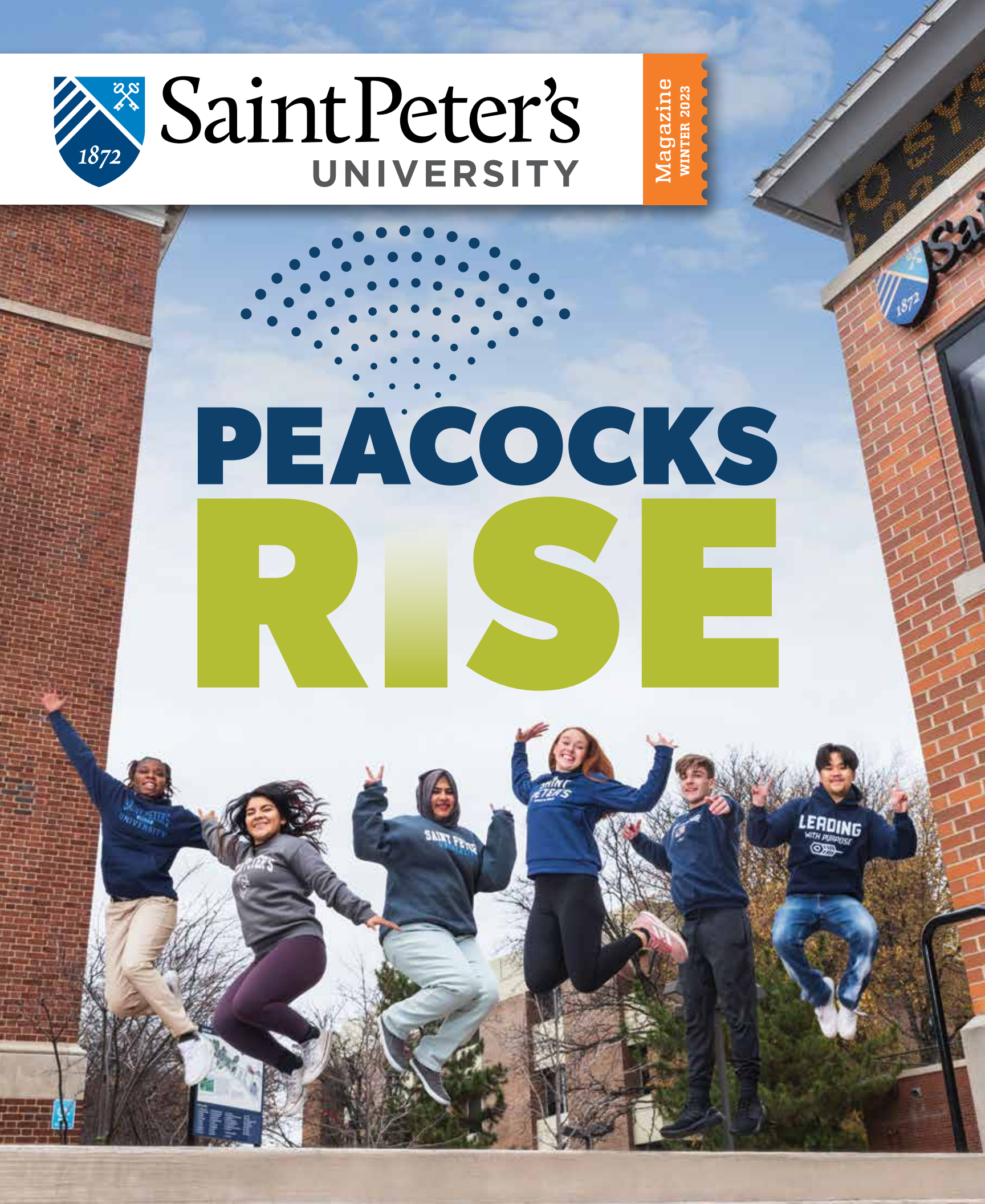
Saint Peter's UNIVERSITY

Magazine
WINTER 2023

PEACOCKS RISE



Saint Peter's UNIVERSITY

1872



THE WORLD NEEDS MORE PEACOCKS

New Era. New Brand Campaign.

The energy, vitality and *cura personalis* that distinguishes Saint Peter's University from other higher education institutions is encapsulated in a bold brand campaign, The World Needs More Peacocks. Capitalizing on the momentum generated following the men's basketball team's inspiring run to the Elite Eight 2022 NCAA Tournament, the campaign taps into the University's core strengths such as the character and diversity of students, the breadth and depth of opportunities, Jersey City location and spirit-filled community.

The brand campaign is multifaceted. It launched in early 2023 in a range of print, digital and transit media. The refreshed brand message and look is the result of a six-month effort led by a steering committee with input from numerous constituencies. Saint Peter's worked with Lipman Hearne, a Chicago-based marketing and communications firm focused on the nonprofit sector, to bring the new brand to life.

Our Next Chapter



Fifty or so years from now, the Saint Peter's University community will gather to open the time capsule dedicated during our Sesquicentennial year. The world may look very different for Peacocks in 2072, but I can confidently foresee a future where the character and mission of this University remains constant and steadfast. On its 200th birthday, Saint Peter's will continue to stand as a gateway for ambitious students, hungry for the chance to better themselves and their communities. Our academic programs will no doubt evolve, but we'll still be preparing students to achieve more in their professions and personal lives than they ever thought imaginable. Ignatian values of *cura personalis* and forming men and women for others will always define the student experience and a Saint Peter's education.

Ensuring life changing opportunities for students, 55 percent of undergraduates are the first in their families to graduate from college, is the central purpose driving *Peacocks Rise: The Campaign for Saint Peter's University*. This new comprehensive fundraising campaign, which celebrated its public launch on December 2, 2022, secured $70 million during its quiet phase, shattering the record $64.2 million raised for *Students at the Center* in 2014. The ultimate goal is to raise a minimum of $75 million to advance four core priorities that are an intrinsic part of a Jesuit education and the phenomenal success of our graduates. Detailed plans and information related to the campaign priorities are featured in the cover story of this magazine.

Saint Peter's is in a great position as we embark on our next chapter. The institution is stronger both academically and operationally. Our centers of excellence, institutes and schools are producing outstanding scholarship and research. With the support of generous donors, we have enhanced our facilities and infrastructure and are now reaping the benefits of these investments. Campus life is enriched with the opening of Panepinto Hall, the apartment-style residence hall for upperclassmen. Hy-Flex classrooms have innovated teaching and learning. Peacock pride is more palpable than ever inside the modernized Run Baby Run Arena.

> **"We have progressed greatly in the past decade, but I firmly believe that Saint Peter's greatest achievements still lay ahead."**

We have progressed greatly in the past decade, but I firmly believe that Saint Peter's greatest achievements still lay ahead. That's why I'm asking our entire University community to participate in this campaign in whatever way they can. Your success is built on the contributions of generations that came before you. Join the nearly 8,000 alumni and friends who have already committed to creating the future we know is possible and help the next generation of Peacocks rise.

