexington, S.C., was elected to the partnership at Fisher Phillips, a preeminent U.S. labor and employment law firm. Based in the firm’s Columbia office, his practice focuses on employment counseling and litigation, including the defense of class and collective action lawsuits. He and his wife, **Haylee (Jones) Korn ’09**, have three sons, MJ, Joshua, and Caleb.

’08

Paul E. Coyne, DNP, R.N. ’08 of New York, N.Y., was accorded two honors for his work in the medical care industry, where he is the assistant vice president and chief nurse informatics officer at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. He was selected by *Crain’s New York Business* to its 2021 class of 40 Under Forty. Honorees were lauded for “leaving their mark on all facets of the business world” particularly during the course of the pandemic. Coyne also was named a “Top 25 Innovator” in the field of safety and quality by *Modern Healthcare* for 2020. He helped develop a technology that can be placed in patient rooms to monitor such risks as falls and pressure ulcers. It also alerts staff in real-time if PPE is not worn or secured properly.

Daniel L. King ’08 of Old Saybrook, Conn., was named a partner at Lahan & King, LLC, formerly The Law Office of P. Michael Lahan. Located in Norwich, the firm specializes in wills, trusts, elder law, and probate administration.

Rabbi Aaron A. Stucker-Rozovsky ’08 of Winchester, Va., was installed as rabbi of Beth El Congregation synagogue in Winchester. This

is his first position as a rabbi devoted full time to a single congregation. He previously served as the director of rabbinical services for the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life in Mississippi.

’09

Andrew J. Guyton ’09 of Stratham, N.H., was named a Leaders Club qualifier for the seventh consecutive year by The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America. Membership is extended to financial professionals who demonstrate exceptional service and dedication to clients and is one of the highest honors awarded by Guardian. Guyton is principal of The Guyton Group, a strategic advisory firm in Portsmouth. He works with clients on a wide range of issues including financial protection and wealth accumulation strategies. He and his wife, Jennifer, have three children, James, Claire, and Owen.

Claire Simonett Shea ’09 of Kuwait is serving as the middle and high school principal at American Creativity Academy, an international private school in Kuwait City. She is working towards her doctorate in education at the University of St. Thomas. Her research focuses on moral/ethical conflict between students and teachers in public, secondary classrooms. Shea holds a B.A. in theology, M.A. in teaching, and an Ed.S. in school leadership. She is a licensed K-12 principal and superintendent.

2010s

Friars of the Last Decade

’11 **FOLD** (10th Reunion Year)

Steven E. Maalouf ’11 of South Boston, Mass., was recently recognized by Best Lawyers in America’s new category, “Ones to Watch.” Best Lawyers recognizes individual lawyers who are earlier in their careers for outstanding professional excellence in private practice in the U.S. Maalouf, who currently works for Casner & Edwards LLP, represents clients in all aspects of family law, specializing in all aspects of domestic relations, including divorce, guardianships, child support, and more.

’12 **FOLD**

Emily (DiTomaso) Calderone ’12 and **Michael Calderone ’12** of Stamford, Conn., were married on Sept. 15, 2018, at The Church of Saint Cecilia in Stamford. The couple met during their sophomore year at PC. Emily holds a doctorate in clinical psychology and is a licensed clinical psychologist at Community Health Center, Inc. in Stamford. Michael holds a master’s degree in taxation and works as an international tax manager at Mastercard in Purchase, N.Y. They are expecting their first child, a boy, in July 2021.

Margaret “Meg” Van Name, R.N. ’12 of New York City is a senior staff nurse on the nurse resource team for intensive care units at New York University’s Langone Medical Center in New York City. She attained her bachelor of science in nursing degree from Duke University in 2016 and spent several years crossing the country as a traveling nurse at major urban hospitals and medical facilities.

’13 **FOLD**

Shannon Droge ’13 of West Hartford, Conn., received her fellowship designation from the Society of Actuaries, after five years of studying for actuarial exams. She has worked at The Hartford in Hartford for the past six years in a variety of actuarial rotations. She currently works on the Group Reinsurance Plus team, which offers life and disability products to a variety of clients through full turnkey programs, traditional quota share arrangements, or excess reinsurance coverage.

