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PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MAGAZINE SPRING 2025

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The view from above the War Memorial Grotto as the Class of 1975, PC's first coeducational class, celebrated commencement. Photo courtesy of PC Archives and Special Collections.

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Walking in the new Ben Mondor Center for Nursing and Health Sciences, from left, Camila Soto '27, Shawn Staak '27, Rev. Dominic Verner, O.P., and Kevin Sullivan '27.

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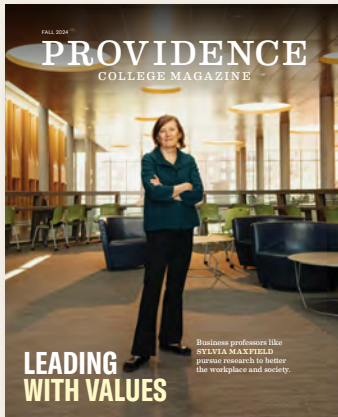
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New beverages from **Jeremy Duffy '93** benefit The Fund for Providence College.





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→ As a graduate of PC and Northwestern and a parent of two college students, I receive a wealth of alumni magazines. The editorial content can sometimes be formulaic, touting the latest athletic or scientific victory, a donor profile or a capital improvement project, along with a list of alumni milestones.

This last issue of the PC Magazine was quite different.

I was riveted by “Act Two,” the profile of our new alumni president, Brian McManus ’90. His story was heartbreaking and inspiring all at once. He recounted his professional successes and the addiction and mental health issues that unraveled his achievements. His acknowledgment of wrongdoing, efforts to make restitution, and his new path as a peer counselor put his humanity on display while offering hope to others that understanding and redemption are possible.

As the author Vicki-Ann Downing drew the story to a close, she wrote about the invitation extended to McManus by Jennifer MacCallum O’Meara ’93 to join the National Alumni Council. It was something that McManus didn’t expect but enthusiastically embraced.

Kudos to Downing for this story, for MacCallum O’Meara extending the invitation, for the encouragement of his wife, Kerry, and for the Providence College community that has rallied behind Brian’s recovery journey. Reading this article has made me proud of my association with the school and hopeful for the direction of the National Alumni Council under the leadership of its president, Brian McManus.

— **Mary K. Talbot ’85**

→ I want to applaud you and your magazine for publishing the incredibly important and impactful piece featuring Brian McManus ’90. Although I was at PC in the same period, I did not know Brian. But reading his story certainly gave me a sense of the courageous, honest, transparent, and compassionate person that he is.

As I read the piece, I was also struck by the thought that so much of what he shared of his experience — struggles with depression/mental health, self-medicating with alcohol while in college, and periods of hopelessness — are things that many PC alumni likely can relate to, either themselves or in loved ones. Brian serves as an incredible role model in the work that he now does, and his honest and courageous words in the magazine article serve as an inspiration — and may spark hope for a reader who may be struggling with some of these issues.

I only wish you had included informational resources for mental health and substance use at the end of the article so readers could clearly see that help is available and how to access it. Something

as simple as listing the National Crisis Helpline (call or text 988) or SAMHSA National Helpline (call 800-662-HELP or visit [samhsa.gov/find-help](https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help)).

I hope that it is possible for you to pass along to Brian my appreciation for his courageous and honest telling of his journey, and for the impact he is clearly having on people in recovery.

— **Melisa Poulos, M.D. ’89**

→ Congratulations to all the alumni authors in the Fall 2024 magazine. Megan Gorzkowski Amrich’s *Show up and Bring Coffee* is well written and sensible. I read it quickly and really relate to her message. I also ordered *Road to Glory: The PC Basketball Story* by Richard Coren. I’ll be sharing both! It is great to see the authors get recognition!

— **Marie Cummiskey ’81**

→ I always read your magazine with great interest. I thought the emphasis and one-page format in the Fall 2024 issue on a number of faculty members was really good. PC is obviously doing very well. Thanks for keeping us informed.

— **Charlie Hadlock ’67**

→ Just wanted to send a note to say how much I enjoyed the Fall 2024 issue of PC Magazine. It makes me so grateful for my experience at Providence College and proud to be a Friar.

Keep up the great work!

— **Emily Roblee, M.D. ’13**

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BLACK & WHITE

BUZZ



Frankenstein lives

Christina Schwab '25 drew from her studies in English and theatre to adapt, stage, and direct Peggy Webling's *Frankenstein* in two sold-out performances in the John Bowab '55 Studio Theatre in February 2025. Schwab, from Havertown, Pennsylvania, learned about Webling's play from her English professor, Bruce Graver, Ph.D., who co-wrote *Peggy Webling and the Story Behind Frankenstein: The Making of a Hollywood Monster*. Webling's play was adapted from Mary Shelley's classic horror novel and inspired the 1931 film starring Boris Karloff. Schwab is shown with Kevin Bongiorno '25 from Williston, New York, who played the monster, named Frankenstein by Webling after his creator. More about Schwab's project: news.providence.edu/schwab-frankenstein.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER GOLDBERG

A habit that fits just right



Rev. Justin Bolger, O.P., left, with Zac Brown and College Chaplain Rev. Simon Teller, O.P. (Photo by Tyler Lord)



Late Night Madness headliner and three-time Grammy Award

winner **Zac Brown Band** was joined onstage at the Amica Mutual Pavilion in October 2024 by **College Chaplain Rev. Simon Teller, O.P.**, and **Rev. Justin Bolger, O.P.**, former PC chaplain and current pastor of the Brown-RISD Catholic Community. The priests are members of The Hillbilly Thomists bluegrass band, whose members are Dominican friars. Father Justin on guitar and Father Simon on fiddle accompanied Zac Brown Band as it performed its Grammy-nominated single, *Chicken Fried* — a highlight of Homecoming Weekend and a moment that went viral instantly on social media.



← Watch the performance

ANOTHER APPLICATION RECORD

For the fifth consecutive year, the college set an applications record. More than **13,200** high school students applied for admission to the Class of 2029, **up 5 percent** from the previous year, when 12,519 students applied. It was the first time applications surpassed 13,000.





BONES ABOUT IT

Students meet the mind of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Civ and theology courses. In December 2024, they met his skull. Thomas' major relics — bodily remains Catholics venerate as former temples of the Holy Spirit and reminders of the resurrection — visited St. Dominic Chapel during a 10-city tour of the eastern United States. Visitors prayed throughout the day and filled pews in the chapel to capacity for two Masses. Venerating the skull was a familiar practice to some, peculiar to others, but memorable for all. It was "like being in the presence of an old friend," said Campus Ministry President **Elisia Pagliuca '25** of Berlin, Connecticut.



Second in significance maybe only to diplomas, intramural champion T-shirts remain a coveted trophy for the more than 2,431 Providence College students who participated in one or more intramural sports during the 2024-2025 academic year. The college's nationally recognized intramural athletics program's newest offering is pickleball, available in a singles league in the fall and a doubles league in the spring. This year, 177 teams competed in the pickleball leagues, which are expected to grow in their next seasons. 🍷



“GUIDED BY GOD’S
GRACE AND INSPIRED
BY OUR MISSION,
WE WILL CONTINUE
THE WORK OF
ACHIEVING OUR
SHARED VISION ...”

Father Sicard granted second five-year term

The Board of Trustees unanimously recommended a second five-year term for College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G during their meeting in February 2025. The Providence College Corporation unanimously accepted and approved the recommendation.

Father Sicard became PC's 13th president on July 1, 2020. His second term will continue through June 30, 2030.

Rev. Thomas More Garrett, O.P. is the new executive vice president for mission and chief operating officer, the second highest position at the college. His appointment followed the retirement of Ann Manchester-

Molak '75, executive vice president since 2020 and the first woman and first lay person to serve in that role.

The trustees also elected new board leadership effective July 1. Christopher K. Reilly '84, board chair since 2018, will conclude 16 years as a trustee in June. Susan M. Esper '91 will be the new board chair, the first woman to hold that position. Dennis J. Langwell '80 was elected vice chair.

A former student affairs administrator who served as PC's executive vice president from 2005-2020, Father Sicard has more senior leadership experience than anyone in the college's history. A native of Fall River, Massachusetts, and a first-generation college

student, he earned an accounting degree from PC in 1978 and an MBA in 1982 while working in the banking industry. He entered the Dominican Order in 1984 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1990. He earned a Ph.D. in business education from The Ohio State University.

“I am grateful to the Corporation and the Board of Trustees for their ongoing support and for the opportunity to continue as president for another five years,” Father Sicard said. “Guided by God’s grace and inspired by our mission, we will continue the work of achieving our shared vision of a Providence College of even greater distinction and impact.”



JUDGE CAPRIO



BISHOP HENNING



KERRI MURRAY



CHRISTOPHER REILLY



MICHAEL COX



ANN MANCHESTER-MOLAK



BROTHER PERKINS



RONALD STRIDE

‘America’s nicest judge’ Frank Caprio to be commencement speaker

Judge Frank Caprio ’58, ’08Hon., whose compassion from the Providence Municipal Court bench made him an internet sensation and gained him the title “America’s nicest judge,” will be the featured speaker at Providence College’s 107th commencement exercises.

The undergraduate ceremony for the Class of 2025 will take place at the Amica Mutual Pavilion in downtown Providence on Sunday, May 18, 2025, at 11 a.m.

The ceremony for graduate and continuing education students will be on Friday, May 16, at 6:30 p.m. in Peterson Recreation Center on campus.

The speaker will be **Michael Cox ’97SCE**, commissioner of the Boston Police Department. He will be awarded an honorary degree at the ceremony.

The college also will honor six people, including four alumni, with honorary degrees during the undergraduate ceremony:

- **Most Rev. Richard G. Henning, STD,** who was appointed archbishop of Boston by Pope Francis on August 5, 2024. Archbishop Henning previously served as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Providence from 2023-2024.
- **Ann Manchester-Molak ’75**, the first female executive vice president of Providence College and a member of the college’s first coeducational class. She retired in November 2024 after a 45-year career at the college.
- **Kerri Murray ’95**, president of the nonprofit Shelter Box USA, a global

humanitarian organization that assists people left homeless by war and natural disasters.

- **Brother Ignatius Perkins, O.P.,** founding director of the St. Martin de Porres Center for Health and Human Dignity in PC’s School of Nursing and Health Sciences.
- **Christopher K. Reilly ’84**, chair of the Providence College Board of Trustees since 2018 and a member of the board since 2009. He will step down from the position on July 1.
- **Ronald P. Stride ’62**, a philanthropist and retired senior vice president and managing partner for Asia of Booz Allen Hamilton.



College reaps financial benefits from solar energy projects

Through agreements supporting the development and operation of four solar energy projects in Rhode Island, Providence College will save \$1.35 million on its electric bill this year.

The projects are expected to generate a combined 22 million kilowatt hours of electricity in 2025. The college consumes 25 million, said Andrew Sullivan, assistant vice president of the physical plant.

“For every kilowatt hour of solar produced by the farms, we receive a monthly credit on our Rhode Island Energy bill,” Sullivan said. “The college wants to support renewable energy, and there is a significant financial benefit to us as well.”

The college’s first solar partnership to go online was Blackhorse Farm Solar LLC, which began operating in January 2021 on a former horse farm in Warren, Rhode Island, owned by Patricia and

Alexander Joe, the parents of Matthew A. Joe ’95 and Stephan P. Joe ’98. A partnership between the college and Energy Development Partners, it generates 5.5 million kilowatt hours a year.

The college shares the benefits of two solar projects with other institutions through the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Rhode Island. One is a solar farm on a decommissioned U.S. Navy fuel storage depot and landfill in Middletown, which began producing energy in July 2023. The other, in West Greenwich, went online in December 2023.

The fourth solar project in Exeter, Rhode Island, also developed by Energy Development Partners, became operational in January 2025.

The college began exploring investment in solar energy in 2017, seeking projects in which the benefits would

outweigh the costs, Sullivan said. In all four partnerships, the college did not invest money up front. Instead, it pays a portion of the energy credits it receives — either a set fee or a percentage — to the developer under a 25-year agreement.

“The college is helping to finance solar production, but we are not producing solar energy ourselves,” Sullivan said.

Electricity consumption on campus is expected to increase with the addition of the Ben Mondor Center for Nursing and Health Sciences and the expansion of the college’s chiller plant. The college is exploring a partnership to add 6 million kilowatt hours of remote solar production, which would save \$325,000 and allow the college to offset more than 90 percent of its electrical usage. The additional capacity would increase annual savings to more than \$1.6 million.

A solar array on a former horse farm owned by the Joe family in Warren, Rhode Island.





Neve Palmeri '27
with Jay Pike, Ph.D.,
assistant professor
of chemistry.

IT'S THE SECOND
TIME PC HAS WON
THE BIG EAST STARTUP
CHALLENGE SINCE
ITS INAUGURAL
YEAR IN 2019.

PC student wins BIG EAST Startup Challenge

Neve Palmeri '27, a marketing and management double major from Hamilton, New Jersey, won the 2025 BIG EAST Startup Challenge, a competition featuring student entrepreneurs from 10 colleges and universities in the BIG EAST Conference, for her innovative product — SmartSip, a reusable straw to detect date rape drugs in drinks.

Palmeri presented a five-minute product pitch and answered questions from a judging panel of experienced entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, and BIG EAST alumni in February 2025. The presentations, which took place via Zoom, were evaluated on market need, feasibility, value proposition, and passion. Palmeri received \$1,500 to continue to develop her product.

"Winning the BIG EAST competition is a huge step forward for SmartSip and I'm excited for what's next," said

Palmeri. "The challenge was an amazing experience and one that I will never forget. It was a great opportunity to connect with and learn from fellow entrepreneurs."

It's the second time PC has won the BIG EAST Startup Challenge since its inaugural year in 2019. (The competition was not held in 2020.) In 2021, Owen Delaney '22, Jacquelyn Ryan '21, and Faith Linscott '21 won first prize for their proposal, "UMeal," a meal kit that could be assembled in a college dining hall and prepared in a student room.

Palmeri was chosen to represent PC at the Startup Challenge after winning the second annual elevator pitch competition sponsored by the Donald Ryan '69 Incubator for Entrepreneurship in the Arts and Sciences in November 2024.

SmartSip would help prevent sexual assaults by changing color when it detects Rohypnol, GHB, or ketamine,

three common date-rape drugs, in a drink. Palmeri explored the science behind her idea with Jay Pike, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry. Kelly Ramirez, director of the Ryan Incubator, connected her with alumni mentors such as Christian Connors '90, an executive and entrepreneur in the safety and security technology industry.

She was helped to prepare for the BIG EAST Startup Challenge by John Dawley '86, a PC trustee and consultant for startup and mid-tier technology organizations; Eddie Martucci, Ph.D. '04, a life sciences executive and entrepreneur; and Chris McDemus '91, a corporate deal lawyer and expert on emerging business and venture capital.

Palmeri was recognized during the women's BIG EAST basketball tournament at Mohegan Sun Arena in March. She will use the prize money to develop and test her product at PC, working in collaboration with Pike and chemistry students.

The Ryan Incubator was established through a gift from the family of business entrepreneur Donald Ryan '69, who died in 2011 at age 64.



The Simple Servings station in Raymond Dining Hall, open to all students, offers allergen-free meals.

PC Dining earns allergy certification

PC Dining Services, operated by Sodexo, has been recognized for establishing a safe dining experience for students with food allergies and intolerances. It received AllerCheck certification from MenuTrinfo, an organization specializing in food safety guidance and training, following a comprehensive assessment of facilities, policies, and practices to ensure an allergen-free environment with no risk of cross-contact.