Sincerely,

Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D.
President

IN THIS
Issue

Saint Peter's UNIVERSITY



HOW TO REACH US

Alumni News & Notes
Email: alumni@saintpeters.edu
Office of Alumni Engagement
2641 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Letter to the Editor
Email: smalinowski@saintpeters.edu
Editor, *Saint Peter's University*
2641 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Telephone: (201) 761-6239

On the cover:
Peacocks Rise! From left to right, Amani Davidson '24, Scarlett Guajala '23, Noor Fatima Memon '25, Shelby Piccinic '23, Matthew Dobronsky '25 and Ethan Del Socorro '25

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Editor
Sarah Malinowski Ferrary
Assistant Vice President for University Communications

Editorial & Design Services
Erbach Communications Group

Contributors & Editorial Assistance
Angeline Boyer, M.B.A.'15

Photography
Sharmila Karne '25
Michael Marmora
GR Productions
Brandon Rivera '21
Joy Yagid



Panepinto Hall is Open

Life is good inside Panepinto Hall, the new residence hall at 762 Montgomery Street that was officially dedicated on September 21, 2022. Since it opened to residents, upperclassmen have quickly settled into the six-story facility, which features apartment-style living, kitchenettes, private bathrooms in each suite, study lounges, ample laundry facilities and a communal room where a group of students organized a "Friendsgiving" before the holiday break.

Natalyn Artiles '24 appreciates the study lounges on each floor of the facility. "It feels a lot better when we do our homework out there. It's a lot more comfortable." Artiles discussed the benefits of Panepinto Hall with *Saint Peter's University*, alongside roommate Mishree Patel '24 and suitemate Rose Touffaint '25. The students like the aesthetic of the modern facility and have made good use of the kitchenette, shopping for groceries and cooking meals for the suite. "It's different when you are doing stuff for yourself," said Patel, who previously resided in the traditional residence, Millennium Hall. Students are also responsible for the basic upkeep of their units and cleaning the bathrooms.

The added responsibility is worth it. "We could not wait to move in," said Touffaint, who is living on campus for the first time. The new facility was built in response to the increased demand for apartment-style residences and its proximity to the Mac Mahon Student Center is a boon for residential life.

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The official dedication of Panepinto Hall, which was named in honor of Joseph Panepinto, Esq. '66.

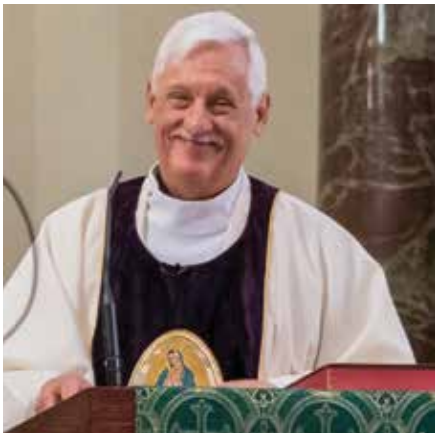
When it was under construction in 2020, then Resident Advisor Maxwell Tomcho '22 predicted, "Having this apartment-style residence hall is going to make students want to become more involved and engaged on campus."

The University named Panepinto Hall in honor of Joseph A. Panepinto, Esq. '66 for his decades of service and generosity to Saint Peter's. The Jersey City real estate developer committed $10 million to the University in 2018, which at the time was the largest-ever philanthropic gift in the institution's history. At the ribbon cutting, Panepinto spoke of his connection to the University and to the ambitious students who attend Saint Peter's today.

"What Saint Peter's affords first-generation and other college students is the opportunity to learn, explore and choose a direction in which they feel they can fulfill their life," he stated. "This new residence hall will provide students the opportunity to study and live on campus, meet students from all walks of life and gain independence while continuing to have a support network to help them from their transition from student life to a professional and business life."



Mishree Patel '24 (top), Rose Touffaint '25 (left) and Natalyn Artiles '24 (right) in their apartment-style suite.



FATHER GENERAL VISITS SAINT PETER'S

Boston. New York City. Jersey City. Baltimore. Washington, D.C. Father General Arturo Sosa, S.J., (pictured left) visited these cities and several others in August 2022 to gain a firsthand perspective of the apostolates and institutions of Jesuits USA East province. It was the Father General's first visit to the province since it was established in 2020. On August 8, Fr. Sosa presided over Mass at St. Aedan's: The Saint Peter's University Church. Religious and laypeople representing Saint Peter's University, Saint Peter's Prep, St. Aedan's Parish, the Loyola Jesuit Center and parishes and communities from Brooklyn, Staten Island and Long Island attended the Mass. At a reception following the service in the Mac Mahon Student Center, representatives from the apostolates had an opportunity to meet Fr. Sosa and share how each organization is seeking to live out the shared Jesuit mission in their particular field.

MICHAELMAS CONVOCATION 2022

NASA AEROSPACE ENGINEER DELIVERS INSPIRATIONAL KEYNOTE



Eugene Cornacchia, Ph.D., and Aprille Ericcson, Ph.D., H '22

It takes more than words to inspire a large audience. The accomplishments and trailblazing career of NASA aerospace engineer Aprille J. Ericcson, Ph.D., H '22 resonated with students and provided the basis for a rousing keynote address at the 2022 Michaelmas Convocation on September 28, 2022.

Since 55 percent of Saint Peter's University undergraduates will be the first in their families to graduate from college, many identified with this year's Michaelmas keynote speaker who has achieved an impressive number of firsts in space and engineering over a nearly 30-year career. Dr. Ericcson is the first African-American female to earn a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Howard University and the first African-American female civil servant to earn an engineering Ph.D. at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. She is also the first person of color to receive the Washington Award from the Western Society of Engineers.

Being first is never an easy path, and Dr. Ericcson spoke of the female pioneers and ancestors who played a role in her achievements. "When you have these moments of self-doubt," she told Saint Peter's students, "I hope you find inspiration in the stories of the success of our ancestors. The human story is riddled with stories of triumph. Honorees, your story of achievement is being told today."

The University conferred the degree of Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters to Dr. Ericcson. The ceremony also celebrated the 10 seniors inducted into the Most Noble Order of the Peacock (MNOP) for attaining the highest scholastic average in all courses throughout their first three years at the University. The 2022 MNOPs include Alex Abreu '23, Nicholas Gale '23, Marina Hanna '23, Christina Maldonado '23, Ethan Mangold '23, Amani Mustafa '23, Biagio Stoduto '23, David Szaro '23, Akshaye Tamasar '23 and Danielle Zimny '23.

MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CELEBRATED

The Saint Peter's University community came together in fellowship and prayer for Mass of the Holy Spirit on September 14, 2022, a global Jesuit tradition that opens the academic year. Students, faculty, administrators, alumni and friends gathered at St. Aedan's: The Saint Peter's University Church to reflect, reconnect and ask for God's blessings in all endeavors throughout the year. Vice President for Mission and Ministry Rev. Andrew J. Downing, S.J., served as the primary celebrant.

CLOSING OUT THE SESQUICENTENNIAL



Fifty years from now, members of the Peacock community will open a time capsule filled with historic mementos of the Sesquicentennial year. The capsule, dedicated on December 5, 2022, contained items from the 150th anniversary, memorabilia from the 2022 NCAA men's basketball tournament, the 2021 and 2022 issues of *Peacock Pie*, letters from current students to future Peacocks and much more.

It will be stored in the Guarini Center for Community Memory at the Theresa and Edward O'Toole Library until the University's Bicentennial in 2072. The dedication ceremony, organized by the Sesquicentennial Commission, coincided with the O'Toole Library exhibition, *Photographic Highlights of Saint Peter's University's Sesquicentennial*.

LAURELS

MEDICAL MISSION TO ECUADOR



Saint Peter's was part of a 29-member medical mission to Ecuador in September.