’14 **FOLD**

Christine Hartwich ’14 of West Hartford, Conn., was promoted to education director (school principal) of the special education school company where she has worked as a teacher for the last six years.

’15 **FOLD**

Emily J. Morin ’15 of Maumee, Ohio, was named a resident artist with Toledo Opera for the 2020-21 season. This is the second year she is serving as the program’s music director and the ensemble’s pianist. She is also the queen in their Opera on Wheels production of *Cinderella*. Opera on Wheels brings live opera to local educational institutions.

Leah Towe ’15 of Houston, Texas, is an associate attorney at global law firm Norton Rose Fulbright LLP in Houston. She practices in the areas of trusts and estates, tax, and wealth management. She received her J.D. from Baylor Law School in 2019, *magna cum laude*. She is married to **Kevin Donovan ’15**, who is in his second year of law school at the University of Houston Law Center.

’16 **FOLD**

(5th Reunion Year)

Robert J. “R.J.” Fiondella, Jr. ’16, ’18G of Farmington, Conn., was named the director of investor relations at Loan Automatic USA, a company which connects independent dealers and lenders in the auto industry. He is also a development committee volunteer with Amy’s Angels, a charitable organization which supports those with long-term illness or serious injury by providing advocacy and volunteer services as well as fundraising and financial support. He is a member of the Class of 2016 reunion committee.

Francisco Oller Garcia ’16 of Tampa, Fla., accepted a new position as a customer advocate with Drift. He assists companies in scaling and accelerating revenue. Garcia was named a top 10 marketing operations professional in the Demand Gen 2020 Awards and a 25 Under 25 recipient by Tampa Bay Inno. He also serves on the Digital Marketing Advisory Board for the University of South Florida and is the marketing chair for The University of Tampa Board of Counselors.

’17 **FOLD**

Hannah E. Sorila ’17 of Brattleboro, Vt., joined the team with Diversity Abroad as the coordinator for community and membership, where she will focus on equity, belonging, and inclusion work with students and professionals within international education. She aims to apply the framework of decoloniality in international education, which includes addressing and dismantling systems of white supremacy, heteronormativity, paternalism, and patriarchy, among others.

’18 **FOLD**

Lauren Boen ’18 of Mansfield, Mass., is a fifth-grade elementary and special education teacher at Community Elementary School in North Attleboro. She teaches math, reading,

writing, and social studies. Boen holds a master’s degree in curriculum instruction, with a concentration in educational leadership, from Southern New Hampshire University.

Jordan Brydie ’18 of Boston, Mass., is a strategy consultant at Reference Point, based in New York City, with experience developing solutions for complex business problems at large financial institutions including banks, asset managers, and insurance companies in domestic markets. He has experience in product strategy, business and data architecture, data and analytics, enterprise software modernizations, business intelligence and enterprise reporting, M&A pre-deal due diligence, and project management.

Thomas Nee ’18 of Winthrop, Mass., joined the novitiate of the Eastern Dominican Province of St. Joseph at St. Gertrude’s Priory in Cincinnati, Ohio, in July 2020 to begin his pursuit of the priesthood as a Dominican friar. He majored in theology at PC.

’19 **FOLD**

Brother Raphael Arteaga, O.P., ’19 of Pawtucket, R.I., completed his novitiate year with the Eastern Dominican Province of St. Joseph and made his simple profession of vows on Aug. 15, 2020, the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. His vows were received by **Very Rev. John Langlois, O.P., ’85**, prior of Saint Gertrude Priory, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Morgan E. Bjarno ’19 of New York City is a health and benefits analyst with Willis Towers Watson, a global advisory, brokerage, and solutions company. She works in New York City. She also serves on the Adolescent and Young Adult Advisory Council of Connecticut Children’s Medical Center in Hartford.

Thomas Heavren ’19 of West Springfield, Mass., was elected the 2020 class speaker for College Leadership Rhode Island. CLRI provides community leadership programming to a diverse group of students and recent college graduates who want to use their strengths to improve Rhode Island as they transition from college to career. He is a graduate student at the Boston College School of Social Work where he focuses on social innovation and leadership. 🍷



Clara Lamore Walker '64, '73G, '78G; world-famous master's swimmer, PC athletes' 'grandmother'



Clara Lamore Walker '64, '73G, '78G

Clara Lamore Walker '64, '73G, '78G, an Olympian and world-renowned master's swimmer who was one of the first women to earn a bachelor's degree from Providence College, died on April 2, 2021. She was 94.