“My priority is to make sure students are as safe as possible by ensuring

that we properly follow the allergen protocols and guidelines,” said Holli Mootz, RDN, campus registered dietitian. “The AllerCheck certification gives students and parents peace of mind.”

The Simple Servings station in Raymond Dining Hall offers allergen-free meals, while Simple Zone, a password-protected pantry, has options for students with severe allergies. Signs are posted at other food stations to support choices based on dietary restrictions.

New majors in communication, data science

The college will introduce new majors in communication and in data science in the 2025-2026 academic year. Both subjects are now offered as minors.

About 18 percent of students who applied to PC in 2023 said they were interested in a career in communication. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences reports that undergraduate enrollment in communication degree programs is growing. Humanities Indicators, which tracks trends in humanities disciplines, show that nearly 25 percent of bachelor's degrees completed in the humanities in 2018 (the latest year for which information was available) were in **communication**, making it one of the top humanities degrees awarded nationwide.

The **data science** major will be part of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. The major will equip students to deal with large data sets, build predictive models, and make data-driven decisions, skills that are sought in such sectors as healthcare, business, and technology.



Andrea McDonnell, Ph.D., communication program director and assistant professor of political science.

→ **Read more:** news.providence.edu



“THERE WERE JUST SIGNS EVERYWHERE THAT HELPING PEOPLE IS WHAT FINNEGAN WAS MEANT TO DO ...”

Finnegan the therapy dog

Now accepting appointments in the Personal Counseling Center: Finnegan, a 4-year-old Bernese Mountain dog fully certified in pet therapy.

Finnegan belongs to Rosemary Fernandes Mugan, Psy.D. '98, executive director of the counseling center, and her family. Mugan and Finnegan completed a year of training and two internships through the Professional Pet Assisted Therapy Program of the Windwalker Humane Coalition in Rhode Island. They received full credentials in September 2024. Finnegan is the first pet therapy animal to work regularly on campus.

“There is significant research around the positive effects that pets can have on our lives, including positive

physiological effects on the body when petting a dog,” Mugan said. “Many people notice a decrease in some anxious symptoms or even a lowering of the heart rate.”

Finnegan is available for drop-in sessions with students in the Counseling Center, including students who are not receiving services but want to spend time with him. He also takes part in many of Mugan’s clinical counseling sessions. Sometimes students request appointments with her when they know Finnegan will be in the office. He is a support to the staff as well, she said.

Finnegan joined the Mugan family in 2020 when he was 9 weeks old. In his first month, he seemed to know when

someone was having a bad day and would stay with them, sometimes resting his head in their lap. One day when he was on a walk, a woman who had lost her husband told the family how much she looked forward to seeing Finnegan and how his presence made her feel she was ready to have a dog again.

“There were just signs everywhere that helping people is what Finnegan was meant to do,” Mugan said.

In the fall of 2023, Mugan began the certification process with a 10-week class to learn about Pet Assisted Therapy, the research behind its effectiveness, and what being part of a pet therapy team entails, and Finnegan passed a required temperament test. In the spring of 2024, Mugan and Finnegan studied in an eight-week course to learn techniques, spent time on a unit in a skilled care nursing home, and took a midterm and final exam together. They then underwent two separate 10-hour internships, one at PC.

Finnegan weighs 100 pounds but considers himself a lap dog, Mugan said. When she walks him on campus, people always ask if they can pet him.

“Sometimes I think those interactions are the ones needed most by our students,” Mugan said. “They open up to me about missing their own pets. Sometimes they say they were having a tough day, and that unexpected quick moment with Finny was just what they needed.”



STUDENT VOICE

Inspired by sacrifice

BY JEREMY CUMPLIDO '25

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN JAMES MUIR

This quote lingers in my mind: “We learn not in school, but in life.” Attributed to Seneca, a Stoic philosopher, the wisdom resonates deeply as I reflect on my time at Providence College.

When I arrived on campus in 2021, I vaguely understood who I was and what I wanted to achieve. Majoring in political science seemed the logical path toward law school. I believed it would teach me the skills needed to debate proficiently and thrive in a legal career. The experience offered far more than I ever anticipated.

As a first-generation college student, I carried a vision inspired by my mother’s sacrifices. She was unable to leave the United States for 26 years due to immigration challenges. My mother once dreamed of becoming a doctor in Colombia. Financially this was not possible, so she left home at a young age to work in Venezuela, leaving in 1998 as Hugo Chavez rose to power. This political and financial instability led her here, to the land of opportunity. Her resilience and story fuel my determination. I believed that a career in law would direct me to a path where I could fight for vulnerable individuals, ensuring others wouldn’t face the tribulations she endured.

Everything changed when I stepped into my first class, Political Science 101 with Rev. Justin Brophy, O.P. Sitting in that classroom, I felt the weight of my family’s sacrifices. It was humbling to realize I was the first in my family to attend college. I felt immense pressure to reverse our fortunes and build a better future for the next generation. At that moment, a powerful motivation to succeed was born in me.

Over the past four years, Providence College has allowed me to become an honorable person. My studies in political science, the extensive core curriculum, and a second major in history have taught me the value of cultivating community and pursuing wisdom through relentless learning. Professors are a huge part of that. Teachers such as Dr. Jennifer Illuzzi, Dr. Thea Riofrancos, Rev. David Orique, O.P., and Father Brophy have left an indelible mark. They didn’t just teach subjects; they imparted life lessons, encouraged critical thinking, and supported my eagerness to learn.

With newfound confidence, I immersed myself in campus life. Joining the PC Model UN Club during my sophomore year was a turning point. I met Gabriel

Capella ’25, a member of my class who encouraged me to apply for a U.S. Senate internship. His careful guidance and abundant confidence inspired me, and I was lucky to serve my state of Rhode Island by interning for Senator Jack Reed during my junior year. This then allowed me to intern for Congressman Gabe Amo and continue gathering invaluable experience in public service.

My peers at Providence College have also played a significant role in my journey. I have been surrounded by driven and hardworking students who continuously inspire me. Rodney Lopez ’25, Daniel Cantera ’25, Zekar-Yah Henry ’26, Roberto Samano Cruz ’25, and Adam Sienkiewicz ’25 have taught me the importance of collaboration, gratitude, embracing opportunities, and, even more important, true selfless friendship, something increasingly hard to find in our modern world.

Beyond the classroom, some of the most profound lessons have come from serving others. Whether handing out gifts to underprivileged families during Christmas or assisting constituents with immigration casework, these experiences have reinforced the importance of empathy and community. They remind me of the sacrifices my parents, teachers, and friends have made to shape the person I am today.

I can confidently say that Providence College has given me more than an education — it has given me purpose. Here, I have learned to ask meaningful questions, appreciate every opportunity, and strive for a life of service. I can happily say, “I have learned in school and in life,” and for this, I thank Providence College.

Now, a determined will guides me toward Rhode Island politics, with an eye on creating positive change for communities in need. Whether as a staff assistant to a U.S. representative or as an outreach coordinator for a non-profit, I will continuously reflect on my past, my present, and the just future that I seek — a future that will be forever guided by the invaluable lessons that I have learned during my four years at this remarkable institution.

Jeremy Cumplido ’25, from Central Falls, Rhode Island, double majored in political science and history and minored in Latin American studies. He wrote an honors thesis about race and republicanism in the political theory of Simon Bolívar.



College Chaplain Rev. Simon Teller, O.P. is a social media evangelist.

In addition to his work on campus, he spreads the good news of salvation on the most unlikely of platforms, Instagram and TikTok.

Father Simon grew up in Cincinnati and graduated from the University of Dallas with a degree in English. Before joining the Dominicans, he worked in the oil industry, in construction, and as a street performer in Asheville, North Carolina. He was ordained to the priesthood on May 22, 2021, and assigned to PC as an associate chaplain

in 2022. He was named chaplain in 2024.

Father Simon had never used social media before he came to PC but realized it could be a way to reach students and to seem more human and approachable to them. His first “viral” Instagram post, which garnered more than 96,000 likes, showed him meeting his brother, Rev. Jonah Teller, O.P., in April 2024 on a sidewalk in New York City, where Father Jonah is assigned to St. Joseph Parish in Greenwich Village.

Father Simon uses his iPhone to record short-form videos, usually 15 to 90 seconds long and set to music. He posts on both Instagram and TikTok as FatherSimonTeller. Many are funny, mimicking popular social media trends. Often, he is accompanied by associate chaplains Rev. Damian Day, O.P. '15 and Rev. Clement Dickie, O.P. and other Dominicans, blessing rooms in residence halls, leaping fully clothed from the swimming pool when a student wants to go to confession, and making impossible basketball shots in Mullaney Gym.

Other videos are beautiful. They capture ASMR — autonomous sensory meridian response — a sensation of pleasure viewers experience when watching and listening to the striking of a match, the hissing of a flame, the thump when a Bible is placed on a table, the sound of turning pages. Father Simon's ASMR video of his preparation of incense for Eucharistic Adoration in March 2024 received 240,000 likes on TikTok.

Social media users inquire about the significance of his white habit and his colorful vestments. They ask what church he belongs to. Father Simon's popularity on TikTok, one of the world's most popular social media

“WE’RE NOT JUST HOPING TO GET VIEWS. WE’RE HOPING TO GET SOULS FOR JESUS.”

platforms among young people, has allowed messaging from Providence College to reach prospective students around the country. By sharing Father Simon’s posts, the college’s official social media accounts have gained followers, too.

“I’ve learned to follow the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit has led us to TikTok — which is very confusing,” Father Simon said in an interview with WCVB News, Boston’s ABC affiliate.

TikTok’s ownership by the Chinese company ByteDance has raised concerns about data collection and privacy. There has been talk of forcing its sale or banning it from the United States entirely. Whatever happens, Father Teller said he will adapt.

“Evangelization is always guided by the Holy Spirit,” Father Simon said. “The Lord led our ministry to TikTok, and if TikTok goes away, he will lead us elsewhere.”

Before creating a video, he considers how it might bring the viewer closer to Jesus Christ, Father Simon said in a November 2024 interview with *The Tablet*, the diocesan newspaper of the diocese of Brooklyn. Father Simon is assisted in the creation of posts by John Paul Brissette ’25, a marketing major who also works in social media

for the national Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

“We always have to make sure that there’s an element of people seeing the Lord in the video,” Father Simon said. “We’re not just hoping to get views. We’re hoping to get souls for Jesus.”

With several of his Dominican brothers, Father Simon is a member of The Hillbilly Thomists, a bluegrass band that has recorded several albums and appeared on stage with Zac Brown Band during Home-

coming Weekend in October 2024.

He also taught a one-credit elective course, *Civ: Taylor’s Version*, in which students discussed themes of faith, justice, revenge, and unrequited love in the Bible, Dante, Shakespeare, and Taylor Swift songs, comparing, for example, what Aquinas said about happiness and what Swift says about happiness.

“It is a joy to help young people learn about the college, a place of providential meeting of personalities and people,” Father Simon said.



Rev. Simon Teller, O.P.
in the WDOM radio studio
with Emma Morley '25,
Adam Aguiar '26, and the
mascot Huxley.



College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G speaks in the outdoor classroom during the dedication. Top right, John Breen, Ph.D. '81 presents a reflection.



Outdoor classroom dedicated to professor Pat MacKay

An outdoor classroom and laboratory behind the Science Complex was dedicated in September 2024 in honor of Francis “Pat” MacKay, Ph.D. '20Hon., an associate professor of chemistry, college administrator, and co-founder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholars Program, who died in 2019.

College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G blessed the classroom space under sunny skies. The classroom overlooks a bioswale, a rain garden with flowers and plants designed to absorb and filter stormwater runoff.

A reflection was presented by John Breen, Ph.D. '81, associate professor of chemistry, who was a student of Dr. MacKay and later taught with him on the chemistry faculty.

Dr. MacKay's wife, Jacqueline Kiernan MacKay, director of the Parent and Family Program, read from remarks that Dr. MacKay wrote when stepping down as an administrator to return to teaching:

“No, I am not going back to teaching — I am going forward to teaching, the activity we exist for, whether it is done in the classroom or in its many settings outside of the classroom. How incredibly privileged and fortunate we are to be in a position to help students discover the power of their minds and to show them places that with their minds they can go, where they never dreamed of going.”

A reception followed in the Fiondella Great Room of the Ruane Center for the Humanities.

Dr. MacKay, who was hired to teach chemistry at PC in 1958, was a faculty member and administrator for more than 50 years. He served as department chair, president of the Faculty Senate, and as vice president for academic administration, during which time he established the position of dean of minority students and an office of multicultural affairs.

In 1968, following the assassination of Dr. King, Dr. MacKay teamed with two faculty members to establish a scholarship fund with a goal of making it possible for more Black students to attend PC. Their efforts led to the establishment of the MLK Scholars Program, which has awarded more than 700 scholarships to students of color.

Dr. MacKay was awarded an honorary doctor of science degree posthumously in 2020. ❧



AISHAH SCOTT

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND OF BLACK STUDIES

EDUCATION : Ph.D., history, Stony Brook University. She received a master's degree in 20th century American history and a bachelor's degree in political science and Africana studies, also from Stony Brook. She was a postdoctoral fellow with the Center for African American Urban Studies and the Economy at Carnegie Mellon University.

BEGAN TEACHING AT PC : Fall 2021

EXPERTISE : History of race and medicine in the United States in the 20th century; long-term healthcare disparities in the HIV/AIDS crisis in the Black community

NEWSWORTHY : Scott has been interviewed about the state of Black health in America by media outlets including NPR and Marketplace, and has presented keynote addresses about racial health disparities and systemic inequalities that disproportionately impact the Black community. She was the featured speaker for a World AIDS Day event hosted by Emory University's Centers for AIDS Research and Healthcare History and Policy. At PC, she cofounded a health equity speaker series with Sarah Ahmed, Ph.D., assistant professor of health policy and management and of women's and gender studies, with funding from the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

CURRENT PROJECTS : Scott is under contract with Johns Hopkins University Press for her book project, "Respectability Can't Save You: The AIDS Epidemic in Urban Black America." Her work focuses on the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the African American community and the role of respectability politics, or moral policing, on state and community leaders from 1980-2010.

QUOTABLE : "History offers us a lens through which we can see the missteps of the past. This point is especially relevant when considering the intersections of the history of race and medicine that shaped racial health disparities that exist today. By acknowledging these truths, especially in the wake of crises like the -19 pandemic, we have the power to confront inequities and build a future where healthcare serves all and not just some."

ORIGINALLY FROM : Brooklyn, New York

HOBBIES : Trying new foods and restaurants, traveling, reading mystery novels, and spending time with family and friends.

— MARTHA YOUNG

FACULTY FOCUS

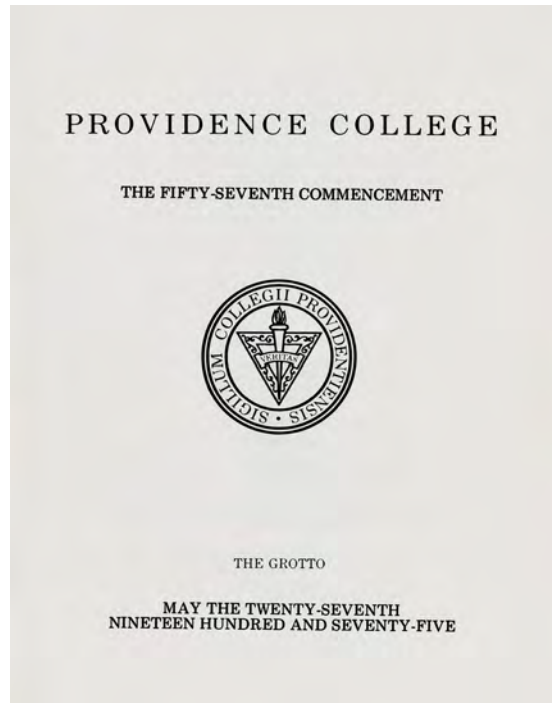
A large group of graduates in black gowns and caps are seated on a lawn in front of a brick building. The graduates are arranged in rows, with some standing in the back. The building is a large, multi-story brick structure with many windows. The date "MAY 27, 1975" is overlaid in large white text.