Eva Reid '22, '23 (left) and Karina Diaz '22, '23 (right)

A team of Saint Peter's University faculty, students and alumni joined the 29-member Healing the Children New Jersey (HTCNJ) medical mission to Guayaquil, Ecuador, in September. The project was part of the Global Communication course at Saint Peter's and the group included **Ernabel Demillo, M.S.**, chair and lecturer of communication, **Karina Diaz '22, '23**, **Eva Reid '22, '23, Simran Salhan '23** and **Jocelyn Encalada '21**.

Salhan and Encalada, both from Ecuador, served as translators. Diaz and Reid, graduate students in the accelerated communications and public relations program, chronicled the seven-day trip for HTCNJ. The Saint Peter's group worked side-by-side with healthcare providers on a volunteer medical mission that had been paused for two-and-a-half years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the week-long trip, 55 children were seen at the clinic and 38 surgeries, several of them life-changing, were performed.

Diaz and Reid filmed, edited and produced two videos about the medical mission to raise awareness and funds for HTCNJ.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSOR AWARDED FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIP



Associate Professor of Criminal Justice **Beth Adubato, Ph.D.**, earned the competitive Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award to lecture and conduct research in Belgium. For the past decade, Dr. Adubato has examined the connection between televised sports and domestic violence in the U.S. The seven-month fellowship allows the professor to replicate the methodology of the U.S. studies, look at the phenomenon of stadium violence in Europe and determine any connections to domestic violence.

"Belgium has a higher rate of domestic violence than other Western European countries," said Dr. Adubato. She also anticipates having a lot of new data to study after riots broke out in Belgium following Brussels' loss to Morocco in the World Cup. Dr. Adubato is lecturing on two topics at the Université catholique de Louvain, victimology and crime in popular culture. A former television journalist, the professor is a co-author of *Crime in TV, the News, and Film: Misconceptions, Mischaracterizations, and Misinformation* (Lexington Books), which was published in 2022.

BETTER TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION IN THE CLASSROOM: Caulfield School of Education faculty and technology specialists showcase partnership

Associate Professor of Education **Michael Finetti, Ed.D.**, and Professor of Education **Nicole Luongo, Ed.D.**, representing the academic side, and **Rob Adelson**, learning technology specialist and **Renee Evans-Grant, M.A.**, instructional designer in the Universities Instructional Design Services, representing the tech side of higher ed learning, joined forces to present "Building a Technology Assistance Partnership: Techniques to Promote Faculty Acceptance in Adopting and Using Technology" at the Fall 2022 Instructional Technology Conference.

The group presented research-based findings regarding faculty acceptance of technology and showcased successful action-oriented technical support strategies that can be used to enhance technology integration. Moreover, the collaboration provided examples of ways that instructional technology staff can guide faculty technology use as they demonstrated real-world, hands-on techniques.

EXAMINING THE CULTURAL PHENOMENON OF "WE ARE THE WORLD"

Associate Professor of English **Michael Walonen, Ph.D.**, analyzed the impact of the 1985 African famine relief song, "We Are the World," in an article for *The Journal of Popular Culture*. The article is titled, "An Idea of Africa in 'We Are the World': Decontextualization, Celebrity Savior Complex, Race, and Neoliberal Charity." Dr. Walonen specializes in world literature and post-colonial studies. The podcast of *Texas Monthly* magazine recently interviewed him about the article as the song nears its 40th anniversary.

BIOLOGY PROFESSORS PRESENT AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Associate Professors of Biology **Brandy Garrett Kluthe, Ph.D.**, and **Katherine Wydner, Ph.D.**, presented at the 43rd annual Association for Biology Laboratory Education Conference held at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, last June.

Dr. Wydner presented "Use of eBird as a Tool for Undergraduate Education, Research and Biodiversity Conservation." The workshop focused on eBird, the online database of bird observations, which Dr. Wydner used in an ornithology course to provide field-based lab experience and further students' understanding of biodiversity. Dr. Kluthe presented a poster, co-authored with Assistant Professor of Biology **Christina Mortellaro, Ph.D.**, "Wavelengths, Particles and Plants: Exploring the Visible Light Spectrum and the Impacts on Plant Growth." The poster session addressed the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic presented to laboratory teaching and an at-home lesson devised by Saint Peter's biology professors in response.

PROFESSOR SHAIK IS SELECTED FOR AN AMERICAN BOOK AWARD



Fatima Shaik, M.A., adjunct faculty of communication and former assistant professor of communication (retired), has been named a winner of the 43rd Annual American Book Awards for her well-reviewed work of nonfiction, *Economy Hall: The Hidden History of a Free Black Brotherhood* (The Historic New Orleans Collection). Professor Shaik is the author of seven books. *Economy Hall* was also named the 2022 Book of the Year by the Louisiana Endowment of the Humanities and a "Best of 2021—Nonfiction" by *Kirkus Reviews*.

SAINT PETER'S COMMUNITY IS WELL REPRESENTED AT MATHFEST

The summer mathematics meeting of the Mathematical Association of America showcased the work of four members of the Saint Peter's University community.

Rebecca Conley, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics, delivered a poster presentation titled "Leaders Emerging and Pursuing STEM." It was presented in collaboration with **Brandy Garrett-Kluthe, Ph.D.**, associate professor of biology, and **Michael Finetti, Ed.D.**, associate professor of education. Dr. Conley also gave a talk, "From Zooming to Flipping: Pandemic Lessons in Introductory Statistics."

Daniel Gotshall '20 delivered a poster presentation at the Philadelphia meeting. He recently earned a master's degree in mathematics from Villanova University and is headed for a Ph.D. at the University of Rochester.

ALUMNI JOIN TWO UNIVERSITY BOARDS

The Board of Regents, a volunteer body that works to advance the mission of the University, welcomed three new members, **Fallon Brown '04**, **Gloria Candelario Hossri '00** and **Jill Pineiro '93**. **Nicholas M. Mederos '15** joined the Alumni Board, a group that engages Saint Peter's graduates in the life of the University.

TOP 10 FOR BEST VALUE

HIGHEST IN NEW JERSEY FOR SOCIAL MOBILITY



Saint Peter's University is among the top 10 for best value institutions as sixth in the Regional Universities North categories to the *U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges Rankings* for 2023. Best value is determined by factors that include academic quality and net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid. Generally, colleges and universities ranked the highest in this category have the best quality programs at the lowest cost.

Saint Peter's also ranked highest in the State of New Jersey for social mobility and 11th in the Regional Universities North category overall. President Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D., said the latest rankings affirm the University's mission. "Saint Peter's is honored to continually be recognized in the areas that matter to our community," he stated.

Saint Peter's held its place of 58th in the Regional Universities North category overall, after making a considerable climb last year. U.S. News & World Report defines a regional university as one that provides a full range of undergraduate programs and master's programs, but few doctoral programs. The Regional Universities North category includes institutions of this nature in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington, D.C.

NEW DEAN FOR CAULFIELD SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



Stephanie Squires, Ph.D.

When Stephanie Squires, Ph.D., became dean of the Caulfield School of Education on July 1, 2022, she brought extensive experience to the role. A collaborative leader, Dr. Squires introduced several innovative academic programs in her previous position as the director of teacher education at the College of Mount Saint Vincent. She has been a faculty member and administrator in higher education and taught students with autism in public school settings in the New Orleans area. Dr. Squires has also served as a behavior consultant to school districts and agencies.

The new dean holds a doctorate in special education with a minor in educational leadership from the University of New Orleans, a bachelor's in psychology and education from the College of New Rochelle and a MSED in special education from the University of New Orleans.