Her claim to fame was swimming at the highest levels of the sport, but at PC – where she trained, interacted with the women's and men's swimming and diving teams for three decades, attended daily Mass, and even worked in residence life – she was known as Clara or referred to as “grandmother” by student-athletes and students alike.

Mrs. Walker's selflessness and focus on others' well-being, and not her own success, camouflaged a life that “would be a heck of a movie,” said John O'Neill, the Friars' swimming and diving coach.

During her lifetime, she worked for the New England Telephone Company, was a cloistered nun with the Order of the Cenacle, earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy and master's degrees in guidance/counselor education and secondary administration from PC, taught English and

served as a guidance counselor in Cranston, R.I., public schools, traveled around the world, and was married to a U.S. Navy officer for several years before his sudden death.

Born and raised in Providence, Mrs. Walker joined the Olneyville Boys Club swim team and quickly developed into a five-time AAU All-America swimmer. Her success led to a berth in the 1948 Summer Olympic Games in London, where she competed in the breaststroke. She swore she would never swim competitively after that because of the years of training, but 32 years later, when her doctor recommended she take up swimming to alleviate back pain, she was back in the pool.

Mrs. Walker started training again after she set a national record in the 50-yard breaststroke in the 50-54 age group in her first meet. From that point on, swimming multiple strokes, she set 184 world records and 467 national records as a master's swimmer. She was the first female master's swimmer to be inducted into the International Swimming Hall of

Fame in 1995.

PC and its Taylor Natatorium in the Peterson Recreation Center quickly became the home for Mrs. Walker's training after the center opened in 1981. O'Neill recalled her daily routine of attending Mass and training in and out of the pool for two hours. O'Neill, who offered training and stroke advice to Mrs. Walker, and his women's and men's swimmers quickly came to develop close relationships with her.

That association continued for approximately 30 years, with Mrs. Walker attending PC swim meets and getting to know new swimmers each year. She became close to many of them, frequently attending their weddings over the years, and swam with them each year in southern Rhode Island at their Swim Across America fundraiser for cancer research.

Mrs. Walker, who was the aunt of Paul R. Lamore '81, '01G, also worked for several years in the late 1990s as the hall director at Raymond Hall on campus. ❧

Dr. D. Russell Bailey, director of Phillips Memorial Library who is credited with making the library an “information commons” model – a one-stop shop meeting the needs of all its patrons – died on Dec. 19, 2020. Director since 2005, he not only transitioned Phillips into an information commons center but also developed the commons concept and lectured on it nationally and internationally. At PC, the concept evolved into facilities involving Integrated and Interactive Teaching, Learning, and Research; a Faculty Commons; and a Digital Commons. It underscored his belief that the library should facilitate all resources that enhance learning, such as the Office of Academic Services and the iHelp technology resource center, which was created under his direction. Dr. Bailey also was a German scholar, a professor and a researcher in international education methods, and an accomplished bluegrass musician.

Officer Alfred Mansuetti, Jr., one of the first officers hired after PC established its own security office in 1978, died on Nov. 11, 2020. Throughout his 42 years with the Office of Public Safety, he was known for befriending students and security force staff alike. He gave his time freely to colleagues, offering to move furniture,

listening in times of difficulty, and in other ways. Officer Mansuetti was active in the formation of the officers' union in 1986 and became its steward and vice president. His survivors include a daughter, Kimba Mansuetti, a dispatcher in the Office of Public Safety.

Very Rev. Walter Urban Voll, O.P., S.T.M. '45, '97Hon., a Dominican priest for 71 years, died on Jan. 24, 2021. Father Voll served his *alma mater* in a variety of positions in his younger and later years of his active ministry. He began his teaching ministry at the College in 1950, teaching theology and English for two years. He returned in 1984, teaching theology until 1990. He also served as prior of St. Thomas Aquinas Priory on campus from 1990-1993, as a member of the board of trustees from 1992-1997, and as chair of the PC Corporation from 1993-1997 when he served as prior provincial of the Dominican Province of St. Joseph.