MAY 27, 1975

THE FIRST CLASS OF UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN
GRADUATED 50 YEARS AGO

An aerial view of commencement from the War Memorial Grotto looking toward McDermott Hall, left, and Aquinas Hall, right.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF
PC ARCHIVES AND
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



“And Commencement Day.

Standing for endless hours while the class order was arranged ... finding who your partner was ... getting those hoods on right ... walking through the pathway past the library and in back of Aquinas to the stares of thousands of eyes ... sweltering heat ... the powerful music ... soda cans passed up and down the rows not to drink, heaven forbid, but to press upon hot foreheads! ... sunburns ... sunburns in the shape of a small triangle on your breastbone just where the neckline of the gowns ended ... diploma-less books ... the spontaneous cheers when the first ‘she’ finally graduated ... the ever-droning speakers ... a witty Father Peterson ... a guest from Firestone and no female speaker ... and Bishop Gelineau reminding Father Peterson that as long as ‘your bishop says there will be no rain, there will be no rain; have commencement in the Grotto and skip Alumni Gym ...’

Finlandia strains filled the air. Some of us took off our caps and the sea of black robes moved out ... alumni.”

— Ana Margarita Cabrera '75 and Ann Frank '75,
from the 1975 Veritas yearbook —————>

The speaker was Richard A. Riley '41, '69Hon.,

president and chief executive officer of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. His talk, "Soul's Journey," concerned the future of America and its free enterprise system. Quoting from Ulysses, he urged graduates "to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

Honorary degrees were awarded to two women — Dorothy Maynor Rooks, concert soprano and executive director of the Harlem School for the Arts, and Mildred F. Jefferson, M.D., Boston surgeon and right-to-life advocate — but no woman spoke from the stage.

Also receiving honorary degrees were Clarence C. Walton, the first lay president of The Catholic University of America; Clarence H. Gifford, board chair of Rhode Island Hospital Trust National Bank; and Michael A. Monti, president of the Rhode Island Bar Association.



HE URGED GRADUATES "TO STRIVE,
TO SEEK, TO FIND, AND NOT TO YIELD."



The Class of 1975 included 239 women and 477 men,

according to the Office of Institutional Research.

It didn't take long for that balance to shift. The Class of 1983, which began studies in September 1979, was the first in which women outnumbered men, 459-432.

It's been the same ever since, with women now making up about 54 percent of the student body.



DESPITE WORRIES ABOUT
RAIN, THE MORNING WAS
SUNNY – AND HUMID.
THE TEMPERATURE
REACHED A HIGH OF
83 DEGREES.



→ Recognize your photo?
Email editormagazine@providence.edu



Commencement took place at the War Memorial Grotto, built in 1948 to honor the 69 alumni who died fighting in World War II. In 1990, the façade was reduced in scale to one third of its original size, and in 2001, the new St. Dominic Chapel opened on the site.

The Class of 1975 commencement was the last to be held on campus for 46 years. In 1976, the event moved indoors to the Providence Civic Center, later known as the Dunkin' Donuts Center and now the Amica Mutual Pavilion. In May 2021, an outdoor commencement was held at Hendricken Field on campus due to the pandemic.



Dances (along with a picnic, a boat ride, an awards ceremony, a Baccalaureate Mass, and Parents' Night) took place in the days before commencement.

The top Billboard hit was Earth, Wind & Flre's "Shining Star."



“Providence College will never be the same. Now fully coed, the school will never have to prepare itself for another onslaught like the one ‘when the girls come.’ No other woman student of this college will ever have to question her standing, or debate her right to be a fully accepted part of the Providence College community, as did the women of the Class of 1975.”

—PATRICIA L. SLONINA '75 IN VERITAS



PHOTO BY ASHLEY MCCABE

The cheerleading team celebrates the launch of the Beyond Limits campaign during Homecoming Weekend in October 2024.

BEYOND LIMITS

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE LAUNCHES **\$300 MILLION** FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



FATHER SICARD

Beyond Limits: The Campaign for Providence College, the most ambitious fundraising campaign in Providence College history, launched during Homecoming Weekend in October 2024. Its goal is to raise \$300 million to strengthen academics, enhance the student experience, make education more accessible through increased financial aid and scholarships, and support The Fund for Providence College.

"This campaign will enable us to create the foundation for sustained excellence that we owe to all who will follow us," said College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G, adding:

"We will always honor and remain faithful to our Catholic and Dominican mission and heritage.

"We will foster an institution known far beyond our region for our outstanding liberal arts-based education, our superb professional schools, and our ability to innovate to meet the moment.

"We will be renowned for providing a superior student experience, including varsity athletics, to ensure that our students flourish in mind, body, and spirit.

"We will renew our commitment to diversity that reflects the Catholic church and the world around us by making PC accessible to all deserving and qualified students."

The campaign steering committee is chaired by three alumni who are members of the Board of Trustees: **Bill Concannon '77, John McCarthy '86, and Megan (Condron) Smith '91.**

More than \$185 million has been raised toward the goal.

"We have seen such incredible generosity and involvement from our alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff, and friends of the college," Smith said. "This campaign is a whole community effort. It will take all of us, making contributions big and small, to achieve our ambitious goals."

More about Beyond Limits:





BEYOND LIMITS

THE CAMPAIGN FOR PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

The ground level of the Mondor Center is a space for the campus community to gather for study and socialization.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARIN DAILEY

MONDOR CENTER OPENS

**NEW HOME FOR NURSING
AND HEALTH SCIENCES
IS THE LARGEST BUILDING
ON CAMPUS**



The Ben Mondor Center for Nursing and Health Sciences, the new home for programs in nursing, health sciences, and health policy and management, opened for the start of the spring semester in January 2025.

The largest structure on campus at 125,000 square feet and five levels, the building was named in recognition of a \$10 million lead gift from Madeleine Mondor in honor of her late husband, Ben Mondor '04Hon., an industrialist, philanthropist, and owner of the Pawtucket Red Sox.

More than 15 spaces are named for donors who have made large gifts to build the facility. The center includes a state-of-the-art clinical simulation suite that replicates a hospital floor, anatomy and physiology laboratories with life-size, interactive 3D displays of the human body, and a student resource center. A 100-seat classroom, chapel, study spaces, and a cafe are available to the entire college community. Designed by SLAM Collaborative and built on the former site of Fennell Hall, the Mondor Center was dedicated in a ceremony on April 26, 2025.



BEYOND LIMITS

THE CAMPAIGN FOR PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Right: Rev. Damian Day, O.P. '15 talks with a student in Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel on the lower level. Faith is foundational to the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. The chapel, which seats 50 for Mass and offers a place for reflection and respite, was blessed in a ceremony on February 11, 2025, the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Below: Hailey Montz '28, a health sciences major, views a computer image on an anatomege table in one of two anatomy and physiology laboratories. The tables have life-size, interactive, 3D displays so users can explore the human body through a library of virtual human cadavers.



Above: The Mondor Center entrance near the Smith Center for the Arts. The many windows offer spectacular views of campus and the city of Providence.

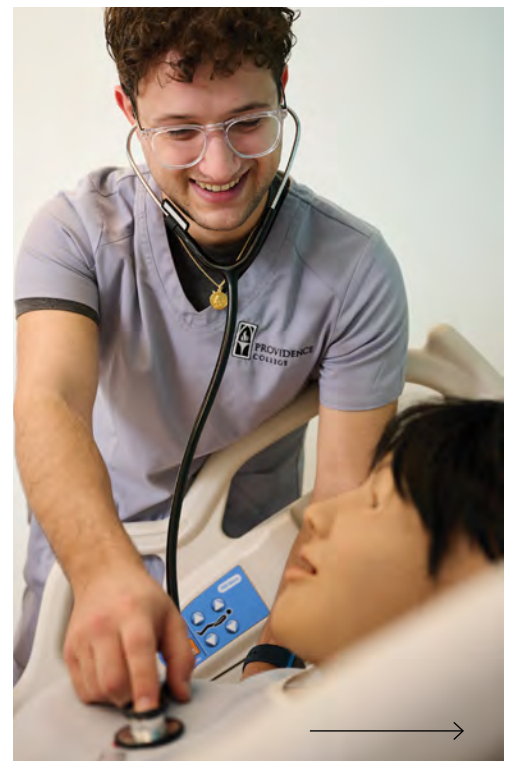


Left: Kylie Kuck, DNP, director of nursing simulation and labs, directs students from the control room in the third-level Clinical Simulation Suite, which replicates a hospital floor.

Below: Vincent Welch '28 with a stethoscope.



Above: Annette Muchiri '27 shares a smile with instructor Kylie Kuck, right, as Heidy Rodriguez '27 runs tests on one of 40 manikins, life-size models used to educate nurses. Students named them in a contest.



BEYOND LIMITS

THE CAMPAIGN FOR PROVIDENCE COLLEGE



Above left: The Home Health Suite on the third level prepares students to care for patients in a home environment and is equipped with a stove, refrigerator, washing machine, and dryer. Amy Delaney, Ph.D., assistant professor of nursing, and Kevin Sullivan '27 help Shawn Staak '27 navigate stairs.

Above right: A hospital room in the Clinical Simulation Suite where students will practice pediatric care.

Below right: The Diane P. Parrett, R.N. Cafe on the lower level is open to the college community and features healthy food options such as acai bowls and smoothies. It is named in recognition of a gift from William and Diane Parrett, who are grandparents of three Friars, including Sarah Parrett '29, who will begin nursing studies in the fall.





Left: Robert Hackey, professor of health sciences, teaches in one of 10 classrooms.

Below: A mural on the lower level illustrates the history of the Chapin Hospital property, acquired by the college in the 1970s, and PC's relationship to nursing and the health sciences. It features an image of Rev. Charles Vincent Fennell, O.P. '28, for whom the residence hall formerly located on the site was named. The mural was designed by Carol Stakenas, director and chief curator of the PC Galleries, and Michelle Chiles, head of PC Archives and Special Collections, to be a welcoming and informative work of art for visitors. ■■



BEYOND LIMITS

THE CAMPAIGN FOR PROVIDENCE COLLEGE



Jeremy Duffy '93 in The Guild with Friars Forever lager and Hux hard seltzer, beverages he created to benefit The Fund for Providence College.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANGEL TUCKER



SUPPORT IS BREWING

JEREMY DUFFY '93 CREATES LAGER, SELTZER TO BENEFIT THE FUND FOR PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

BY VICKI-ANN DOWNING '21G

Ten years ago, Jeremy Duffy '93 and his business partner, Devin Kelly, purchased a 131,000-square-foot industrial complex at 461 Main Street in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Known as the Kellaway Center, it was once home to the William H. Haskell Manufacturing Plant, maker of screws and fasteners in the 1800s. Duffy and Kelly envisioned the vast brick mill space as a location for their startup, Isle Brewers Guild. A brewing cooperative, it would offer a 100-barrel brewing system with 15 fermentation tanks, canning equipment, and a 50,000-square-foot packaging facility to small craft brewers whose capacity could not keep up with demand.

"We shot out of the gate quickly," Duffy said. Six small breweries signed on as partners in 2017, making Isle Brewers Guild one of the top 75 breweries in the United States. Today, it has 10 partners under contract and is 68th by volume among 9,800 breweries in the country.

In 2018, Duffy and Kelly expanded into retail at the Pawtucket complex, opening an 18-tap beer hall known as The Guild to sell their own brews and a private event space called The Barn. Next came a seasonal beer garden, Guild PVD, near the pedestrian bridge in Providence. This summer, the beer garden will become permanent, sharing space with Seven Stars Bakery ("Coffee to a pint, the circle of life," Duffy said). The Guild Warren, a 140-seat restaurant with a 40-seat patio and small batch brewery, opened in 2021 on the Warren waterfront with a space for small events, The Nook.

"I love this industry," Duffy said. "It's about the quality of people's lives, customers and employees. It's about the place of

community. Craft breweries operate in the European model, inseparable from the center of community life, and family friendly."

Being part of a community is important to Duffy. He is co-chair of the Pawtucket Foundation, a nonprofit that advocates for business development in the city. He has served Providence College as a member of the School of Business Advisory Council and the President's Council, and this year received the Mal Brown Award from the National Alumni Association in recognition of his dedication to the college.

He found another way to give back in October 2024 when The Guild launched two new beverages — Friars Forever, a light lager, and Hux, a black cherry hard seltzer — to benefit The Fund for Providence College through Beyond Limits: The Campaign for Providence College. (Read more, next page.)

"Community is not just inside these walls, it's everywhere," Duffy said.

Duffy's history is inextricably linked with PC. His father, David A. Duffy '61, '11 Hon. is a former college trustee and longtime volunteer, and his younger son, Griffin Duffy '28, just completed his first year at the college. Duffy and his wife, Julie, married in St. Dominic Chapel in 2001 with the college president, Rev. Philip A. Smith, O.P. '63, officiating.

"Providence means everything to us," Duffy said. "I call it 'the Friar hug.' The people who embraced Griffin, it's incredible, even people who don't know me. He is taken care of,



BEYOND LIMITS

THE CAMPAIGN FOR PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

because that's what the college does. It's all about the individual and the growth of that individual."

Duffy wasn't required to attend PC; his older brother and sister went to Georgetown. But he had experienced life away from home during four years at boarding school at Cushing Academy in Ashburnham, Massachusetts (later serving for 16 years on its board of trustees). He studied political science in college but spent most of his time with PC Athletics, working in sports information and sports marketing, which he fully expected to make his career.

After graduation, he left the country to work for the Irish Basketball Association in Dublin, the national governing body for the sport in Ireland. The salary wasn't great ("I was basically paid in pints of Guinness") but it was another learning experience away from home.

"I was thrown into the deep end," Duffy said. "You have to be fearless at some level. You have to trust yourself enough that you can swim or at least tread water a little bit."

As part of the role, Duffy helped inaugurate the Scholar Athlete Games, a program to achieve conflict resolution through sports, in Belfast. Former Friar coach Joe Mullaney '65Hon., '98Hon. was invited as a distinguished guest. It was Duffy's job to drive Coach Mullaney and his wife, Jane, around Ireland. "What a wonderful man," Duffy said.

When he returned to the United States, Duffy joined Craigville Sports Associates, a sports event marketing and management startup launched by



RAISE A GLASS TO FRIARTOWN

Brewed for you by a group of faithful Friars.

Friars Forever, a light lager, and **Hux**, a black cherry-flavored hard seltzer, were crafted by The Guild Brewing Company to benefit The Fund for Providence College.

The beverages were introduced in October 2024 at the launch of Beyond Limits: The Campaign for Providence College. They are sold on campus at McPhail's, during ice hockey games at Schneider Arena, and at restaurants, bars, and liquor stores in the Providence area. All proceeds after expenses are donated to The Fund for PC by **Jeremy Duffy '93** and Devin Kelly, co-owners of The Guild. The first check for \$10,000 was presented in December.

"I love to look at ways I can give back to Providence College," Duffy said.

The idea of a beverage to benefit the Beyond Limits campaign was proposed in July 2024 by **Sarah Firetto '03**, director of alumni relations at PC, and **Chris Flaherty '14**, associate director.