Shaping the Present and Future of Saint Peter's University

Saint Peter's University welcomed seven members to the Board of Trustees on July 1, 2022. Members of the new class bring valuable expertise and a distinct commitment to the University and its mission of providing an outstanding Jesuit education to a diverse community of learners. The new trustees are:



Nadine (Davis) Augusta '93 is the chief diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) officer at Cushman & Wakefield. She has held key positions in management consulting, project management, sales and trading and DEI in the financial services industry over the last 20 years. Augusta holds a B.A. in psychology from Saint Peter's, played on the women's basketball team, and is a member of the University's Athletics Hall of Fame. She also completed the Ascent Executive Leadership Program at Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth.



Rev. Stephen Katsouros, S.J., is president/CEO of the Come To Believe Network, and the founding dean and former executive director of Arrupe College at Loyola University Chicago. Fr. Katsouros previously served as the director of the Institute for Catholic Educational Leadership, associate dean of the School of Education at the University of San Francisco and president of Loyola, a co-ed Jesuit high school in New York City. He is the author of the book *Come to Believe: How the Jesuits are Reinventing Education (Again).*



Robert Lahita, M.D., Ph.D. '67 currently serves as a clinical professor of medicine at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, a professor at Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine and as director of the Institute for Autoimmune and Rheumatic Disease at St. Joseph's Healthcare System. The author of more than 16 books, including his latest, *Immunity Strong*, Dr. Lahita received his B.S. in biology from Saint Peter's, his M.D. from Jefferson Medical College and his Ph.D. from Thomas Jefferson University. He previously served on the Board of Trustees from 2005 to 2014.



Frank McGrail '79 enjoyed a 30-plus year career on Wall Street as an investment banker and later, in management, as regional director at companies such as UBS, Deutsche Bank Private Wealth Management and Alex. Brown. He is currently focused on coaching the industry's largest advisory teams on practice management and advisor succession planning as a partner with Team Performance Group LLC. McGrail previously served on the Saint Peter's Board of Trustees from 2009 to 2018, and also served on the boards of Home-Start and the Institute for Contemporary Art Boston.



Susan Mitchell-Abbate '72 retired as the executive vice president of human resources of the CIT Group, where she was responsible for global human resource strategy, compensation, benefits and organization development. A member of the Board of Trustees from 2011 to 2020, Mitchell-Abbate holds a B.A. in sociology from Saint Peter's and a M.B.A. in finance from Fairleigh Dickinson University and is a graduate of the University of Michigan Human Resource Executive Program.



Eufemia "Maria" Solorzano '84 was appointed CEO of Liberty Savings Federal Credit Union (FCU) in 2017. She began a long and successful career at Liberty Savings FCU as a filing clerk and rose through the ranks to become comptroller after graduating from Saint Peter's in 1984, and later, chief financial officer/vice president. An active member and leader in the Hudson County community, she holds a B.S. in accounting from Saint Peter's and previously served on the Board of Regents.



A native of Carteret, N.J., **Nabihah Nadir '22** earned her B.S. in international business and trade from Saint Peter's with a minor in marketing management. A proud graduate of Union Catholic High School, Nadir was a resident student for three years, assisting to establish a supportive community for residential students. As an active student leader, she was co-president of Alpha Sigma Nu, the student representative for the Smoking Cessation Taskforce, and a member of the Tri-Alpha National Honor Society for First-Generation College Students and the Kappa Pi International Art Honor Society. Nadir participated in the Goldman Sachs Local College Collaborative 5.0. She is currently pursuing her M.B.A. at Montclair State University.

IT TAKES ALL OF US

Widespread participation from the Saint Peter's University community goes a long way in elevating our students and the University. We are so grateful for the generosity of alumni, board members, corporations, foundations, friends, students, faculty, staff and the Jesuit community who demonstrated their belief in Saint Peter's mission by making a gift to the University in 2021-2022. It takes all of us to ensure promising students have all they need to succeed and become men and women for others.

Snapshot of Giving in 2021-2022

$9,466,125
total dollars raised, a 21% increase over FY21.

8%
increase in total donors over FY21. Loyalty means even more at a school like Saint Peter's. It's the consistency of current donors in combination with new donors that sustains our commitment to serve bright, hardworking and determined students.

$2.2+ million
in unrestricted giving, a first in University history. Unrestricted gifts provide the greatest flexibility and help Saint Peter's respond to urgent needs as well as capitalize on opportunities.

12%
increase in President's Council members, donors who invest $1,000 or more annually. Thank you for your leadership and for making Saint Peter's a philanthropic priority.

47%
increase in first-time donors to Saint Peter's University. Welcome to the Peacock family of benefactors, whose investments–at any level–transform students' lives.

$2,880,565
awarded to 280 students in donor-funded scholarships. Our students are grateful to the donors who have invested in their experiences and accomplishments to help make a college education a reality.

PEACOCKS RISE



New Jersey's Attorney General speaks at Constitution Day event New Jersey Attorney General Matthew Platkin encouraged students to pursue public service while delivering a keynote address for Constitution Day on September 19, 2022. "Each of us has an obligation to be good stewards of our democracy, to make sure that all people are treated with dignity and respect and to leave the world a healthier, safer and more just place for future generations," he stated. The event was presented by the Guarini Institute for Government and Leadership to recognize the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Platkin served as acting attorney general at the time of the address. He was confirmed as attorney general two weeks after speaking on campus.



Fast Break

Peacocks are writing the next chapter in Saint Peter's University hoops history. The new men's and women's basketball coaches, Bashir Mason and Jennifer Leedham, explain how.

How did March Madness help with recruiting?

JL: There's a real sense of pride in the Saint Peter's basketball program, and the brand recognition from all of the TV and social media coverage is everywhere. When I call high school coaches, they already know about Saint Peter's. That really helps with recruiting.

BM: The national name recognition is priceless. Recruiting is never easy, but coming off an Elite Eight run gives me the chance to talk to recruits who may not have considered Saint Peter's before. There's a sense of excitement: "Hey, Saint Peter's already made the Elite Eight. There's a chance they can do it again." People want to be part of a program like that.

Any expectations for your inaugural Peacock season?

BM: For me, it's Elite Eight or better (laughs). There's some pressure, but everybody has also been super supportive and understanding that Saint Peter's caught lightning in a bottle last year. But we need to keep dreaming big. If we can make ourselves a tournament worthy team yearly, that's great for the guys who are part of this program, and for the University.

JL: There's more pressure on Bashir, for sure. Just remember that the women's team made it to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference finals in 2020, so there's strong history here as well. Obviously, the expectation is to strive for championships. Working hard toward that standard is a daily goal for us.

How have your teams gelled so far?

JL: We initially took the time to get to know each other and get used to the new expectations of our culture. It's all about working hard and winning the day. It's also about being a good teammate, becoming involved in the community and doing well in the classroom; we have a really great expectation of our whole team making the academic honor roll. The goal is to win a championship, but we never look too far ahead. Hopefully, in March, we'll be in a good place.

BM: For the men, the approach has been: Head down, one foot in front of the other and put the work in every single day. During games, I tell the guys not to focus on the score. Instead, think about your execution and what you're supposed to be doing throughout the game. Hopefully, when you look up and the clock is at all zeroes, we'll have more points than the other guys.

Bashir, you're a Jersey City guy. What's it like to come home?