William R. Davis, Esq. '52, '91Hon., PC trustee *emeritus* and one of the College's leading benefactors, died on Feb. 9, 2021. A member of the 1917 Society and the Harkins Society, Mr. Davis and his late wife, Doris O. Davis, established the William & Doris Davis Scholarship Fund for needy Hartford, Conn., area public

high school students. He served as a regional chair of the recent *Our Moment* comprehensive campaign and was extremely active in alumni programs in Connecticut. Davis Hall, an apartment-style residential complex on campus, was dedicated to Mr. and Mrs. Davis in 1994 in recognition of longstanding support to PC. He was a co-founder of and served as a personal injury attorney at the Hartford law firm RisCassi & Davis, P.C. for 65 years. His survivors include a daughter, Carolyn Davis '79.

J. Peter Benzie '70, trustee *emeritus* who helped shape the direction of every major capital project on campus during the last decade, died on Nov. 1, 2020. Mr. Benzie served on the PC Board of Trustees from 2009-2018, chairing the Building and Property Committee during a time when the College experienced an unprecedented transformation of its infrastructure. He also served on the Providence President's Council for nine years and worked diligently to raise funds for his *alma mater*. Last year, he was selected to receive an honorary degree during the Class of 2020's Commencement Exercises, which were postponed by the pandemic. That honor will be bestowed posthumously at an appropriate time. Mr. Benzie spent 45 years in the financial services industry,

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IN MEMORIAM

most recently as senior managing director and founder of Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. in New York City.

Andrew C. Corsini, C.P.A. '57, a loyal alumnus and former PC National Alumni Association president, died on Aug. 27, 2020. Mr. Corsini, who was NAA president in 1990-91, held leadership roles or served in other capacities with his class reunion committees, the annual fund, and the Providence President's Council. A U.S. Navy veteran and a lifelong accountant, he established the Gus Coté Scholarship Fund in memory of his accounting professor, Gustave C. Coté '62Hon. Among his survivors are a daughter and son, Lynn A. Corsini '81 and Bryan M. Corsini '83.

Dr. Susan H. Marsh, professor *emeritus* of political science who created several course offerings in Chinese and Asian politics and helped found the Asian Studies Program, died on Aug. 6, 2020. A distinguished scholar of modern Chinese politics, she taught at PC from 1977-1994, serving as department chair for two years. Dr. Marsh was admired by colleagues for her thoughtfulness, wisdom, and spirit. One of her most significant scholarly contributions was the English translation, with commentary, of the complete *Writings of Chairman Mao Tse-tung: 1949-1976*, a translation she co-authored with a colleague from

Brown University. It is considered a critical reference for modern China scholars to this day.

Hon. Howard I. Lipsey '57, an upstanding jurist and lawyer who was featured in a 2018 documentary chronicling the experiences and contributions of the College's Jewish students, died on July 25, 2020. Judge Lipsey remained close to PC throughout his life and was a faithful supporter of the Jewish-Catholic Theological Exchange. A prominent trial lawyer for more than three decades, he served as an associate justice of the Rhode Island Family Court from 1993-2008. At PC, he helped established the junior ring tradition — now Senior Ring Weekend.

Dr. Edward F. Sweet, who taught history at PC for nearly four decades, died on Feb. 4, 2021. A U.S. Army veteran, he was hired as an instructor of history at the College in 1959 and retired as an associate professor in 1997. Dr. Sweet taught a variety of courses over his career, including ones in the history of Europe and the Historical Methodology course in the Graduate History Program, and was respected as a conscientious and thorough lecturer. Among his survivors are five children: Elizabeth A. Gizzarelli '83, Margaret M. Cousineau '86, Rev. Daniel J. Sweet '93, Matthew W. Sweet '93, '96G, and John E. Ladouceur '94, '04G. ❧