Faithful Friars helped Duffy bring the beverages to market. The cans were designed by **Myles Dumas '03**, a graphic artist who created the logo for soccer team Rhode Island FC. **Chuck Borkoski '71, '24Hon.**, who retired after a career with McLaughlin & Moran, advised on distribution. **Mike Raia '05**, president of Half Street Group, a strategic consulting firm, developed the communication plan.

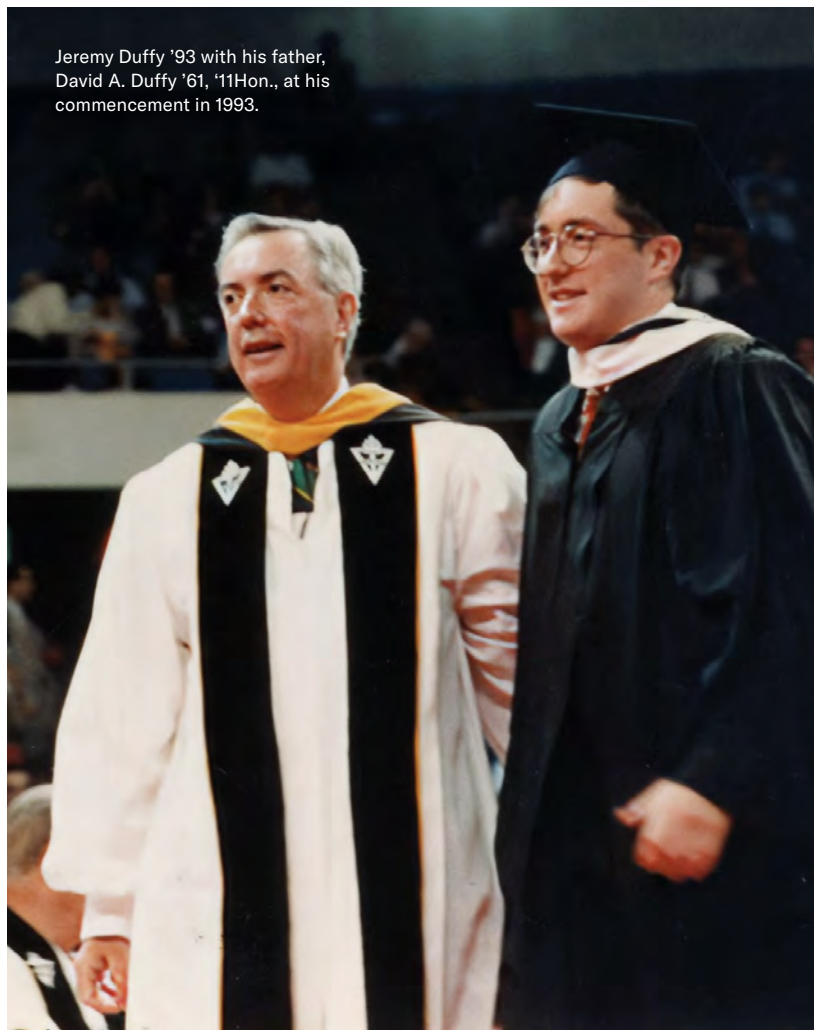
Friars Forever is a traditional American lager made with barley and Magnum hops. Hux hard seltzer, flavored with black cherry, is named for Huxley Avenue, which once ran through the center of campus. They are easy-drinking beverages at 4.3% ABV.

"I am thrilled that all of the net profits from the Friars beer series will go to Providence College," Duffy said. "It has done incredibly well. I'd love for it to be around for years to come."

Where to buy Friars Forever and Hux:



**“MY FATHER
INVITED ME TO
LUNCH. HE TOLD
ME, ‘I’M 57 YEARS
OLD AND I DON’T
KNOW WHAT I WANT
TO DO WITH MY
LIFE. BE OPEN TO
ANYTHING.’”**



Jeremy Duffy '93 with his father, David A. Duffy '61, '11Hon., at his commencement in 1993.

BIG EAST founder and Friar coach Dave Gavitt '89Hon. with his sons, Dan Gavitt '95G and Corey Gavitt. Two years later, Duffy brought Craigville's customers to Duffy & Shanley, the marketing and advertising agency his father founded in Providence in 1973. In doing so he turned down an offer to work on a major account at a global marketing firm in Boston, though he was hesitant about the decision.

"I was 27. My father invited me to lunch. He told me, 'I'm 57 years old and I don't know what I want to do with my life. Be open to anything.' It washed over me. 'Don't box yourself in. Have no regrets.'"

Duffy spent 15 years at Duffy & Shanley, first as director of sports marketing and then as a partner and vice president of business development, before leaving to pursue his startup.

"I could have stayed forever and been super happy and lived a wonderful life," Duffy said. "It was too comfortable. I was

always looking for big ideas. I was always an entrepreneur at heart."

Entrepreneurship is a family tradition, too. Duffy's grandfather, Joseph F. Duffy, the son of Irish immigrants, ran Duffy's Tavern at Benefit Street and Broadway in Pawtucket until 1986. Jeremy Duffy remembers washing glasses in the bar. A painting that hung on the wall in that tavern now hangs on the wall in his Pawtucket beer hall.

Duffy points out that his father, David Duffy, who was the first in his family to attend college, launched Duffy & Shanley when he was 33 years old with three children at home after being let go from another position.

"I walk in the footsteps of successful entrepreneurs," Duffy said. "I love big ideas and I love the independence of trying to make something work. I am grateful to my mentors for their support."

BEYOND LIMITS

THE CAMPAIGN FOR PROVIDENCE COLLEGE



Duffy first took note of the craft beer industry when he was a college student and brands such as Sam Adams, Harpoon, Anchor Steam, and Sierra Nevada hit the market.

“I was fascinated by the industry. It was unlike anything the United States had known in the last 100 years,” Duffy said.

He is fortunate to have a knowledgeable business partner in Kelly. They met more than 20 years ago when Duffy managed the alcoholic beverage account at Duffy & Shanley and Kelly ran the Stella Artois account for InBev. Today their venture employs more than 70 people, brewing all styles of beer, and continues to adapt to meet changing consumer tastes.

“We introduced our first non-alcoholic beer this year for dry January,” Duffy said. “It’s delicious. It’s a pilot called The Guild NA. People are not drinking as much; young people are more health conscious. The trend is everywhere. So we continue to evolve as a company. We focus on our customers. They drive our decisions. We are now an established company playing a part in people’s lives and livelihoods. We never take that for granted.”

**“I WAS FASCINATED
BY THE INDUSTRY. IT
WAS UNLIKE ANYTHING
THE UNITED STATES HAD
KNOWN IN THE LAST
100 YEARS.”**

GUILD SAMPLER

“Besides my favorite Friars Forever light lager, I am proud of the beverages our eight brewers produce at The Guild for our customers,” Jeremy Duffy '93 said.

WARREN G: A double IPA created to celebrate the opening of our Warren location. Aroma of tropical mango, bright citrus, and peach. Very soft bitterness. Bursting with bright tropical flavor. Fermented with London Fog yeast. Made with Citra, Amarillo, and Vic Secret hops. 8% ABV.

HOPPY GUILDMORE: A traditional American Pale Ale. A sessionable pale ale, easy to enjoy over a long period, it has a soft mouthfeel and moderate bitterness. Only whirlpool and dry hops were added utilizing Citra and Cashmere hop varieties. 5% ABV.

IRISH SOCIAL CLUB: An Irish stout only offered for St. Patrick’s Day. The name is a tip of the cap to Patrick McCabe, a Pawtucket legend and proprietor of the Irish Social Club on Pawtucket Avenue for 58 years. We hope the spirit of McCabe and his establishment fills the beer hall as it pours. Irish Social Club is our very first beer poured through a traditional stout faucet using nitrogen instead of CO₂. It pours a beautiful, almost black color with hints of ruby along the edge of the glass. Our brewer selected the unique Loughran Family Irish Ale malt to blend with flaked barley, carafa, and chocolate malt. The flavor is incredibly smooth, roasty, and creamy. 4.2% ABV.

HANDLINE KOLSCH: This special beer is brewed for our great friends at Devil’s Purse Brewing Company in Massachusetts. It is my year-round to-go. Made with Vanguard hops, this is a Kolsch style German lager. Light and crispy. 5% ABV.

HIGH NOTES

New Carnegie designation recognizes PC for research

Providence College is now classified as a Research College and University by the American Council on Education and the **Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching**. The change recognizes PC for its spending on research, which totaled \$5.53 million for the year ending June 30, 2023.

The new Research College and University class requires institutions to spend at least \$2.5 million on research annually. There are 218 institutions in the category, including PC.

Carnegie classifications categorize colleges and universities by the types of degrees they award, the fields of study they offer, and their size. The previous system did not recognize colleges and universities for research unless they also awarded doctoral degrees. PC was previously categorized as a Master's College and University (larger size.)

National partnerships support student access

Through partnerships with two national organizations, The Posse Foundation and Cristo Rey Network, the college is providing opportunity and access to talented students from diverse geographic locations and economic backgrounds.

The Posse Foundation recruits high school students in 20 cities and prepares them to apply to 64 member colleges and universities. PC received a \$500,000 grant from the foundation and was matched with the Posse chapter in New Orleans. Admission representatives traveled there in November 2024 to review and interview applicants and select the first cohort of 11 students, who will begin studies in the fall of 2025.

Posse students will receive full-tuition scholarships and meet weekly with a faculty mentor, **Brandon Martinez, Ph.D.**, associate professor of sociology. An additional 11 students from New Orleans will be selected for admission to the college each year.

Steve Gallucci '89, a college trustee and senior partner at Deloitte, serves on Posse's national board of directors.

The Cristo Rey Network operates 40 college preparatory high schools in urban centers across the country. In 2023, PC began offering four-year scholarships to one senior from each Cristo Rey high school. Seventeen Cristo Rey students are enrolled at PC, with 12 in the Class of 2028. They include students from Minneapolis, Oklahoma, and Las Vegas.



COOLMAN

five-year initiative to encourage children's participation in prayer and worship by supporting families in the practice of the shared family meal as preparation for the sacramental meal of the Eucharist.

Holly Taylor Coolman, Ph.D., assistant professor of theology, is the principal investigator for the grant. She will work in collaboration with the Diocese of Providence and St. Pius V Church and its parish school, which are located across from PC's campus.



LONGO



BEVELY

Major foundations award grants to PC

Securing competitive grants from prestigious national foundations enhances a college's reach and reputation.

During the leadership phase of the Beyond Limits Campaign, Providence College was awarded grants from two major foundations — Lilly Endowment Inc. and the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations — to support academic initiatives and advance its Catholic and Dominican mission.

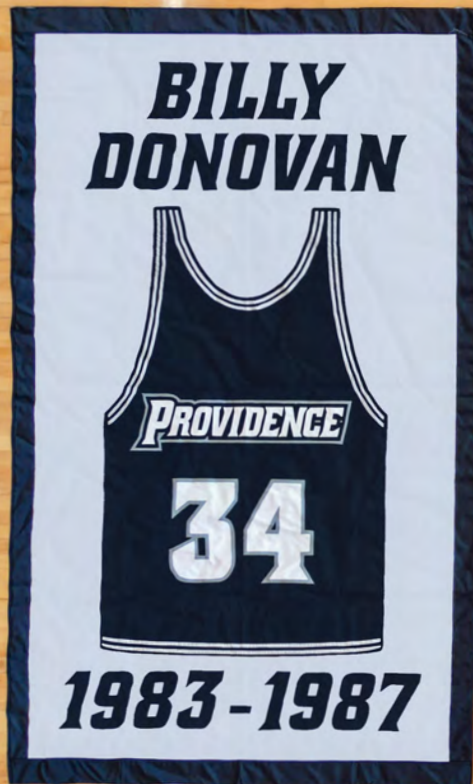
In October 2024, Lilly Endowment awarded PC a \$1 million grant to establish "Come to the Table," a

The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations were established by Arthur Vining Davis, a businessman known for his leadership at the aluminum company Alcoa. The foundations support public media, interfaith leadership, palliative care, and environmental solutions in addition to private colleges and universities that place a strong emphasis on undergraduate liberal arts education.

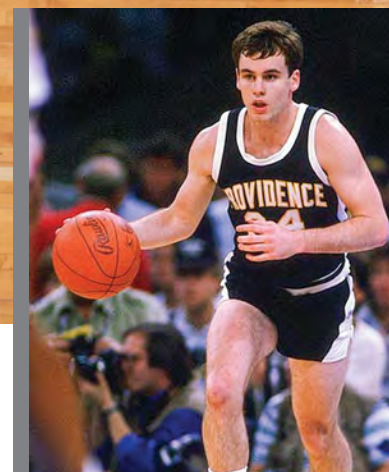
In July 2022, the foundation awarded PC a \$250,000 grant for "Conversations for Change," a project by **Nicholas Longo, Ph.D. '96**, professor of global studies, and **Quincy Bevely, Ph.D.**, vice president for institutional diversity, to promote civil discourse across campus and in the community and to foster skills for active citizenship.



FRIARTOWN



Billy
Donovan
COURT



RAISED IN FRIARTOWN

BY BRENDAN MCGAIR '03 | PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS JUDGE '05, '07G

Having one's jersey retired is the ultimate recognition afforded to an individual associated with the Providence College basketball program, be it a student-athlete, coach, or administrator.

"Best of the best doesn't even begin to do it justice," said College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G.

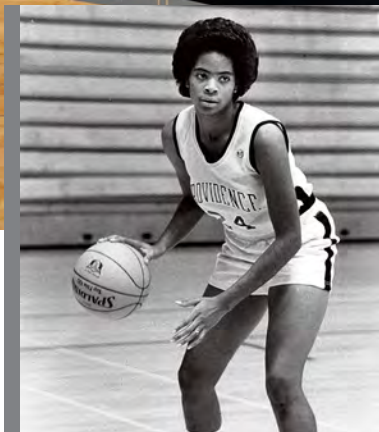
Over three days in February 2025, three worthy individuals were recognized as part of the Friar Legends Forever Jersey Retirement. Two all-time great players were celebrated — **Billy Donovan '87** and **Britt King '86** — along with the late

coach **Bob Foley**, whose 206 wins between 1985-1996 are the most of any coach in women's basketball history.

"They deserved to be immortalized," Father Sicard said during a gala at the Omni Hotel in Providence on February 14. "Just think of the great student-athletes who wear the Friar uniform today, then multiply that over the decades. To be chosen from among all the great Friars is an honor that testifies to true greatness."

Steve Napolillo '98, vice president and director of athletics, invited Donovan and King to the stage to recap their careers.

PHOTOS: PC ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



“ ”

The relationships at Providence, they were great and lifelong types of relationships.

—BRITT KING '86



“To be honored in this way, I owe credit to a lot of people,” said Donovan, the leading scorer on the 1987 men’s team that reached the NCAA Tournament Final Four. Donovan coached the University of Florida to two national titles before becoming coach of the Oklahoma City Thunder and now the Chicago Bulls in the NBA.

“The relationships at Providence, they were great and lifelong types of relationships,” said King, the women’s all-time leading rebounder who coached at the collegiate level and now is assistant athletic director for inclusive excellence at Bryant University.

Donovan was honored at halftime of the Friars game against Villanova on February 15. Surrounded by former teammates,

he looked to the rafters of the Amica Mutual Pavilion and saw his number 34 hanging alongside the fellow greats in PC men’s basketball history.

“I’m so grateful and humbled. You don’t come here thinking that something like that is going to happen later in your life,” said Donovan.