BM: Being in Jersey City again has been great. Family and friends who watched me play basketball my whole life started sharing stories about Saint Peter's 1968 NIT championship team. One of my uncles showed me photos of the Jersey City Armory sold out for games back then. For me there's a comfort in that. My competitive spirit wants to make sure my neighborhood university has a winning and successful program.

How are you inspired by Peacock pride?

JL: I recently got off a flight in Newark after a recruiting trip to London, and I was wearing a Saint Peter's t-shirt. People started cheering, "Peacock Nation!" Now that the season is here, we want everyone to come out and support us.

BM: I've gotten to meet Tom Mac Mahon '68 and other members of that historic NIT team. It's great being part of the history of this program. When I walk through the neighborhood in Saint Peter's gear, there's a lot of excitement. Let's pack Run Baby Run Arena and give this team the reception it deserves.

PEACOCKS RISE

THE CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY

Peacocks Rise, the largest and most ambitious capital campaign in Saint Peter's University history, has been years in the making. More than $70 million was secured at the time of the campaign's public debut on December 2, 2022, the greatest amount of philanthropic support ever raised for the University. Commitments made during the quiet phase of the campaign turned into brick and mortar projects as well as progress in academics, Jesuit mission and identity, athletics and affordability, all of which positioned Saint Peter's for even greater possibilities.

The public phase of *Peacocks Rise* is about strengthening the institution to serve bright, hardworking students for the next 150 years. Centered by four priorities—Transformational Scholarships, Signature Facilities, Greater Distinction and Unrestricted Giving—every member of our community can participate. Everyone can make a difference. On your feet, Peacocks. **It's time to Rise.**


Saint Peter's
adidas
adidas



Priority 1

TRANSFORMATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Saint Peter's is deepening its commitment to access and will go further than ever before to ensure that financial barriers will not prevent any qualified student from attending the University.

Advancing Saint Peter's University

Since the start of the quiet phase of *Peacocks Rise* in January 2017, the University achieved significant milestones and accomplishments that created greater opportunities for students, strengthened the institution and put Saint Peter's on the map.

September 2017

The Campus Kitchen, a successful community service program that operates with the help of dedicated students, alumni and volunteers, supplemented its services. In addition to re-purposing food and meals that would otherwise go to waste, the ministry renovated the basement of St. Aedan's: The Saint Peter's University Church with the help of donor support to include a food pantry and clothes closet.



Like many in the post-Millennial generation, Brielle Hodge '26 is pragmatic about college. A graduate of Hudson Catholic Regional High School, she accrued 12 credits taking early college classes at Saint Peter's University and kept an extensive pros and cons list to make her final college choice. "I want to be a lawyer, so I want the least amount of student debt at the end of my four years," said Hodge, a criminal justice major.

The Gromek Scholars Program made all the difference for Hodge. Established last spring by Joseph R. Gromek '68 and his wife, Gail Gromek, the scholarship bridges the gap that occurs when the financial aid package and Expected Family Contribution don't cover the full cost of an education. Low and middle income families often find that even with government and University assistance, the outright cost or loans needed to fill the disparity are out of reach. "There are many deserving students who can't afford a private education at an institution like Saint Peter's," said Gromek, the retired CEO of Warnaco and longtime member of the Board of Trustees. "The premise of this scholarship is to meet students' financial needs and make a quality Jesuit education more attainable."

That's what happened for Hodge upon learning she was a Gromek Scholar. When added to her financial aid package, "It was the cherry on top," she said. "I couldn't say no." The additional funds eased the financial stress so Hodge could fully focus on academics. Moreover, she is taking full advantage of the Saint Peter's experience, enjoying small classes, connecting with professors and attending networking events hosted by the Guarini Institute for Government and Leadership. The freshman Peacock also learned something else that affirmed her decision to attend Saint Peter's. "[The Gromek Scholars Program] showed me the University and the people who work here really do have your best interests at heart."

New and Longtime Friends Establish Scholarships

In total, more than 80 new scholarships were created during the quiet phase of *Peacocks Rise: The Campaign for Saint Peter's University*. The increase in scholarships encompasses new donors and funders like The Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation, a benefactor that has worked in partnership with the University for some time. Recently, the foundation, which is mainly focused on supporting mature students and students with disabilities, granted funds to establish an endowed scholarship for first-generation students at Saint Peter's. There is no shortage of students eligible for the award; 55 percent of Saint Peter's undergraduates will be the first in their families to graduate from college.

Executive Director Gianna Durso-Finley, Ph.D., said the foundation was impressed by the University's long and successful track record with first-generation students. "The historical through line of this foundation is to find institutions that do a phenomenal job serving individuals who are not the traditional college student," she explained. Creating a gateway for students, "is something Saint Peter's has been doing since its inception 150 years ago," she continued. "The depth and breadth of commitment to first-generation students is largely unparalleled in the institutions we've come across."

The partnership with the foundation was further enhanced when President Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D., delivered the Newcombe Distinguished Lecture in September 2022. In the address he highlighted the importance of Saint Peter's work with first-generation students to the broader higher education community and discussed the impact of the Peacocks' stunning run to the Elite Eight in the 2022 NCAA men's basketball tournament.

Transformational Scholarships can also start a cycle of giving back. Nearly 31 years ago, Rosemary E. Ampuero '96 received a full scholarship to attend the University. Her mother, Lucila, and aunt, Margarita, both huge influences in Ampuero's life, were thrilled and proud. "My family was from Peru and my mother and aunt never had the privilege of going to college. They raised me with the belief that if you got an education, it could change the trajectory of your life."

Ampuero, a first-generation student, made the most of her Jesuit education and went on to earn a master's degree in Student Personnel Administration in Higher Education from New York University (NYU). When promoted to her current position at NYU, Associate Dean of Student Life & Services and Chief Inclusivity Officer at the Tandon School of Engineering, Ampuero established the Willy and Margarita Emanuele Scholarship.

Sadly, Margarita passed away from cancer in 2019 and Willy died the following year. Ampuero, who has supported The Saint Peter Fund annually since completing her education, said the named scholarship was a way to honor her aunt and uncle and give back to the University. "Saint Peter's is where my life changed. I was very involved in school and it led me to where I am now. I would not have been able to do all those things if tuition had been unattainable." The Emanuele Scholarship is directed toward low income students who are struggling financially and demonstrate perseverance in earning their degree.

To learn more about changing the trajectory of students' lives through Transformational Scholarships, visit campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.

March 2018

The American Council on Education named Saint Peter's University first among institutions nationwide for Institutional Transformation.





September 2018

Saint Peter's announced a $10 million gift–the largest in its history at the time–from Joseph Panepinto, Esq. '66. Grateful for the Jesuit education he received, Panepinto, a successful attorney and developer in Jersey City, supported the University's next chapter of progress. His gift would advance development on the West Campus and make a Saint Peter's education more attainable for students.



Priority 2

SIGNATURE FACILITIES

Our vibrant Jersey City campus has come a long way in the past decade. *Peacocks Rise* will continue to transform the campus into a dynamic and engaging place to live, learn and compete.

November 2018

The yearlong Mission Examen Journey–an institutional self-evaluation and peer review conducted by American Jesuit colleges and universities–reaffirmed the Catholic and Jesuit identity of Saint Peter's University. The Peer Review Committee lauded the University for its commitment to, "educating some of the most talented and underserved students in the United States."



November 2018

The NCAA released its Graduation Success Rate (GSR). Student-athletes at Saint Peter's posted a 92 percent GSR, the highest in the University and well above national averages. Two years later, the Peacocks' GSR climbed to 95 percent.