DEATHS

Raymond W. Isacco '42
Jerome J. Tesler '42
Edward B. Hauck '44
Msgr. Robert L. Noon '44
Very Rev. Walter U. Voll, O.P., S.T.M. '45, '97Hon.
Bernard P. Campbell '49
Ernest J. Couture '49
Robert H. Harrison '49
William J. Leddy '49
Rocco Marzilli, M.D. '49
Dennis J. McAuliffe '49
Anthony J. Montalbano, Esq. '49
Hon. Victor J. Beretta '50
Herbert H. Eitter '50
Thomas J. Hyder '50
Ernest C. Kingman '50
Daniel L. Morrissey '50
Maurice R. Beaulieu '51
Norman D. Beausoleil, Sr. '51
Maurice R. Dubois '51
James L. Kane '51
Kenneth D. McDonald '51
Gerard E. McKenna '51
John J. Conroy '52
William R. Davis, Esq. '52, '91Hon.
Roger Ferland '52
Joseph A. Harte '52
Arthur T. Jones '52
Matthew R. Matera '52
Joseph M. McDonald '52
Robert A. Melone '52
John T. Myers '52
James F. Penler '52
Thomas V. Sullivan, Esq. '52
Jean E. Berube '53
Alfred A. Cavallaro '53
Thomas E. Devine '53
Thomas P. Farrell '53
William E. Newman '54
John P. Searles '54
Donald J. Stubbs '54
Richard P. Zipoli, Sr., Esq. '54
Romualdas K. Gruodis '55
James E. Hyland, Jr. '55
Lt. Col. Ronald R. McGee '55
Donald G. Meegan '55
Bernard J. Moran, Jr. '55

DEATHS

William T. Murphy, Jr. '55
George T. Patton '55
Neil G. Vegliante '55
Richard A. Faulkner '56
Ronald E. Lovett '56
Lawrence J. Nichols '56
Pasquale J. Paolantonio '56
Robert E. Reall '56
V. James Santaniello, Esq. '56
Joseph J. Szymanski '56
Earl A. White '56
Andrew C. Corsini, C.P.A. '57
Alfred R. De Angelus '57
Herbert C. Hearne '57
Hon. Howard I. Lipsey '57
Dr. Albert C. O'Brien '57
Gabriel J. Zurolo '57
Domenic Diorio, Jr. '58
John J. Dwyer '58
William A. Hanlon '58
Robert J. McCarthy '58
Edward M. McFadden '58
James M. Mullin '58
John T. Kelleher '59
Santa W. Matrone '59, '69G
Sidney W. Paull, Esq. '59
Mitchell A. Stawiarski '59
John E. Sullivan, Jr. '59
William H. Berger '60
Harold C. Bonner '60
James V. Bosco, Jr., D.D.S. '60
John M. Christoforo, M.D. '60
Ronald M. Coia '60
Michael A. Consiglio, O.D. '60
William T. Donohue '60
Robert W. Erdon '60
John I. Salisbury '60
Everett M. Allen, Ph.D. '61
Albert G. Brien '61
Joseph H. Daley '61
Thomas J. Garrity '61
Paul V. Hodges '61
Peter C. Kelly, M.D. '61
Brian N. Larkin '61
Joseph F. Ruggiero, Jr. '61
David W. Taft '61
Joseph T. Turo, Esq. '61
Alfred C. Angelone '62

Robert J. Cicione '62G
David E. FitzGerald, O.D. '62
G. John Gazerro, Jr., Esq. '62
David Greenstein '62
Dr. William C. Griffiths '62
Frank M. Herrera '62
Richard J. Palazzini '62
Major Robert P. Paulison '62
Earl M. Small '62
Charles A. Van Gorden '62, '73G, '76G
Antonio Caprio, Jr. '63
Valentino T. Colasanto '63
Robert C. Johnson, Esq. '63
Kevin O. Keating '63
James M. Renaldo '63
Louis E. Salvas '63
Eugene A. Sheridan, Jr. '63
Edmund W. Trainor '63
William H. Adair, Jr. '64
Louis B. Colavecchio '64
Stephen E. Emidy, Jr. '64
Leo W. Gormley '64
Conrad L. Lariviere '64
John R. Thompson, Jr. '64
Clara Lamore Walker '64, '73G, '78G
William T. Wild, Jr. '64
Joseph S. Cherella '65
Richard F. DeRobbio '65
Gilbert F. Devine '65
Joseph A. Lannunziata, M.D. '65
Major Thomas I. Mainey '65
Thomas J. McCarthy '65
Thomas B. Manning '66
Robert M. Patalano '66
Frederick Rogler '66G
Jeffrey S. Rossbach '66, '67G
Richard D. Thompson '66
Donald L. Goodrich '67SCE
Daniel F. Gaven, Esq. '68
Leo G. Leclerc '68, '72G
John H. Noonan '68
Thomas S. Bourke '69
Richard M. Famiglietti, Jr. '69
Joseph Haas '69
Timothy M. McBride '69
James H. Montague, Jr. '69