King’s number 24 and a banner signifying Foley’s achievements were put on permanent display at Mullaney Gym in Alumni Hall before the February 16 women’s game against Seton Hall.

“There was surprise, then there was excitement,” King said about learning she was to be honored. ❧



The women's cross country team finished third in the nation at the NCAA Tournament in Madison, Wisconsin, in November 2024 — the highest finish for a Friar team since the women won the national title in 2013.

The Friars were led by Kimberley May '25 (Auckland, New Zealand), who placed 10th in the 6K with a time of 19:45.1. Graduate student Alex Millard (Kent, England) was 20th (19:51.5) and graduate student Shannon Flockhart '24 (Longstanton, England) was 24th (19:54.2).

It was the fourth consecutive NCAA tournament appearance for the Friars, who were ranked #11 in the nation prior to the championship. Providence finished behind Brigham Young

University and West Virginia University. The Friars also captured the NCAA Northeast Regional Championship in Hopkinton, New Hampshire, in November 2024.

Head coach Ray Treacy '82 was named Northeast Women's Coach of the Year. It was the 11th time that Treacy received the honor since the award was established in 1998.

At the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championship in Virginia Beach in March 2025, the Distance Medley Relay team of Flockhart, May, Jill Fenerty '26, and Maeve O'Neill '27 finished third with a time of 10:46.28, less than a second behind the champion team, BYU. May was sixth and Flockhart was 15th in the 3,000-meter race.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF PC SPORTS INFORMATION

Women's ice hockey Player of the Year

Reichen Kirchmair '26, a forward on the women's ice hockey team, received the Cammi Granato Award as Hockey East Player of the Year. Kirchmair, from Oakville, Ontario, Canada, led Hockey East in goals (15) and points (30) during the 2024-2025 season, the first Friar to do so since the league's inaugural season in 2002-2003. She is the second Friar to receive Player of the Year honors. The first was Karen Thatcher '06 in 2005. The award is named for Cammi Granato '93, '12Hon., the first woman inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame. The women's team finished the season 20-12-3 and was 14-4-2 in home games.

Back in the Dance

The Friar men's hockey team, ranked in the top 10 nationally for 21 weeks, finished the 2024-2025 season with a 5-1 loss to the Denver Pioneers in the NCAA Tournament first round in March. A strong start (15-3-2 after 20 games) helped the Friars secure the #2 seed in the NCAA Manchester Regional. It was PC's first national tournament appearance since Coach Nate Leaman guided the 2018-19 Friars to the Frozen Four semifinals.

Senior Guillaume Richard, a standout on defense, earned Hockey East Second Team All-Star honors. Graduate student Logan Will led the team in scoring (8-16-24). Hudson Malinoski and Tanner Adams, both sophomores, were the leading goal scorers with 11 apiece. Junior goaltender Philip Svedebäck turned in a 14-8-4 record with a 2.42 goals against average and .911 save percentage.

Golf coaches appointed

PC Athletics announced the appointment of head coaches for the men's and women's golf teams, which will begin competition in the 2025-2026 academic year.

Louis Parente, who coached the men's and women's teams at Johnson & Wales University for a combined 15 years, will be the men's golf coach. Douglas Smith '88 was named women's coach. He most recently coached the men's and women's teams at Manhattanville University.

Joe Monahan '66, who played golf and ice hockey as a Friar, was named a volunteer ambassador to the athletic director for men's and women's golf. His son, Jay Monahan, is PGA Tour president and CEO.

Men's golf was last offered at PC in 2002. Women's golf is a new program.

Friartown Notes

Men's soccer in NCAAs

The men's soccer team, ranked #25 in the nation, advanced to the NCAA Tournament in November 2024 and won its first-round game against Bucknell University, 2-1, during a windswept, rainy night at Chapey Field. The Friars fell to #7 Clemson University, 2-0, in the second round despite four saves by goalie Lukas Burns '24, '25G. The Friars, who were defeated by Georgetown in the BIG EAST championship final, finished the season 13-6-3.

Burns drafted by MLS

Goalie Lukas Burns '24, '25G was selected by the Portland Timbers FC in the third round of the 2024 Major League Soccer SuperDraft in December 2024. He is the third Friar to be an MLS draft pick, following Brendan McSorley '23, chosen by St. Louis City in 2023, and Julian Gressel '16, selected in 2017. Gressel now plays for InterMiami alongside Lionel Messi and Luis Suárez.

Dewhurst joins RI FC

Cole Dewhurst '24 signed to play professionally with Rhode Island FC in the United Soccer League. A defender, he guided the Friars to four consecutive BIG EAST Tournament appearances and to NCAA Tournament runs in 2021 and 2024. He is the third Friar to join Rhode Island FC, with midfielder Kevin Vang '22 and defender and graduate student Nathan Messer '23. The team's new stadium is scheduled to open in May 2025 in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Lyons to Hall of Fame

Peter Lyons '80 will be inducted into the U.S. Tennis Association New England Tennis Hall of Fame at the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, Rhode Island, in June 2025. Lyons played the #1 position for four years as a member of the men's team at PC, compiling an 82-8 singles record with eight intercollegiate tournament wins. He was Athlete of the Year in 1979 and received the Mal Brown Award in recognition of his dedication, honor, and sportsmanship. He was inducted into the PC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1992. Lyons played professionally after graduation and thrived on the USTA adult tournament circuit. With his wife, Karen O'Connell Lyons '80, he also ran the tennis program for Rhode Island Special Olympics. He represented the tennis industry for more than 35 years through brands such as Dunlop, Prince, and Babolat.



Steve Richards '89SCE, '99G
in the mail room on the lower
level of Raymond Hall.



PART AND PARCEL

STEVE RICHARDS '89SCE, '99G
SPENDS HIS RETIREMENT ON CAMPUS

BY VICKI-ANN DOWNING '21G

The mailroom on the lower level of Raymond Hall is bustling at lunch time. Students remove packages from lockers as fast as employees can scan and fill them. Working efficiently amid the chaos is Steven Richards '89SCE, '99G. He is a Friar, too.

Richards has two degrees from PC — a bachelor's degree that he began in

1974 and completed in 1989 through the School of Continuing Education, and a master's degree in business administration awarded in 1999. His father, Raymond L. Richards '52, was a Friar, as is his daughter, Cory Richards Iavarone '09, '15G. For more than 10 years, Richards managed the cafeteria in Alumni Hall, then put his MBA to

work at Fidelity Investments. When he retired after 22 years, he decided to take a job in the mail room.

"You come someplace, and you just feel at home," Richards said. "I believe a lot of it has to do with my father. There were two things you always heard about him growing up — he was a Marine in World War II, and he was a Friar."

Richards' father was encouraged to attend PC by a cousin who was the college chaplain, Rev. Charles H. McKenna, O.P. '26, '55Hon. After graduation, he worked as a time study engineer at Carol Cable in Warren. During Friar basketball games, he sat at his kitchen table in Pawtucket listening to broadcaster Chris Clark on a transistor radio, and "depending on whether they were winning or not, you could enter the room."

Steve was the only one of his eight siblings to attend PC. He commuted with friends. A scholarship and full-time work covered tuition.

"This was a hard grind. It was intense," Richards said. "But it was a badge of honor. I did Civ when it was tough. I had Richard Grace and Rodney Delasanta."

After two years, Richards, funds depleted, left college to manage a restaurant in Warwick. In 1985, when he was married with a child on the way and working six days a week, he decided it would be beneficial to finish his degree. PC welcomed him back, accepting all 56 of his credits, and he began part-time evening courses.



Steve Richards at work in Raymond Cafeteria in 1999.

"I got three classes in, and my wife went into labor early and I was visiting the intensive care unit every night," Richards said. "But I stayed in school."

In 1987, a chance meeting with Rev. Edward R. Daley, O.P. '46, '81Hon., prior provincial of the Province of St. Joseph, led to the offer of a job in Food Service at PC. At the time, food service workers were college employees. Richards was placed in charge of the Alumni Hall cafeteria, which fed commuters and resident students, coaches and sports teams. The employee tuition benefit paid for his final four undergraduate courses and, later, his MBA.

His daughters, Cady and Cory, remember accompanying him to work during school vacations. They wore chef's hats and aprons. They learned to swim in the college pool during summer camps. In Slavin Center, adjacent to Alumni Hall, they played in the game room and mail room and under the concrete stairs.

"Cory was 5 or 6 years old when she came to me and said, 'Dad, I'm going to school here,'" Richards said. "She only applied to PC."



Steve Richards with his bachelor's degree and his father, Raymond Richards '52, in 1989.

Cory received bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics, was a member of Pep Band, and now teaches at Davies Career and Technical High School in Lincoln.

"My dad got me a job at the bookstore when I was an undergrad as a result of the relationships he built," Cory said. "He instilled a love for PC in me at a young age. I would love to see my own kids attend PC one day."

Marketing professor John Shaw encouraged Richards to take the GMAT and join the MBA program. "I had two little kids and they were offering me this free opportunity," Richards said. "I couldn't pass it up."

Richards left PC in 1999 after completing the MBA and after the college outsourced its food service to Sodexo. Fidelity Investments was hiring in advance of Y2K, a potential computer bug anticipated when digital calendars changed to "00" on January 1, 2000. He began on New Year's Eve in 1999 and for 22 years handled customer problems ranging from misspelled names on accounts to issues with million-dollar transactions. In 2021, following the pandemic, he retired. But he was restless at home.

"I was looking around for something small, no pressure, and part-time," Richards said. "On the PC website, I saw the mailroom job advertised. I thought, 'I'm a PC guy. I've got to go back to PC.'"

He works 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays with July and August off.

"I like being on campus," Richards said. "It looks a lot different, but there's still community here." ❧

CLASS NOTES

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'62

Claude Trottier, Ph.D. '62G, '65Ph.D. of Jensen Beach, Florida, was inducted into the Mount Saint Charles Excelsior Hall of Fame, which recognizes outstanding graduates of Mount Saint Charles Academy in Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

'69

Ronald Caldarone, LICSW '69 of Cranston, Rhode Island, writes that PC will always be special because it provided him an opportunity for growth, exploration, and increased self-knowledge. After a career in direct family and child care, teaching, and providing therapy, he began an organization called Supervision Rhode Island 10 years ago. Interested therapists gather for discussions and advice on case presentations. The premise is that "all of us are better than one of us." Caldarone appreciates being among wonderful young clinicians who allow him to remain involved in his lifelong quest to help people.

'70 (Reunion: May 30-June 1, 2025)

Geoffrey Gneuchs '70 of New York City presented a lecture in September 2024 at the Peter Maurin Conference in Chicago, sponsored by Loyola and DePaul universities. His talk was titled "Peter Maurin and the Just Third Way: Putting Ideas into Action." Maurin was the mentor and teacher of Servant of God Dorothy Day. Of Maurin, Day said, "He was the saint ... his ideas would dominate my thinking for the rest of my life." Day's canonization is being considered by the Vatican. Gneuchs served as her chaplain and gave the eulogy at her funeral. Gneuchs is a representational and figurative artist and his image of Day is the official prayer card for her cause. In July 2024, he exhibited his recent paintings at the Prince Street Gallery in New York City: "San Sebastian: After Guido Reni" and "Will — The First Temptation."

'71

Neil McNeil '71 of Whitinsville, Massachusetts, completed a 53-year career as a vocational rehabilitation professional with his retirement in September 2024. He began working as a

rehabilitation counselor in 1971 for the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission and retired in 2010 as a regional director for that state agency. He then worked as a senior policy and program specialist at the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, until September 2024. He provided training and consultation to state vocational rehabilitation agencies across the United States and was a mentor for the National Center for Transformational Rehabilitation Leadership. Neil and his wife, Bonnie, enjoy spending time with their four sons and their families. Two sons, Kevin McNeil '01 and Mark McNeil '04, are proud PC alumni.

'73

Jack Donahue '73 of Watertown, Connecticut, celebrated his 74th birthday in September 2024 golfing at the Royal Portrush Golf Club in Portrush, Northern Ireland, where the 153rd Open will return in July 2025. "Cheers to the Class of '73!" he says.

'74

Aurelius "Aury" J. Licata, AIA '74 of Suffern, New York, received the Medal of Honor from the Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation in April 2025. He has served on the foundation's board of directors for 30 years. Licata began his insurance career in 1974 as a marketing representative for Aetna. In 1985, he started his own insurance business in his hometown and began his lifelong involvement with many local charities and organizations. He received the Community Service Award in 1999 from the Independent Insurance Agents Association of New York. He is the father of three and grandfather of five. With his partner, Susan, a registered nurse, mother of two, and grandmother of five, he enjoys visiting family, perfecting recipes, and spending time on the New Jersey shore. Plans for a return trip to Italy are on the horizon.

'76

Nancy Mello Maguire Heath '76 of Attleboro, Massachusetts, retired after 47 years in education, most recently as the director-superintendent of the Rhode Island School

2025 National Alumni Association Award recipients

The National Alumni Association recognizes the achievements of distinguished alumni with the National Alumni Association Award. Awards are distributed throughout the year.

BISHOP HARKINS AWARD

Most Rev. James Ruggieri '90

EXEMPLARY CITIZENSHIP AWARD

James Dalton, Ph.D. '79

FAITHFUL FRIAR AWARD

Terry Creegan '70

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Katie Campbell Daley, M.D. '95
Marcia Cohen Proto '85

SERVICE TO EDUCATION AWARD

Christy Haggerty Bray '95

SERVICE TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD

Michael Donohue '73

→ To nominate a classmate, visit prov.ly/naa-nomination

for the Deaf in Providence. She served deaf and hard of hearing students and their families throughout her career as a teacher, curriculum leader, principal, and administrator in both Rhode Island and Massachusetts. She continues to serve on national accreditation teams evaluating schools for the deaf with the Conference of Administrators and Educators at Schools for the Deaf in the United States.

'77

After many years as a part-time baseball scout for the Pittsburgh Pirates, **Rob Leeds '77** of

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Martin Doblmeier '73, '09Hon. creates film about the Sabbath

BY MICHAEL HAGAN '15, '19G

“Observing the sabbath takes trust,” said filmmaker Martin Doblmeier '73, '09Hon. “You must be able to trust for one day that you’ve done enough, you have enough, and that you are enough.”

SABBATH is the latest feature-length documentary from Doblmeier’s production company, Journey Films. In October 2024, Doblmeier visited campus to speak with students and to participate in a panel discussion about one of humanity’s oldest and most enduring spiritual traditions — reserving the seventh day as a day of rest.

Inspired by the teachings of Polish American rabbi and civil rights activist Abraham Joshua Heschel, the subject of an earlier Journey Films picture, Doblmeier believes that intentional rest is a necessary but too often lost practice in “a stressed-out, modern world.”

Small but prolific, Journey Films’ more than 35 productions on topics of religion, faith, and spirituality have aired

on PBS, ABC, NBC, and the BBC. Their honors include three regional Emmys, prizes from numerous film festivals, and 10 Gabriel Awards from the Catholic Media Association. Through his work, Doblmeier has recorded interviews with public figures including Emmy Award-winner Martin Sheen, scholar-activist Cornel West, President Jimmy Carter and many others.

Speaking to students in a course taught by Rev. Kenneth Gumbert, O.P., professor of film studies, Doblmeier recalled how difficult it was to access filmmaking equipment and supplies when he began studying the craft and encouraged students to utilize the sophisticated digital filmmaking equipment most carry in their pockets.

“In graduate school, I had to build rapport with the keepers of the equipment just to be able to borrow and use it. Nowadays, it won’t be long until somebody shoots a Best Picture on a phone,” Doblmeier said.