If one were to use data visualization to gauge the growth and stature of data science degree programs in the metropolitan region, Saint Peter's University and Jersey City would be a massive plot point on the map. The Data Science Institute, which began with 43 students in 2018, has quickly developed into a center of excellence that enrolls 750 students from all over the world.

"Data is booming everywhere in every sector," said Gulhan Bizel, Ph.D., who became director of the Data Science Institute in July 2022. She pointed out that the University was well positioned to ramp up degree programs that provide greater opportunities to students while fulfilling vital workforce needs in business, healthcare, technology and other sectors. The Institute now offers master's programs in data science, business analytics, marketing science and cyber security, as well as a doctoral program that was introduced last fall. A major and minor in data science are available at the bachelor's level.

"We are pleased to be in on the ground floor of something that is flourishing and to give back to Saint Peter's University."

With such swift progress it was apparent the University needed a data science laboratory to match the quality and aspirations of its burgeoning program. In the near future, the Institute will unveil The James J. Loughlin '64 Data Science Lab (see rendering on page 16), a new signature facility equipped with the resources for students and researchers to harness Big Data and apply knowledge and insights gleaned to critical real-world problems. The lab will be located in a glass enclosed space on the ground floor of Dinneen Hall, inside the Frank J. Guarini School of Business, which was renovated and outfitted with new classrooms, project rooms and a global finance lab in 2021 with investments from *Peacocks Rise*. The data science lab will be equipped with eight high-powered workstations and computational clusters—16 Hadoop clusters to be precise—designed for storing and analyzing huge amounts of data.

"These high-tech clusters are much faster, we can run much more data than on a laptop or personal device," Dr. Bizel explained. Students will be able to better practice concepts like data analytics, machine learning, predictive analytics and data visualization, while faster, more flexible tools will advance research and industry partnerships. A data visualization wall will occupy a prominent place in the lab, enhancing academic instruction and the visibility of the Institute.

"We're pleased to be in on the ground floor of something that is flourishing and to give back to Saint Peter's University," said James J. Loughlin '64, who with his wife, Dottie Loughlin, donated $1 million to establish the high-performance laboratory. Loughlin graduated from Saint Peter's with a bachelor's in accounting and spent a 40-year career at KPMG where he served as chairman and director of the company. He was elected to the board of directors of Celgene Corporation in 2007. Loughlin recalls a time much earlier in his career, "where we did everything with paper and pencil," and recognizes how the data revolution is reshaping decision making and impacting a wide range of industries. "It gives you the opportunity to weed out unimportant information so you can focus on the important information," he noted. "Understanding broad swaths of data is essential to every pursuit."

Dr. Bizel couldn't agree more. The bachelor's programs in data science present opportunities for science, business, economics and social science majors to study the discipline and acquire valuable skill sets. "We are looking at ways to blend in the data perspective across disciplines," she stated. "Students need to find a way to read data and work it into results that can be presented and understood. It really is applicable to all industries."

The future is bright for the University because of investments like this and advancements made through the Run Baby Run Arena and the Theresa and Edward O'Toole Library.

To learn more about investments in Signature Facilities, visit campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.



September 2019

Longtime benefactor and friend to Saint Peter's, Hon. Frank J. Guarini H '94 made a transformative gift of $10 million. The investment elevated business education and established the Frank J. Guarini School of Business.



September 2020

The O'Toole Library Digital Research Commons inside the Theresa and Edward O'Toole Library opened on West Campus. Funding from the Theresa and Edward O'Toole Foundation and the George I. Alden Trust created dedicated space and resources to boost scholarship, research and collaboration.



Priority 3

GREATER DISTINCTION Academics

For a small university, Saint Peter's has achieved outsized importance in science, business, education, public service and more. Attaining even greater academic distinction is possible with vital investments.

April 2020

The Gateway Scholarship Fund was established in response to the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on future Saint Peter's students. Students whose talent and ambition exceeded their financial means were awarded a debt free experience to fully cover the tuition gap.



Saint Peter's UNIVERSITY
150
1872-2022
OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERATIONS

Matthew Gomez '23 loved visiting Liberty Science Center (LSC) as a kid. A decade later, the Saint Peter's University computer science major was a paid summer intern at the Jersey City science museum, tasked with reviewing every interactive exhibition as part of the Frank J. Murphy Jr. '69 STEM Internship Fund. Gomez described the experience as phenomenal. "It was one of my first experiences with a 'real job,' no family, friends or anyone to shelter me from going for my best and making my own mistakes."

Gomez, whose concentration is cyber security, created an evaluation rubric that assessed each exhibition and provided suggested improvements. His system was so successful, LSC instituted the rubric for its annual review of exhibitions and Gomez wrote an executive summary of his observations and recommendations that was presented to the CEO and Board of Trustees. "[The internship] gave me a chance to give to the place I loved and help it thrive for future generations of children with a nerdy spark in them," said Gomez.

Real-World Connections in STEM

To date, more than 20 Murphy Fellows have gained valuable internship experience in a range of STEM fields thanks to the Fund established by Alice Lehman, wife of the late Frank J. Murphy Jr., Esq. '69. Murphy, who passed away in 2013, was an accomplished attorney who had majored in math and was president of the Glee Club. "My husband loved his academic and extracurricular education at Saint Peter's," said Lehman. "It taught him how to think logically, how to debate and how to compete."

Lehman wanted to do something for students and Saint Peter's to honor Frank's memory. At a University event she met Associate Professor of Biology Jeanette Wilmanski, Ph.D. '00. The two discussed the growing number of undergraduates pursuing STEM fields and Saint Peter's efforts to match them with paid internships. Lehman knew she'd found a passion project that Frank would love. "It dawned on me that there was an opportunity to offer help," she recalled. "Establishing the STEM Fund was my way of honoring Frank's memory and his journey, and hopefully providing students, just like Frank, with real-world connections they need to compete for that first opportunity."

The Frank J. Murphy Jr. '69 STEM Internship Fund was established in 2020. It builds upon the $1.5 million National Science Foundation grant awarded to the University in 2018 to establish Transformational Experiences (TREX), a program that engages STEM majors in paid internships for academic credit. TREX, however, is limited to students majoring in six STEM disciplines. The Murphy Fellows program provides opportunities to honors students in the core STEM fields as well as a wider range of disciplines including nursing, health sciences, psychology, forensic science and computer science. Ten honors STEM majors are selected for the Murphy Fellowship each year. They receive an annual stipend to fund an external internship. In most instances, students are matched with an internship through the University, but Murphy Fellows have also identified opportunities with research institutes and clinical centers on their own.

With the Murphy Fellowships, "We've fulfilled a need for students who are focused and very career-oriented," said Dr. Wilmanski. "Having an internship experience before graduation is so instrumental in the formation and career-decision making in undergraduate education today."

Murphy Fellows say they've been impacted professionally and personally by the program. David Dolgitzer '22, a physics and math major at the time of his fellowship, assisted theoretical physicists at New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) and co-published a paper in the optical physics journal *Optics Express*. Psychology student Carolina Falcón '22 interned at a therapy practice, which solidified her decision to become a psychologist. Biology major Masiel Infante '21 developed critical skills in scientific literacy during her time with the Jersey City Department of Health. She was offered full-time employment when the internship concluded and is simultaneously pursuing a master's in bioengineering at Stevens Institute of Technology.