J. Peter Benzie, Jr. '70
Paul R. Campbell '70
Steven M. Cooley '70
Robert N. Mackey '70
James W. McCaughey '70
Edward J. Szado '70
Robert M. Ferreira '71
Paul N. Gagnon '71
Joseph Intravia, Jr. '71
Sister Mary K. Seibert, S.N.D. '71G
Charles J. Carrell '72
Sister Bernadine Egleston, O.P. '72
Rev. Kevin J. Harrington '72
Tom Pullano '72G
Charles J. Reilly '72
Richard F. Shields '72
Albert L. Caisse '73, '76G
Anthony J. Evaristo '73
Susan A. Foley '73G
Charles E. Golden '73G
James A. Goltz '73
Charlotte A. Tavares '73G
Richard M. Whitehead '73G
Margaret M. Carroll '74G
Stephen J. Fischer '74
Mark F. Granato '74
Paul F. Ouellet '74G, '77G
Nelson K. Chin '75
John F. Cotter '75, '77G
Daniel D. Dulude '75
Kathleen E. Lynch '75
Edward J. McCormick, III '75
Paul A. Raposa '75
Engelina Veyera '75
Robert W. Connole '76SCE
Carolyn Tortolani '76G
Rev. Dr. Sammy C. Vaughan '76SCE
John J. Vronis '76G
Michael D. Henderson '77G
Thomas N. Meglio '77
David R. Amaral '79
Michael Canning '79
John H. Carty '79
Sister Catherine T. Keller '79G
Sister Margaret Sickles '79G
Adam P. Alexander '80SCE

Kevin W. Kelly '80
Matthew J. Zito, Jr. '80
Joseph F. Pagliarini '81
Paul J. Fleming '82
Joseph M. Gormley '82
Joan A. Quinlan '82
Nicholas Romano '82
Sister Mary E. Morrison '83G
Jeanne R. Ingersoll '84
John Pa. McGurn '84
Rev. Robert P. Perron '85G
Lorraine M. Slaney '85SCE
Patricia A. Prior '86SCE
Donna L. Kane '87SCE
Megan E. Kennedy '87
Arlene McWhinnie '87G
Irene Pare '88SCE, '92G
Bryan J. Conti '89SCE
Vincent D. Colonna, Jr. '93
Thomas M. Sheehan '93
Justin Teague '93
John W. Burgess, Jr. '94G
Julie C. Marz '96G
Michele L. Mcquiston '97
James N. Dunbar '99G
Glenn R. Heywood '99SCE
Wayne R. White, Jr. '00
Linda A. Newman '01G
Norman Michaud '02SCE
Christine Perry '03
Tracy E. Walsh '03
Shereef Ahmed '04
Thomas Fava '04G
Michael V. Claps '06
Daniel P. Finnegan '07
Marco P. Thomas '07
Kelly A. Caulfield '08
Takia T. T. Dasent '08
Patrick H. Beauregard '11
Deacon Carlo J. Sabetti '11G
Jason A. Lopez '20
Dr. D. Russell Bailey (staff)
Officer Alfred Mansueti, Jr. (staff)
Dr. Susan H. Marsh (*emeritus* faculty)
Dr. Edward F. Sweet (*retired* faculty) ❧



THE LAST WORD

Resolved to Change

BY ANN MANCHESTER-MOLAK '75

To witness history in the making is one thing; to participate in the development of that history is quite another. Entering Providence College in September of 1971 as a member of the first class of women, I, along with 286 other women, was both an observer and a participant in what would soon become a rapidly-changing campus environment.