“IF YOUR PARENTS EVER TELL YOU THAT FILM STUDIES WON’T HELP YOUR CAREER, HAVE THEM CALL ME.”

— MARTIN DOBLMEIER '73, '09HON.

The fields of filmmaking and video production have only grown in demand and opportunity, Doblmeier said. While the entertainment industry offers professional opportunities for filmmakers, most new video production jobs are in the broader commercial sector.

“If your parents ever tell you that film studies won’t help your career, have them call me,” he said. “It is hard work, but there is so much demand for well-conceived, smartly directed video.”

Before Journey Films, Doblmeier created the television series *Real to Reel* — an answer to the call for a “new evangelization” arising from the Second Vatican Council and advocated by Pope Saint John Paul II. The nationally syndicated series is still produced by the Catholic Communications Corporation of the Diocese of Springfield, Massachusetts.

Doblmeier was born in Queens, New York, and lived in Virginia before his family relocated to Rhode Island. He attended Bishop Hendricken High School in Warwick. Mere days before his new student orientation at PC in 1969, he attended the Woodstock music festival in Bethel, New York. The college did not have a film studies program at the time; he majored in religious studies. After graduation, he wrote for the *Providence Visitor* newspaper, now *Rhode Island Catholic*.

“Providence is where my interests were incubated, where I put together the topics and ideas I wanted to work with in my career,” Doblmeier said. “I married the content I learned at Providence College to my later graduate studies in film.”

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Warrenton, Virginia, is now an associate scout for the Milwaukee Brewers. Rob assists the area scout for the Brewers in evaluating high school and college players in the Virginia-Maryland-Washington, D.C. area.

'80 (Reunion: May 30-June 1, 2025)

Anthony Buglio '80 of Coventry, Rhode Island, was made a partner at the law firm Marasco & Nesselbush, LLP, located on Westminster Street in Providence.

'81

Jim Russo '81 of East Providence, Rhode Island, was named director of media for the Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox in the Cape Cod Baseball League in March 2024 and was appointed to the team's board of directors in September.

'89

Rev. Msgr. Albert A. Kenney '89 was elected administrator of the Diocese of Providence in November 2024 to fill the vacancy created when Most Rev. Richard Henning, bishop of Providence, was appointed archbishop of Boston. Monsignor Kenney had been vicar general and moderator of the curia in the Providence diocese since 2011. A native of Massachusetts who majored in finance at PC, he studied for the priesthood at Our Lady of Providence Seminary and the Pontifical North American College in Rome. He was ordained on September 3, 1994, and has served as assistant vocations director for Our Lady of Providence Seminary, chaplain at La Salle Academy, and assistant pastor at St. Mary Parish in Pawtucket.

Paul Olivier, FACHE '89 of Boardman, Ohio, was appointed vice chair of the board of commissioners of Mill Creek Metro Park district in Ohio. He has served on the park board for more than six years. Mill Creek is one of the largest urban parks in the country, spanning 5,000 acres.

'91

Rev. John J. Butler, S.J. '91G of Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, will be the new president of

Boston College beginning in the summer of 2026. He earned a master's degree in religious studies from PC before joining the Jesuit order in 1991 and was ordained to the priesthood in 2000. He began working at Boston College in 2002 and has served many roles, most recently as vice president for university mission and ministry. He also was assistant director and inside counselor at St. Joseph Prison Ministry in Framingham.

Scott Molloy '91Ph.D. of West Kingston, Rhode Island, is professor emeritus of labor and industrial relations at the University of Rhode Island. The university's historic labor history archive, housed in Robert L. Carothers Library and Learning Commons, contains the collection of historic labor union materials he donated in 2009. Through the years, the archive expanded to a dozen collections from people who entrusted their family's objects and stories to Molloy. URI archivist Mark Dionne called it "the preeminent history of Rhode Island's working class." Molloy earned a Ph.D. in history from PC in 1991. His dissertation was titled "Motormen, Moguls, and the Machine: Urban Mass Transit in Rhode Island, 1864-1902." While studying for the PC degree, he drove the #20C Elmwood Avenue bus for the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority.

Brendhan Shugrue '91 of East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Massachusetts State Police. He is the division commander of Field Services, the largest division of the state police, which includes both uniform members and tactical operation units, and he oversees more than 1,350 sworn and civilian members. He previously served as the major of Troop B, the western-most field troop. Brendhan has been with the state police for more than 30 years. He studied finance at PC and received a master's degree in criminal justice from Anna Maria College.

'93

Lisa Guillette '93 of Providence, executive director of Foster Forward Rhode Island, was



Thirty years of service

Sarah Flanagan '79 of Falls Church, Virginia, retired as vice president for government relations and policy development for the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities after a 30-year career. She received the organization's Henry Paley Award and a standing ovation at her final presentation in February 2025.

NAICU represents private, nonprofit institutions of higher education, including Providence College, on federal policy issues. Before joining NAICU, Flanagan was the professional staff member for higher education on the Senate Subcommittee on Education, Arts, and Humanities under Rhode Island Senator Claiborne Pell, and staff director for the Senate Subcommittee on Children, Families, Drugs, and Alcoholism under Connecticut Senator Christopher Dodd '66.

She also received the Champion of Higher Education Award from the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities. She is an emeritus trustee of PC. Flanagan is pictured with Dan Egan '92, president of AICU Rhode Island.

honored by USA Today as Rhode Island Woman of the Year for 2025. Foster Forward supports young people who are aging out of the foster care system. Guillette, who has been involved with the organization since 2003, is guiding it in a new direction, developing affordable housing for former foster youths. The most ambitious project is a 144-unit complex on Taunton Avenue in East Providence in collaboration with Family Service of Rhode Island, One Neighborhood Builders, and Crossroads Rhode Island. She was a social work major at PC.

'95 (Reunion: May 30-June 1, 2025)

Mark Carroll '95 of Boston, a two-time Manchester Road Race champion and a member of its storied "Irish Connection," served as honorary chair of the 88th Manchester Road Race on Thanksgiving day in 2024. Carroll, who grew up in Cork, Ireland, won All-American honors six times at PC and competed for Ireland in the 5,000-meters in the Olympic Games in 2000 and 2004. He had nine top-25 finishes in Manchester from 1996-2010 and is head coach of the Boston Athletic Association's High-Performance Team of elite runners.

'96

Elizabeth Oldmixon '96 of Harrisonburg, Virginia, is vice provost for faculty affairs and curriculum and professor of political science at James Madison University. She previously served as director of academic policy at the University of North Texas. Her research and teaching interests focus on religion and legislative politics. She was a Fulbright scholar at University College Cork, Ireland. A humanities and political science major at PC, she earned a master's degree and doctoral degree in political science from the University of Florida.

'97

Jason S. Kane '97 of Dighton, Massachusetts, is the founder of Kane Law (www.jasonkanelaw.com), a personal injury law firm serving clients in seven states.

'99

Julie Baker '99, '04G of Cranston, Rhode Island, teaches a Spanish for Healthcare course at Cranston High School West, collaborating with community medical, engineering, and

mental health professionals to inspire and encourage the next generation of healthcare leaders and to promote cultural awareness and competence. Her class toured PC's new Ben Mondor Center for Nursing and Health Sciences to learn more about the college's Spanish for Health Professions minor.

Mary Sadlier '99G of Rumford, Rhode Island, was promoted to president at (add)ventures, an East Providence-based company that is a strategic and creative partner to Fortune 500 companies and major brands. Sadlier, who has an MBA from PC, has worked within the company for more than 25 years.

'00 (Reunion: May 30-June 1, 2025)

Carrie Spiros '00 of Danvers, Massachusetts, an assistant district attorney in Middlesex County and chief of the Malden Superior Court trial team, has been named a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in the United States and Canada. Spiros has tried more than 30 felony cases, including homicides and charges involving high risk domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking. A political

science major at PC, she graduated from New England Law Boston in 2008.

'01

Erika Olson O'Donnell '01 of Dedham, Massachusetts, is co-managing partner at Shepard O'Donnell, which was recognized as a "Best Women-Led Law Firm" by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly. "This recognition illustrates our commitment to creating an inclusive work environment that empowers our women attorneys and staff to excel in their work," O'Donnell said. "Together, we share a common mission to help people who are likely experiencing the most difficult situation they've ever faced in their lives." Shepard O'Donnell represents victims of mesothelioma, asbestos exposure, tobacco, and physician sexual abuse.

'02

Caitlin McCarthy Clarke '02 of Falls Church, Virginia, joined the Washington, D.C., office of Venable LLP as a senior director for cybersecurity services in the law firm's technology and innovation-cybersecurity group. She is a

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policy maker with experience as a special assistant to the president and senior director on the National Security Council staff at the White House and in various roles in the private sector. She studied political science at PC and has a master's degree in public policy from George Mason University.

Alissa Stuckey '02SCE of Boxford, Massachusetts, joined Buffalo-based M&T Bank as senior vice president and head of operational resilience. Stuckey is responsible for ensuring critical services are safeguarded and the company can anticipate, withstand, and recover from disruptions.

'03

Joshua Varone '03G of Barrington, Rhode Island, was promoted to executive vice president and chief human resources officer at Centreville Bank, based in West Warwick. He previously was senior vice president of human resources. Varone has a master's degree in history from PC. He serves on the board of directors for Special Olympics Rhode Island and the Northeast Human Resources Association.

'04

Rev. Albert P. Marcello III '04 of Providence successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in canon law, "The Date of Easter: Classical Considerations and Contemporary Challenges," at St. Paul University, Ottawa, On-

tario, in November 2024. He serves as chaplain at Rhode Island Hospital and as a tribunal official for the dioceses of Providence, Bridgeport, and Montreal. Father Marcello studied mathematics and philosophy at PC, with a minor in theology, and was ordained to the priesthood on June 13, 2009.

'05 (Reunion: May 30-June 1, 2025)

Courtney Howard '05 of Boston earned a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government in 2023. She joined the Obama Foundation as deputy director of development, northeast, in January 2025.

Brendan Murray '05 of Salem, Massachusetts, reports that his wife, Melina, recently became a U.S. citizen. They are enjoying raising two daughters, ages 5 and 2. In addition to Murray Masonry & More, which is celebrating 18 years in business, Murray started a second business, Vestige Carpentry, LLC. Both companies specialize in historic preservation and recently undertook high profile projects for the National Park Service, restoring the crypt at Old North Church, Boston; the U.S. Coast Guard, restoring a large building at Base Boston; and the town of North Andover, rebuilding the historic library entrance plaza.

'07

Matthew Korn '07 of Lexington, South Carolina, launched Dad, Esq., a community for

lawyer dads, on January 1, 2025. The goal is to help lawyer dads survive and thrive in the courtroom, at the playground, and everywhere in between. "We believe in building a strong community where fathers can grow together, celebrate success, and tackle challenges with confidence," Matthew said. There is no cost to join the community. To learn more, visit dadesq.com, or submit your request to join at dadesq.mn.co. Matthew and his wife, **Haylee Jones '09**, have three boys, MJ, Joshua, and Caleb, and a daughter, Madison, whom they are blessed to have adopted.

Richard Lambert '07 of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, is a Certified Professional Resume Writer who has helped thousands of individuals worldwide elevate their careers with expertly crafted resumes. Lambert was teaching English in Europe when he launched a freelance resume writing business on the app Fiverr, sharing the skills he learned working in Harvard University's career services center while studying for a master's degree in education. He has been featured on CNBC, Cheddar TV, and Business Insider.

'09

Shayla Evans '09 of New Haven, Connecticut, works full-time in commercial insurance but decided to pursue a passion project that combines her history with the Dance Team and her core wellness and fitness lifestyle — she is a part-time Orangetheory fitness coach.



Friends since Fennell

→ More than 40 years after they met as residents of the lower level in Fennell Hall, eight friends reunited to attend a men's ice hockey game at Schneider Arena in February 2025. From left are **Dan O'Hara '83, Tom Rajotte '83, Tom Jurkowski '82, Bob Duffy '82, Bob Murray '81, Joe Carr '83, Steve Valeri '82, and Pete Reilly '82**. O'Hara traveled from Baldwinsville, New York; Reilly from Newtown, Connecticut; and Jurkowski from Orleans, Massachusetts.

“Loving what you do, even if it’s on the side, aids in your peace and balance of work and life,” she said. “I encourage that in 2025 you find a peaceful passion project that fills your soul and provides service. Don’t stop believing!”

'12

Jay Civittolo, CPA '12, '13G of Glastonbury, Connecticut, was elected partner at CohnReznick, one of the leading advisory, assurance, and tax firms in the United States. He has more than a decade of experience in providing accounting and assurance services to a range of private equity funds and alternative investment firms. Jay’s primary expertise is working with established and newly formed Small Business Investment Company funds. He studied accountancy at PC and also earned an MBA.

Jonathan Hegler '12 of Floral Park, New York, is a special education teacher at Floral Park Memorial High School, where he coaches football, basketball, and lacrosse. He recently surpassed 100 career wins as both an assistant coach and a head coach.

Anthony Muhammad '12 of New York City, an operational risk director and deputy head of U.S. capital planning and stress testing at Barclays Bank, was featured on the big screen in Times Square throughout Black History Month in February 2025 as part of Barclays “Celebrating Black Professionals” campaign.

Ana Soares de Pina, D.O. '12 of Providence, Rhode Island, is a pediatric resident physician at Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children’s Hospital in Providence. She studied health policy and management at PC and was a summer youth employee at Rhode Island Hospital, where she worked as a transporter and an operating room assistant. After college, she moved to Washington, D.C., to work as a staff assistant to Rhode Island Senator Sheldon Whitehouse. She attended a two-year post-baccalaureate program at Harvard Extension School, then began medical studies at the University of New England. She is a member of the Cabo Verdean American Medical Society. Ana is passionate about mentorship, health care equity, and advocacy.

'13

Michael Rose '13 of Providence launched a weekly newsletter, New England Art News, to share events, resources, and opportunities with artists throughout the region. You can find it at newenglandartnews.substack.com.

'15 (Reunion: May 30-June 1, 2025)

Andrew DeNicola '15, '17G of East Greenwich, Rhode Island, was appointed to the Rhode Island Board of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists. As a mobile crisis clinician for Family Services of Rhode Island, Andrew works with children, adolescents, and adults. He has a master’s degree in counseling from PC and a certificate in graduate studies in advanced counseling from Rhode Island College. He is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and a Qualified Mental Health Professional.

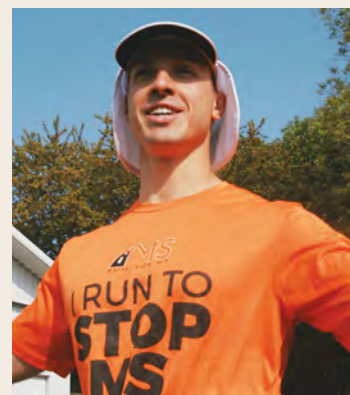
'17

Jeff Williams '17 of Melrose, Massachusetts, began a new position as a regulatory lead specialist at MFS Investment Management in Boston. He previously worked for the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General in Boston.

'19

Brother Raphael Arteaga, O.P. '19 of Washington, D.C., made solemn profession in the Dominican Order at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington in February 2025. Very Rev. Allen B. Moran, O.P., prior provincial of the Province of St. Joseph, celebrated the Mass of Solemn Profession, during which friars vow to live the Dominican life until death. Brother Raphael, from Pawtucket, Rhode Island, was president of Campus Ministry at PC and taught and served in the Solomon Islands with Archbishop Christopher Cardone, O.P. '80, '01Hon. through a Father Philip A. Smith, O.P. Student Fellowship for Study and Service Abroad.