Lehman meets annually with the Murphy Fellows on Zoom calls. "My husband would have really liked this program," she noted. "Getting to know the students and their accomplishments is a win-win as far as I'm concerned." The admiration is mutual. In a reflection about his theoretical physics internship at NYIT, Dolgitzer, who was awarded a full scholarship to earn a Ph.D. in physics at Johns Hopkins University, wrote, "All this would not have been possible without Mrs. Lehman's remarkable generosity. To have been chosen shows that my hard work is being acknowledged and valued, and I am deeply grateful for that."

To learn more about academic initiatives that support Greater Distinction, visit campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.

September 2021

Happy 150th birthday to Saint Peter's! The University kicked off its Sesquicentennial with the theme, "Opportunity for Generations," and a yearlong celebration of events. The 150th anniversary also coincided with the Ignatian Year, which commemorated the life of Saint Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus.



November 2021

Run Baby Run Arena, the renovated arena inside the Rev. Victor R. Yanitelli, S.J., Recreational Life Center, opened to an enthusiastic Peacock Nation. A lead gift of $5 million from Tom Mac Mahon '68, a key player on the venerated Run Baby Run team, made the first phase of a long-term renovation plan for the RLC largely possible.



Priority 3

GREATER DISTINCTION Athletics

March Madness 2022 was just the beginning! Further investments in athletics will elevate the experience of student-athletes and the campus community.

The opening of the Run Baby Run Arena in 2021 certainly boosted the confidence and outlook of all Saint Peter's University athletic teams. "We're proud to call it our home court," said golfer Caleb Rossi '22 who is currently earning a M.B.A. in business analytics at the Frank J. Guarini School of Business. The renovated arena, made possible in large part by a $5 million gift from Tom Mac Mahon '68, is part of a multi-prong effort to provide the University's Division I teams with critical resources needed to compete and enhance the overall student and fan experience at Saint Peter's.

Robert M. Hurley Sr. '71, honorary co-chair of *Peacocks Rise*, is keen to keep the momentum going to push the experience of the University's student-athletes to next-level excellence. "The quality of life on campus has been greatly enhanced," said the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Famer. "That why I want to do whatever I could to help in that regard."

This year's Peacock Nation Day on March 2 inspired tremendous support in recognition of the hard work, commitment and sacrifice of student-athletes. With greater investments in people, programs and teams, Hurley believes bigger things are in store for athletics and the University. The national attention garnered from the men's basketball team's run to the Elite Eight at the 2022 NCAA tournament, "isn't lost on anybody. New investments make people think, 'Wow. Look at Saint Peter's and the work that's being done.' The success of basketball has brought attention but then hopefully, people will look at all the other qualities of the school. Its diversity. Having financial aid available. And the commitment to first-generation students. I applaud all of it."

To learn more about athletics initiatives to achieve Greater Distinction, visit campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.

March 2022

The world watched and cheered on the Peacocks in an unprecedented run to the Elite Eight in the NCAA men's basketball championship. From a spike in admission applications to an exponential increase in social media followers and donors, Saint Peter's University captured the nation's attention.







GREATER DISTINCTION Ignatian Excellence

At the heart of *Peacocks Rise* is *Magis:* the call to always seek and do more.

Psychology student Scarlett Guajala '23 wasn't aware of Ignatian ideals like men and women for others before she transferred to Saint Peter's University. Now they are a big part of her life. "I had never even heard of the word Jesuit," laughed Guajala, a West New Yorker who graduated from Hudson County Community College in 2021. "I knew Saint Peter's was a Catholic university but that was it. It turned out to be way more than I expected."

All the components of Ignatian Excellence, from the University's unparalleled commitment to *cura personalis* to robust campus ministry programming, placed Guajala on a path of service and leadership. It began when Professor of Education Jennifer Ayala, Ph.D., recommended Guajala for the Ignatian Justice Summit organized by the Ignatian Solidarity Network last summer. The experience prompted Guajala to became active with The Campus Kitchen and Loyola Volunteer Corps. After attending the 2022 Ignatian Family Teach-In, she is contemplating service opportunities post-graduation before applying to graduate school.

"It's life changing," is how Guajala describes these experiences which are made possible by donors like Thomas O'Reilly '69 and Josephine O'Reilly. The couple made a generous commitment to *Peacocks Rise* to support and advance the Office of Campus Ministry. Thomas O'Reilly said the gift was a way to show appreciation to the Jesuits, and especially Rev. Rocco Danzi, S.J., who have been a great source of support to the family. "This is our way of giving back to Saint Peter's," he noted. "It's gratifying to see students deepen their understanding of Jesuit values."

To learn more about Ignatian initiatives to achieve Greater Distinction, visit campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.

May 2022

Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D., marked his 15th year as president of Saint Peter's University. He is the longest-serving president among current presidents leading private and public colleges in New Jersey. *ROI-NJ* named the University's 22nd president to its list of higher education influencers for instituting Saint Peter's first doctoral programs, establishing schools for business, nursing and education, as well as setting fundraising records.



September 2022

A new apartment-style residence hall at 762 Montgomery Street was dedicated and named Panepinto Hall in recognition of Joseph Panepinto, Esq. '66, and his generosity to the University.





Priority 4

UNRESTRICTED GIVING

Increasing institutional flexibility, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic, positions Saint Peter's to address urgent needs and capitalize on opportunities.

It didn't take Niekel Griffith '07 long to become a leadership level donor at Saint Peter's University. Soon after she graduated, Griffith joined the President's Council, a core group of alumni and friends who support the University with a gift of $1,000 or more, a commitment she sustained for 15 years. "After being [at Saint Peter's] for four years, I consider myself deeply indebted to the institution," said Griffith, a product manager at Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, a post-trade financial services company.

When Griffith stepped up to invest in *Peacocks Rise: The Campaign for Saint Peter's University*, she had a choice of worthy priorities. The alumna realized she could do the most good by directing her contribution to Unrestricted Giving, a category of giving that allows the University the greatest flexibility, whether it's to meet immediate needs or capitalize on emerging opportunities. For Griffith, giving with "no strings attached" all comes down to confidence in the people stewarding the Saint Peter's mission. "There is a level of trust," she noted. "I trust that my gift will be allocated to where it's best suited or most needed."

Students Recognize the Impact

Tracy Parson '24 (pictured left) understands the impact of unrestricted gifts. The chief financial officer of the Student Government Association (SGA), the accounting major serves on the Advancement Committee of the Board of Trustees, which has given her insight into the ways broad-based philanthropy has elevated her own college experience and that of her classmates. Parson, a first-generation student, began Saint Peter's at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, hence classes, conferences and extracurriculars were 100 percent online. "It was an isolating experience," she recalled.

Once Parson returned for sophomore year, she felt the difference and immediately became immersed in student life. "Everybody was so happy to be back on campus," she recalled. "I made new friends, met with professors and administrators. The support of the community really stood out to me." Parson also learned more about how the SGA operated, which led to her current position of reviewing and gaining administrative approval to allocate funding requests to more than 50 student organizations. It's a resumé-builder for sure, but Parson genuinely enjoys representing students' interests, liaising with the Advancement Committee and venturing far outside her comfort zone.

"I learned how to put myself out there and made myself grow," she said. "As a freshman, I was very isolated, but now that I'm a junior, I can confidently say I'm a well-rounded person."

The intellectual and personal growth that Parson is experiencing is something WeiDong Zhu, Ph.D., has come to appreciate in his 15 years at Saint Peter's. Now the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Zhu was a physicist when he arrived at the University in 2007. Educated in China, his undergraduate education was largely focused on science, math and engineering. He saw how STEM majors were positively impacted by core curriculum courses in the liberal arts, and his understanding deepened when the University appointed Dr. Zhu to his current post.