During the years leading up to college, the quest for peace, justice, and civil rights was starkly juxtaposed against riots and assassinations. We witnessed a new wave of the women's movement and were often startled by the power of the voices that emerged. As we tried to discern what was different from our mothers' generation, we became increasingly inquisitive about issues of equality for women. All the while, the ravages of the Vietnam War

continued to incite enormous social and political unrest that is forever etched in our minds. The world was changing all around us, and we absorbed the chaos, discontent, and restlessness that were so pervasive.

While our mothers were inclined to be accepting of their place in society, we were hungry for ways to change it. The confluence of weighty societal issues had not only affected and shaped us, but caused us to pause, to question, and to consider more deeply what we could do to make this world a better place. Ours was a generation of women who sought something different.

Entering PC from an all-girls Catholic high school, I found that part of the PC experience would be familiar, as meaningful discussions we had had in high school — about virtue, values, equity, and truth — continued to be foundational to teaching and learning at PC. The

moral dilemma in an ethics class taught by Father James Quigley, O.P. '60 still resonates with me today, as do the lessons of Auschwitz survivor and political science professor, the late Dr. Zygmunt Friedemann '08Hon., long remembered for his heady lectures on the perplexities of international politics. A colorful silk ascot tied neatly at his neck, Dr. Friedemann endeavored to explain the often-unexplainable circumstances of world conflicts.

The Dominican friars were not too sure what to make of it when we arrived. Clearly, there were some mixed reactions to the College's decision to go coed. But after a few months, it became clear to the friars that we were here to learn, to grow, to lead, and to re-imagine the world. Most of our male counterparts had come from coed high schools, so there was nothing unusual about having women among them in the

classroom. It took a little longer for the men of the classes of 1972-1974 to get used to the idea of having women on campus. But as women demonstrated their prowess on so many fronts, walls began to crumble, and deep friendships began to form — friendships that have stood the test of time.

Providence College would help give us that opportunity to identify and recognize potential, to commit to becoming all that we were meant to be, and to provide us with the tools to do so. But as much as there was well-intended readiness to host this first class of women, we would become forever grateful for the advocacy we had from members of the administration and faculty — including Helen Bert, the first women's recreation director; Sally Thibodeau '66G, the first female assistant dean; Jane Lunin Perel '15Hon., professor *emerita* of English, and others. We were not looking for special treatment; we simply wanted to be treated fairly, the same as the men. The late Father Thomas R. Peterson, O.P. '51, then-president, listened attentively, and the College gradually gave way to much-needed infrastructural changes that helped level the playing field for women.

The first class of women to join the College also coincided with the initiation of the Development of Western Civilization Program (DWC). While challenging and rather uncoordinated in its nascent days, DWC provided an excellent

opportunity to engage with many outstanding faculty members who piqued my curiosity in other fields of study. One year later, study abroad in Fribourg, Switzerland, quenched my appetite to absorb the essence of the humanities, and to more deeply experience what I had learned during four semesters of DWC.

Looking back at these days, I realize that we formed a tremendous amount of resilience as a group of groundbreaking women. We graduated in 1975 with ambitious plans, unwavering dreams, and an insatiable desire to be all that we could be. We were changed ... but we also had changed PC. The first class of women at PC simply opened the door for others to follow, and follow they have — yielding scientists, civil

servants, educators, doctors, lawyers, pilots, and notable contributors to countless other fields.

The title of this column, "The Last Word," has always intrigued me. The Last Word for Providence College is neither mine nor yours to write. The Last Word is an ever-developing, ever-emerging, and ever-enduring narrative that has been, and will continue to be, written by all PC women ... then ... now ... next. ❏

Ann Manchester-Molak '75 is College executive vice president, the second-highest administrative position, and is the first woman and lay person at PC to hold that position. She has served her alma mater since 1980 and is married to Andrew J. Molak, D.M.D. '75.



Ann-Manchester Molak '75 accepts her diploma at Commencement Exercises on May 27, 1975. At left is PC President Very Rev. Thomas R. Peterson, O.P. '51, '85 Hon., standing next to Most Rev. Louis E. Gelineau, D.D., bishop of Providence.

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**50 YEARS OF WOMEN:
THEN, NOW, NEXT**
Detail of "Mrs. Slavin,"
from the campus
statue celebrating
coeducation