Kelley O'Donnell '19 of Providence is an associate in the transactional group at Partridge Snow & Hahn, a full-service business law and litigation firm based in Providence. Her focus is commercial real estate, nonprofit and tax exemption, and corporate finance. O'Donnell studied psychology at PC and earned a law degree from Suffolk University, where she was



Why Kevin Runs

Stefan J. Puente '17 of Brooklyn, New York, created a short documentary film, “Kevin’s Run,” about his friend, classmate, and fellow Friars Club member Kevin Hoegler '17, who competes in ultramarathons to raise money to support multiple sclerosis research and aid those living with the disease. Hoegler was diagnosed with MS in September 2013, during his first semester at PC.

Puente, a business management major and film minor at PC, documents Hoegler’s attempt to raise \$11,000 for the national Multiple Sclerosis Society by running 220 miles in 72 hours. He directed, produced, and edited the documentary, which is available on YouTube at prov.ly/kevins-run.

Hoegler, from Aberdeen, New Jersey, studied finance at PC. Now a Certified Financial Planner® who works in the asset management industry, he began running at the end of 2019 and completed his first ultramarathon in March 2020. He married Bria Cancemi on October 5, 2024, in Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

production editor of the Transactional Law Review and a member of the Business Law Association, Real Estate Association, and Phi Delta Phi International Legal Honor Society. She interned with Barnstable County Superior Court Judge Mark Gildea. ■■

FRIAR WEDDINGS

SUBMISSIONS: prov.ly/alumni-notes

Carolyn Molloy '06 and Michael Conneely married on December 21, 2024, at Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island. Rev. Damian Day, O.P. '15, PC assistant chaplain, officiated. There were more than 30 PC graduates in attendance, including the bride's father, Michael Molloy '72, and her brothers, Bryan Molloy '00 and Timothy Molloy '02. The couple resides in Belmont, Massachusetts.

Thomas Freeman '73 and Jennifer Lawson '88SCE, '90G married on November 23, 2024, in Newport, Rhode Island, at The Chanler at Cliff Walk. They spend their time between Warren, Rhode Island, and St. Petersburg, Florida. Jennifer is the mother of Spencer Grassie '17 and Sara Grassie Reichert '18.

Ryan Millen '14 and Ashika Shah married on November 16, 2025, in Windham, New Hampshire. They reside in Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts.

CJ Groeschke '15 and Maggie Perkal married on October 26, 2024, in Palm Beach, Florida. The celebrant was CJ's classmate, PC assistant chaplain Rev. Damian Day, O.P. '15. Friars in attendance included best man Zak Harvey '16 and groomsmen Bobby Arruda '15, Matt Pavia '15, and Timmy Reynolds '15. CJ and Maggie reside in Fort Lauderdale.

Peter McGinley '17 and Bridget Dombrowski '17 married on October 26, 2024, at St. Augustine Church in Glastonbury, Connecticut. They reside in New York City.

Meredith Cooney '18 and Kevin Howard '18 married on October 26, 2024, at King's Chapel in Boston, celebrating with family, friends, and plenty of Friars at the Omni Parker House. They reside in Quincy.

John Vesce '14, '15G and Morgan Testa '16, '17G married on October 19, 2024, in St. Dominic Chapel, followed by a reception at the Providence G. It was the perfect fall day in Providence and also happened to be Homecoming Weekend. More than 35 Friar alumni attended. They reside in Boston.

Sara Grassie '18 and Matt Reichert married on October 12, 2024, at the Viewpoint Hotel in York, Maine. They were surrounded by friends, family, and three generations of Friars. They reside in Boston.

Annie Nolan '17 and Zachary Sequeira married on September 6, 2024, in Newport, Rhode Island. Friars in attendance included the bride's mother, Elizabeth Maloney Nolan '85, along with Rachel Najarian Bosse '16, Timothy Bosse '17, Ally Drury '17, Emily Fredrickson '17, MacKenzie Griffin '17, Taralynn Vecchio Kuehl '17, Ryan Kuehl '17, Allison Miller O'Connor '17, Thomas O'Connor '17, Carolyn Scionti '17, Esther Ssozi '17, Krysta Taylor '18, Lauren Murphy Tobin '85, Olivia Walsh '19, and Kerri McBride Zanini '17. The couple resides in Boston.

Madelyn Driscoll '19 and Chris Sellers '19 married on August 31, 2024, in Edgartown, Massachusetts, with more than 40 Friars attending. They live in Milton.

Eric Carreiro '06 and Alysse Burrone married on August 31, 2024, at The Maybourne Hotel in Beverly Hills, California. The celebration was filled with love, laughter, and an unforgettable dance party with family and friends. After the wedding, the couple honeymooned in Greece, exploring Athens and the islands. They reside in Beverly Hills.



Michael Boland '15 and Blair Galletto '15 married on November 23, 2024, during a Mass celebrated by College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G in St. Vincent Ferrer Church on the Upper East Side of New York City. Several alumni attended the reception at The University Club in Midtown. The couple resides in Manhattan.

Erin Boyle '20, '21G and Greg Hartmann '20, '21G married on August 24, 2024, at Our Lady of the Snow in Blue Point, New York, surrounded by family, friends, and more than 40 fellow Friar alumni. Greg and Erin met on campus in 2016, during their first year at PC, and have been together since. They reside in New York City.

Matthew Gould '19, '20G and Jessica Lavine married on August 17, 2024, at Mayfair Farm in Harrisville, New Hampshire. Seventeen Friar family members and friends were part of the celebration, including Jonathan Mignacca '27, Amelia Mignacca '25, Matt Mangiafico '20, Kelly Esposito '20, Brian Gould '20, Matthew Bohn '19, '20G, Alexander Hardoby '19, Andrew Harrod '19, Peter Jacques '19, Joe Markey '19, Carly Martino '19, Jillian Sweeney '19, Madeline Teixeira '19, Nicole Young-Sileo '19, Colin Young-Sileo '19, Steven Dansreau '91, and Michelle Dansreau Mignacca '93. The couple resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

Mackenzie Saitta '21 and Greg Printz '21 married on August 17, 2024, at the Bedford Village Inn in New Hampshire. They reside in Boxford, Massachusetts.

Melissa Brian '16 and Nico Vara '16 married in Harwich Port, Massachusetts, on July 27, 2024, surrounded by family, friends, and lots of Friars, including their parents, Denise Barry Brian '87 and Christian Vara '89. They reside in Boston.

Ryan McIntyre '21 and Diana Bilotta McIntyre '22 married on July 20, 2024, in St. Dominic Chapel, followed by a reception in Newport, Rhode Island. More than 40 Friars attended, spanning 50 class years from 1974-2024. They live in Sharon, Massachusetts.

Alex MacIsaac '17 and Katie DaSilva '17 married on July 13, 2024, on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. They reside in Quincy.

Sarah Dwyer '13 and Santiago Quintana married on July 6, 2024, on Long Island. They reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

Connor Rocco '19 and Kaitlyn Chance married on July 6, 2024, at Misselwood Estate, Endicott College, in Beverly, Massachusetts. The couple, who celebrated with friends, family, and numerous Friars, resides in Boston.

Kendall Connor '17 and Scott Hospod '17, '18G married on June 28, 2024, in Harwich Port, Massachusetts. They celebrated with family, friends, and fellow Friars at the Wychmere Beach Club. The couple resides in Andover.

Michael Kirkland '17 and Katie Stroble '17 met during their first year at PC and had their first date on Valentine's Day in 2015. After nine years of dating across states, countries, and time zones, they married on May 25, 2024, in Thornton, New Hampshire. They reside in Boston with their dog, Huxley.

Heather Zeman '10 and Brendan Lavery of Wakefield, Massachusetts, married on November 4, 2023, at the West Mountain Inn in Arlington, Vermont. They were introduced through Heather's first-year roommate. They celebrated their day with fellow Friars Andy Jacques '10, Jamie Luedtke '10, Bridget Landry '10, Meaghan Tanklefsky '10, Casey Dupre '10, Martin Rubino '12, Lindsey Costa '10, Katie



Little FRIARS

SUBMISSIONS: prov.ly/alumni-notes



← **Brian Beloin '09** of Kirkland, Washington, and his wife, **Brenna**, welcomed their first child on January 17, 2025. **Cecelia Marie Beloin** was born at 2:49 a.m. and by nighttime was watching the Friars play at Villanova.

Daniel P.F. Isabel '16 and Emma Burgess Isabel '18, '21G welcomed a son, **Dominic Pelletier Fredrick Isabel**, on August 6, 2024, the anniversary of Saint Dominic de Guzman's birth into eternal life. Dominic was baptized by Brother Nicodemus Maria Thomas, O.P. '18 at Saint Vincent Ferrer Church, with Rev. Peter Martyr Yungwirth, O.P. in attendance. Dominic joins his sister, Sophia Maria Isabel, who was 3 in April. The family lives in Middletown, Connecticut.



← **Kate Lyons '08, '11G** and her husband, **Corey**, welcomed **Alexandra Hope Lyons** on December 6, 2024. They live in Portland, Oregon, with their dog, Dani. Alex is excited to get back east one day to make it to a Friars game. Karen O'Connell Lyons '80 and Pete Lyons '80 are thrilled to welcome their granddaughter.



Rachel Nitsche Mairella '08 and her husband, **Steven**, of Severn, Maryland, welcomed their first child, **Anthony Joseph**, on October 10, 2024. Nicole Picard '08, who introduced Rachel and Steven, is Anthony's godmother. In January 2025, after parental leave, Rachel returned to work at the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, where she has worked since graduating from PC.

Morrison '10, Mikey Pajolek '10, and Tom Kenney '10.

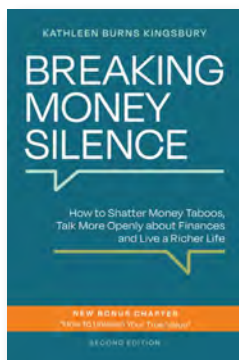
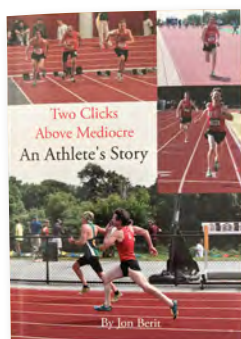
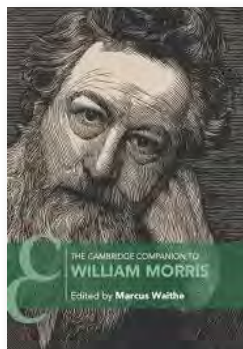
Joey Motchok '18 and Courtney Burke married on May 18, 2024, at the Boston Harbor Hotel. They reside in Boston.

Daniel P.F. Isabel '16 and Emma Burgess

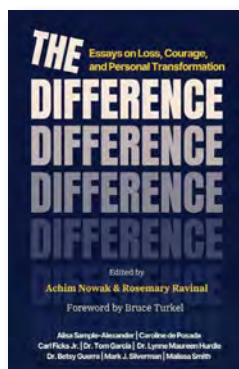
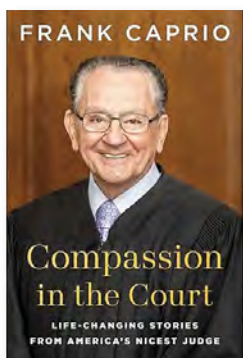
'18, '21G married on July 10, 2021, at Saint Mary of the Visitation Church in Huntsville, Alabama. Rev. Jordan Zajac, O.P. '04, Emma's catechist in the RCIA program, officiated. The Isabels met while working in Academic Media Services at PC. They are Third Order Dominicans living in Middletown, Connecticut.

ALUMNI AUTHORS

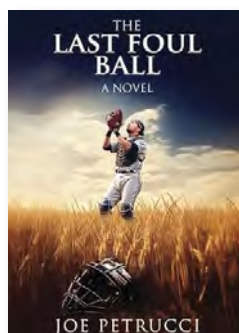
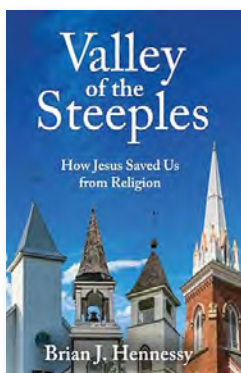
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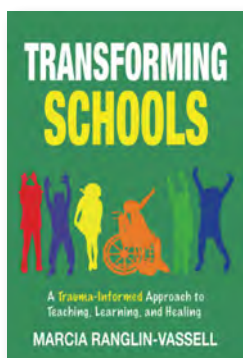
Sara Lussier Atwood '95 of Portland, Oregon, contributed an essay, "Morris in the 21st Century," to the *Cambridge Companion to William Morris* (Cambridge University Press, 2024). An excerpt from her memoir-in-progress is included in the current issue of the Buckman Journal, a Pacific Northwest literary magazine. Sara teaches English literature and writing at Portland State University and Pacific Northwest College of Art.



Jonathan Berit '80 of Waltham, Massachusetts, wrote *Two Clicks Above Mediocre: An Athlete's Story*, a book that chronicles his career in track and field, spanning 50 years and counting. He ran track and cross country for the Friars. During his senior year, his roommate was Ray Treacy '82, head coach and director of cross country and track at PC.



The second edition of *Breaking Money Silence: How to Shatter Money Taboos, Talk More Openly about Finances, and Live a Richer Life*, by **Kathleen Burns Kingsbury '88** of Waitsfield, Vermont, was published in January 2025. Burns Kingsbury, a finance major at PC, is the founder of KBK Wealth Connection, a coaching and consulting firm. This is her fifth book on money psychology.



Compassion in the Court: Life-Changing Stories from America's Nicest Judge is a book by **Frank Caprio '58, '08Hon.** about the lessons he learned in life and in the courtroom as a municipal traffic court judge in Providence from 1985-2023. His four-time Emmy-nominated show, *Caught in Providence*, gave the world a window into his method of compassionate justice and made him a television and internet superstar when he was in his 80s. The book was published in February 2025 by BanBella Books.

Paul Caranci '77 of North Providence, Rhode Island, has written his 16th book, *History's Greatest Mystery: The Improbable Convergence of Four Images of Christ*, published in October 2024 and available through Amazon and other booksellers. Relying on peer-reviewed scientific research studies conducted in this century, the book offers evidence that the Shroud of Turin is the authentic burial cloth of Jesus. The book's preface was written by **Rev. Christopher Mahar '00**, pastor of St. Augustine Church in Providence, who holds a Ph.D. from the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, and was a member of the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development at the Vatican.

Carl Ficks '85 of Farmington, Connecticut, contributed an essay to *The Difference: Essays on Loss, Courage, and Personal Transformation*, published in 2023 by Balboa Press. The book includes 10 compelling essays about loss, courage, and personal transformation. In his essay, Ficks acknowledges how his experience at PC shaped his intellectual, spiritual, and emotional maturity, and how the college's motto, *Veritas*, has provided an unfailing moral compass in his decision-making. A political science major at PC who also holds a doctor of law degree from The Catholic University of America, he is a leadership trainer and consultant in Connecticut.

Kevin Hare '05G of San Diego wrote *Computer Science Principles: The Foundational Concepts of Computer Science*, now in its 5th edition. The book introduces the creative side of computing, instructing readers in how to edit photos, design websites, code JavaScript, and organize with spreadsheets, all while teaching the foundational concepts of computer science. How do computers convert information into ones and zeros and send it thousands of miles in the blink of the eye? What is an IP address? What do TCP/IP, DNS, HTML, and CSS stand for? How can a hard drive store large movies and thousands of songs? How can secrets be sent in plain sight? These

questions — and more — are answered in *Computer Science Principles*.

Brian Hennessy '62 of The Villages, Florida, was led by God on a "miraculous, life-changing adventure" with his wife, Mo. It's all told in his book, *Valley of the Steeples*. He is the father of four and the grandfather of 10.

Joseph Petrucci '78 of North Providence, Rhode Island, published *The Last Foul Ball*, a romance story that takes place in Rhode Island. The novel contains an amusing and true anecdote about Friar baseball coach Alex Nahigian and his encounter with Mo Berg, the American professional baseball player and allied spy during World War II. The book was featured on the WBZ Book Club on WBZ NewsRadio in Boston and reviews have been excellent. It can be purchased in Kindle format and paperback on Amazon.

Transforming Schools: A Trauma-Informed Approach to Teaching, Learning, and Healing, a book by **Marcia Ranglin-Vassell '12G** of Providence, was honored as a New York City Big Book Award Distinguished Favorite for 2024. As a state representative from 2017-2023, Ranglin-Vassell worked to pass and sign into law the Trauma-Informed Schools Act. Her book provides information about the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences on teaching and learning. It also provides strategies for educators and childcare providers on how to create trauma-informed classrooms where they, and the children they teach and care for, can thrive. Ranglin-Vassell is a full-time special education teacher in Providence Public Schools and a founder of Global Fund to End Childhood Hunger and Poverty, a nonprofit organization dedicated to feeding hungry children by helping to fund food pantries located in public schools.

Michael Tarka '76 of Montgomery Village, Maryland, published his first book, *Forever Bound: Poems from the Spouse of an Alzheimer's Sufferer*, an anthology of poems that encapsulate the litany of

emotions that caregiving for a spouse or loved one with Alzheimer's brings. The poems in *Forever Bound* reflect the intensity of thoughts and feelings as a husband watches his wife decline, knowing he can do nothing to stop the progression. The book is dedicated to the millions of caregivers around the world.

Krissie K. Williams '96 of West Yarmouth, Massachusetts, wrote *There Ought to be Shadows*, a Southern Gothic horror novel about a woman who returns to her hometown of Moonstone, South Carolina, and uncovers its dark secrets. Williams studied history and secondary education at PC, received a master's degree from The Graduate Institute, and works as a high school history teacher on Cape Cod. She founded the Barnstable Ally Group, a local civil rights and social justice organization, and is a member of the sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc.



The wit and wisdom of **Joseph M. Calabria '65** is complete in a second volume published in 2024 — *Illegitimi Non Carborundum*, loosely translated as "Don't Let the Bastards Grind You Down." Set during his imagined funeral, the book looks back through a series of vignettes on the successes and failures of the four quarters of Calabria's life. His first book, *Hello: How Are You?*, was published in 2017. Calabria, who lives in Boulder, Colorado, with his wife, Sugar, is the founder of CPI, an information technology equipment company, and is a PC trustee.



IN MEMORIAM

HUGH F. LENA III, PH.D. '20HON.



Dr. Lena teaches an Honors Program course in October 2018.

Hugh F. Lena III, Ph.D. '20Hon., the college's first provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, a professor of sociology, and an integral part of PC's academic and administrative community for 50 years, died on Saturday, January 6, 2025, following a brief illness. He was 76.

College President Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P. '78, '82G granted Dr. Lena provost emeritus status after he stepped down from his role on June 30, 2020. He was awarded an honorary doctor of higher education degree at the college's 2020 commencement ceremony. Dr. Lena spent the 2021-2022 academic year as a fellow in the Inspired Leadership Initia-

tive at the University of Notre Dame.

With a bachelor's degree in sociology from Notre Dame and a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Connecticut, Dr. Lena joined the PC faculty as assistant professor in 1974 and was promoted to professor in 1993. For 16 years, he was the college's chief academic officer, serving as vice president for academic affairs from 2004-2009 and as provost and senior vice president from 2009-2019.

Dr. Lena championed the process that linked faculty tenure with promotion and introduced a faculty post-tenure review system. He shepherded the introduction of a revamped core

curriculum and a fourth-semester colloquium to the Development of Western Civilization Program. Even as an administrator, he taught courses in sociology, the Honors Program, and the MBA Program.

A 1997 article in *The Cowl* described Dr. Lena's involvement with the Feinstein Institute for Public Service, where he team-taught a course, AIDS Community and the Policy of Risk. He joined students volunteering during spring break at a New Jersey hospice and continued that service at Sunrise House in Providence, helping older adults with HIV.

Dr. Lena, the son of a physician, studied organizational theory and medical sociology in his Ph.D. program. He told *The Cowl* that where he once taught from books, "there was no human face until I started doing service, which is very rewarding."

As provost, he served on the New England Commission of Higher Education, an accreditor of colleges and universities.

Dr. Lena enjoyed *The New York Times* crossword, remembered details about co-worker's families, and in his younger years ran marathons. He traveled internationally with his wife, Susan H. Lena '86G. They are the parents of a daughter, Jennifer C. Lena, Ph.D.

A memorial Mass was held in St. Dominic Chapel on January 10.

DEATHS

Robert Murphy '49	Joseph P. Hopkins '62	Mark E. Hutchinson '69	Marie J. DiSciullo-Naples, Ph.D. '83G
J. Richard Ratcliffe, DDS '50	Lawrence E. Moran '62	Thomas J. Krajewski '69	Bert W. Finan '83G
William M. Antil '51	Raymond Zifcak '62, '75G	Peter W. Pelletier '69	Patrick G. Mee '83
Joseph J. Box, DMD '51	Peter M. Boranian '63	Francis A. Scalise '69, '75G	Paula Jane Gonya '84SCE
Robert J. Flanagan '51	Gustave J. Comeyne '63	Robert Thomas Walsh '69	John Hosang '84
Frederick A. Barbieri '52	James A. O'Leary, Esq. '63	Mark A. Grimes, Esq. '70	William M. Carnes '85
Salvatore Calore '52	Edward J. Duphiney '64	Lawrence M. Laughlin '70	Susan Ellen Waters '85
Arthur T. Alcares '53	Larry G. Kish '64	J. Barry Ware '70	Janice Hanbury Fahy '86
Armand D. Brandi '53	Raymond G. LePage, Ph.D. '64	Joseph A. Almagno '71G	Dennis J. Toomey '88
William F. Herzog '53	Edward A. Madonna '64	Elaine G. McGillicuddy '71G	James W. McCarron '90
Franklin J. Marinelli, DMD '53	Thomas A. Ronco '64	Thomas J. Merolla '71	John J. O'Connell '90
Rev. Arthur K. Wingate '53	Vincent R. Rupolo '64	Michael E. Boshka '72	Jeanclaude Sanchez '91
Leonard J. Peltier '54	James Zampino '64	John A. Pollard '72	Brian P. Walton '91SCE, '94G
Vincent J. Piccirilli, Esq. '54	Raymond J. Zarychta '64	John R. Armour '73SCE	Mary Margaret Cummings Newman '92
William J. Sullivan, Esq. '54	John J. Dempsey '65	James W. Cahill '73	Alana Lynn Bouris Burke '93SCE
Charles T. Toomey '54	Gary F. Gavigan '65	Paul T. Carcieri, '73, '07Ph.D.	Laurie Callahan McCormick '93
George Martins '55	David I. McIntyre, J.D. '65, '67G	Robert P. Fitzgerald '73	Michelle Champagne
John F. Bruce '56	William G. Savastano, Esq. '65	William M. Mahoney '73	Hammerschmidt '95
Louis V. Lanzarotta '56	Joseph M. Sullivan, Ed.D. '65	Kevin Paul Yakuboff, M.D. '73	Ann M. Galvin '96SCE
Robert N. LeClerc '56	Michael J. Thornett '65	John A. Barber '74SCE	Michael Napolitano '96G
Thomas F. McCarthy '56	Douglas M. Cameron '66	Sister June Engelbrecht, O.P. '74G	James W. Lyons '97G
Joseph J. Carcasole '57	Edwin R. Grady '66	William Farrar '74SCE	Frank R. Robertson '99G
Cornelius B. Collins '57	John P. Ladouceur '66	Charlene C. Connors '75G	Joseph F. Bernardo '06G
Donald F. Ginnerty '57	Vincent J. Marrottoli, Ph.D. '66	Pamela Klosky '75G	Lee J. Stetson '08SCE
William J. Kenneally '57	George P. McCabe, Ph.D. '66	Daniel M. LeBrun '75, '80G	Katherine Scurlock Jenkins '09
Hubert G. Meunier, Ph.D. '57	Clifford F. Wallace '66	Joanne McGlynn '75	Thomas J. Long '24SCE
Joseph M. Nunes '57	David G. Conte '67	Catherine F. Cronin Leydon '76	Robert W. Urban '28
Anthony Pescatello '57	Robert L. Corrigan '67	Jon T. Moody '76	Heidi Kirk Duffy, <i>college trustee</i>
Clarence A. Sylvester '57	Charles J. Costa, Ph.D. '67	Roland L. DiOrio '77G	Most Rev. Louis E. Gelineau, D.D.
Joseph R. Tocco '57	Richard J. Hayes '67	Michael J. Fenton '78	'72Hon., <i>bishop of Providence</i>
Gregory H. Gustina '58	David A. Horsman '67, '77G	Robert M. Laffey, Ph.D. '78G	Ellen Goodman, Ph.D., <i>professor of English</i>
Philip J. Jackman '58	John E. Lynch '67	David C. Leach '78G	Rev. Gustavo Gutiérrez, O.P. '15Hon., <i>theologian</i>
Francis J. McKenna '58	Roger W. Plante '67	Margaret Mimnaugh Cotter '79	Edward A. Jamiel, <i>athletic trainer</i>
Frank M. Tirico '58	John E. Quinn Jr. '67	Maureen A. Higgins '79G	Hugh F. Lena III, Ph.D. '20Hon., <i>provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, sociology professor</i>
Donald J. Cummings '59	Lawrence S. Rzepecki '67	Marilynn McConnell '79G	Linda F. Norton, <i>assistant director, financial aid</i>
Noel O. Fugere '59	James E. Schessler '67	Iris S. Most '79G	Rosealba Pagano, <i>executive assistant to provost</i>
Vincent F. Garry, M.D. '59	Kenneth J. Andrews '68	Pauline M. Boyle '80G	Mary Anne S. Reilly, '02Hon., <i>Reilly Art Gallery benefactor</i>
Robert E. Poirier '59	Sister Adrienne DeChamplain '68G	Lauren M. Brosnihan '80	Cornelius Riordan, Ph.D., <i>emeritus professor of sociology</i> ☐
John P. Toscano, Esq. '59	Gregory Gustina '68	Rev. Dennis J. Kieton '80SCE	
Raymond H. Beretta '60	Thomas E. Mulhearn '68	Richard T. Krupski '81	
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THE LAST WORD

THE POET IN ME

BY PATRICIA SLONINA VIEIRA '75

We were herded into the cavernous basement of Harkins Hall. We sat on wooden folding chairs, straining to hear the echoing instructions delivered by department heads. This was freshman orientation circa 1971 and I was among the first class of “coeds.”

My immediate concern was selecting an academic major. All else — schedules, professors, credits — depended on that choice. I loved history and politics, harboring a dream to be the country’s first woman president. But teaching history seemed like the more practical path.

When the session ended, I headed against the crowd to seek out the director of career services.

“I am thinking of majoring in history and then teaching,” I shouted over the din as he bent down from the stage to hear me.

He scowled. “You’ll never get a job — too many teachers!” He paused, probably noting my confusion. More kindly, he asked, “What do you like to do? What are you good at?”

I had long considered my skill with words a gift I received to compensate for a congenital heart condition that kept me out of gym classes and in the library. “I like writing and I’ve won a few essay contests in school ...,” I began. He seized the clue, commanding, “Then be an English major. You can do anything with that.”

And that is how the arc of my life began its bent toward the writing life. But it took me more than 40 years — and a poignant message from my alma mater — to embrace the one word that describes my lifelong affinity for words.

My English Department advisor was not a tweedy professor, but a woman just a few years older than me. Jane Lunin Perel, MFA ’15Hon. was beginning her teaching career in those heady days of turmoil on campuses across the country. She described herself as the “exotic other” — a female, Jewish, bohemian-like poet hired as one of the first women faculty members at our conservative, Catholic college.

Drawn to her orbit like a moth to light, I took every possible class with Jane. A cautious introvert, I absorbed the rays of daring and possibility that whorled from her center. Under Jane’s instruction, encouragement, and guidance, I began to develop and refine my writing voice. She taught me how to look and listen to the sights and sounds others missed.

I experimented with words and line endings. I attended poetry readings in the Wooden Navel, listening always with eyes closed to see the worlds created with words. I learned to read poetry aloud with the cadence that brings life to letters on a page. I visited an unorthodox Catholic commune with upper-classmen from the student literary magazine, the *Alembic*, who merged their poetry with deep spirituality. I became editor of that magazine and believed every observation could be transformed into a line of poetry.

And then I graduated — time for the real world. I married, survived two open-heart surgeries,

and delivered three healthy babies. My first daughter's middle name was chosen in dual homage to my late father — whom she would never know — and to my mentor, Jane Lunin Perel.

My writing took a utilitarian turn — employee newsletters, recycling instructions, letters to the editor, press releases, and web content, to name a few applications. Jane's formative influence lingered and we maintained warm contact. With sporadic cultivation on my part, poetry continued to thrive. My scribbled scraps accumulated in books and storage boxes.

I directed the annual poetry competition that honored the late Galway Kinnell, a Pulitzer Prize poet who shared my Pawtucket, Rhode Island, origins, with Jane graciously serving as a judge. When the U.S. poet laureate promoted "Favorite Poem" readings, I coordinated one in my town — and read one of Jane's poems. I entered poetry contests, often sending new poems to Jane for critique. And two of my daughters asked me to write and read a poem at their weddings.

Through all those years, when people asked about my profession, I would answer, "I'm a writer." No finer distinction seemed necessary.

Then I received a fundraising mailing from PC, asking me to consider a bequest. Was it time for that



already? On the verge of discarding it, I saw a handwritten note. "Jane is featured here and she mentions you. I thought you might enjoy seeing it."

Marking the 40th anniversary of the Class of 1975 was a familiar image — the "triumvirate" photo depicting the first women to serve as editors of *The Cowl*, the *Alembic*, and *Veritas*. Inside, I read that Jane was retiring and would receive an honorary doctorate at the coming commencement, a well-deserved honor. In a list where Jane recalled her fondest memories, the first entry read: "*Patricia Slonina Vieira ... a marvelous young poet.*"

My life lens shifted in a moment of recognition. *I am a poet.* I have always been a poet. No matter what kind of writing I do for personal satisfaction or professional success, that writing does not define me or my world view. The poet in me does that.

If I had not pushed forward to that stage and asked a perceptive



Jane Lunin Perel described herself as the 'exotic other' — a female, Jewish, bohemian-like poet ...



stranger to guide me, I might have taught history (though it's doubtful my presidential ambitions would have been realized). But what would my life have been without Jane's nurture of the poetic spark she saw in me? Who would I be today? Even with a poet's insight, I cannot imagine how different that outcome might have been.

I once read, "Don't ever let your gift just become your job," and have gratefully avoided that snare, even though writing has dominated my career. More than 50 years ago, two people recognized a gift in me and one became a beloved mentor. I now understand all the years since in a new way: It is the poet in me who protected the gift. ■■



Patricia Slonina Vieira '75 was a member of the first graduating class to include women, which celebrates its 50th anniversary

this spring. A writer, editor, and poet, she resides in Cumberland, Rhode Island.



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THE FIRST CLASS OF UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN GRADUATED 50 YEARS AGO

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