"Seeing our professors encourage students to take their thinking one step further opened my eyes to the relevance of the liberal arts in today's world." In recognition of the Jesuit tradition that exposes all students to a breadth of disciplines, Dr. Zhu decided to make Unrestricted Giving to *Peacocks Rise* a priority. It's a way to sustain a fundamental aspect of the academic program and to support students, who like Dr. Zhu, are the first in their families to pursue higher education. "I know my gift will be properly used to help someone," he said. "I can't pay back the people who helped me along the way, but I can pay it forward."

To learn more about the impact of Unrestricted Giving, visit campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.

PEACOCKS RISE

It takes leadership to reach ambitious goals. *Peacocks Rise: The Campaign for Saint Peter's University* is in good hands, led by a group of accomplished alumni and Trustees.

Kathleen M. McKenna, Esq. '75
Co-Chair

Anthony O. Pergola, Esq. '92
Co-Chair

Robert M. Hurley '71
Honorary Co-Chair

Frank L. Fekete, CPA '75
Board of Trustees Chair

Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D.
President

See reflections from Kathleen and Anthony on page 32.

CAMPAIGN CABINET
Annette D. Corbin '84
Eugene O. Flinn '80
Charles M. Lizza, Esq. '77
Thomas P. Mac Mahon '68
William J. Marino '66
Francis A. McGrail '79
Susan P. Mitchell-Abbate '72
Joseph A. Panepinto, Esq. '66
Robert L. Tortoriello, Esq. '71
John B. Wilson, Esq. '70, H '18
La Toro P. Yates, Ph.D. '94, '98

RISE
TO THE OCCASION

The next 150 years of Saint Peter's University is officially underway. The University marked the end of the Sesquicentennial Year and the start of the public phase of the largest capital campaign in Saint Peter's history on December 2, 2022. The festive event, held at Hudson House in Port Liberté, drew more than 200 alumni and donors for the unveiling of *Peacocks Rise: The Campaign for Saint Peter's University*.

"Peacocks come here with big hearts and big dreams, and they leave ready to give back in a big way," said President Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D., in an address to attendees. He went on to cite the progress made during the silent phase of the campaign, which has secured $70 million to date, and announced the formal goal of $75 million. He then confidently stated, "we're really well positioned as a community to not only MEET but EXCEED our $75 million dollar goal…and by a lot!"

Proskauer Rose LLP graciously underwrote the kick-off event. Learn more about the campaign or make a gift at campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.


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1. University students enjoy the festivities; **2.** AnnMarie Cornacchia, President Eugene Cornacchia, Ph.D., Virginia Forrester Bender, Ph.D. '78 and Richard Bender '78; **3.** Rev. Andrew Downing, S.J.; **4.** Peter the Peacock gets the crowd on its feet; **5.** Manuel Mederos and Niurka "Nikki" Mederos '07, '10 sit for a caricature; **6.** (Counter clockwise) Kathleen McKenna, Esq. '75, AnnMarie Cornacchia, President Eugene Cornacchia, Ph.D., Board Chair Frank Fekete, CPA '75 and Adeline Fekete; **7.** Ray Solorzano and Maria Solorzano '84; and **8.** The inaugural members of The 1872 Society

PEACOCKS RISE

Some of the University's most generous and committed donors as well as students, faculty, staff and friends came together to create a video to share what it means to be a Peacock. Scan the QR code to watch!


8.

THE 1872 SOCIETY

Through the generosity of alumni, friends, corporations and foundations, *Peacocks Rise* aims to raise a minimum of $75 million. Inspired by the Sesquicentennial, the University launched The 1872 Society, a new donor recognition society, to honor donors and organizations that have committed $1 million or more to Saint Peter's in their lifetime. Its founding members include:

Carol B. Bastek, Ed.D. '70
Gladys Brooks Foundation
Joseph F. Coleman '73†
John F. Connolly, M.D. '57†
William J. Cozine '60
Thomas W. Duncan '65 & Mariana Duncan
Frank L. Fekete, CPA '75 & Adeline Fekete
Charles A. Fiumefreddo '55† & Joan Fiumefreddo†
Give Something Back
Joseph R. Gromek '68 & Gail Gromek
Hon. Frank J. Guarini H '94
Mary Lou Jaroschak†
David G. LaPointe, M.D. '61†
James J. (Jim) Loughlin '64 & Dorothy Loughlin
The Loyola Foundation, Inc.
Thomas P. Mac Mahon '68 & Sally Mac Mahon
Raymond C. Maguire, M.D.† '58 & Joan Maguire
M. Brian Maher HA '07
William J. Marino '66 & Paula Marino
Ronald R. Matulewicz '69†
Kathleen M. McKenna, Esq. '75
John P. Murray '57, H '02†
James J. O'Brien '64 & Ellen O'Brien
Theresa and Edward O'Toole Foundation
Joseph A. Panepinto, Esq. '66 & Stefania Panepinto
Anthony O. Pergola, Esq. '92 & Maureen L. Pergola '94
Generoso Pope Foundation
PSEG Foundation
Fausto Rotundo, CPA '91 & Christine Rotundo
Thomas D. Ruane, Esq. '72
The Saint Peter's Jesuit Community
Sodexo
Thomas V. Whelan '68† & Margaret Whelan

New members of The 1872 Society will be announced annually.

† indicates deceased

Send us your NEWS!



Have you…

- Landed your first job?
- Retired from your last job?
- Met the love of your life?
- Celebrated a milestone anniversary?
- Welcomed a child?
- Welcomed a grandchild?
- Reminisced with friends from Saint Peter's?
- Received a promotion or honor?

Saint Peter's University welcomes any and all news about your career, education, family life and reconnecting with other alumni. Submit class notes to: alumni.saintpeters.edu/newsandnotes or send to: Office of Alumni Engagement, 2641 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Jersey City, NJ 07306.

1957

Bill Kenny published a book, *Desires of The Heart: The Evolution of an American Psychiatrist* (Petra Books, 2022).

Peter Mills has a talented granddaughter, Laura Auer, who is a singer, songwriter, screenwriter and voice actress. Auer dazzled audiences in a series of concerts based on Disney stories and characters. She has had success in multiple genres and a top 10 Billboard charting album.

George Nagel retired in the early 1990s as vice president of internal audit at Equitable Life, a career he began after graduation. As of January 2023, he has been retired for as long as he worked–33 years.

Ron and **Ann Tobin** have been offering various kinds of support to two UC Santa Barbara graduates, Alizandro and Mary, whose families work in the California fields. Alizandro spent the summer learning immigration policy and practice under a lawyer in Alaska, and he recently found employment as a paralegal. Mary has announced that she will return to her favorite French city, Lille (where Ann and Ron were married), to pursue a master's in teaching English as a second language.

1959

Harold Heinz celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordination as a deacon for the Diocese of Fort Worth, Texas, on October 30, 2022.

Andrew Matthews celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary on September 9, 2022.

1961

Jack Egan, Ph.D., shared that New Jersey City University School of Business presented the Dr. Jack Egan Meritorious Service Award to Brendan Cameron at the induction ceremony of 2022 graduates to Delta Mu Delta, the national business honor society, on May 6, 2022. This was the first in-person induction of graduates and presentation of the award in two years.

George Haines celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary with Madelyn Letizia Haines.

Bill and **Maureen Henderson** recently celebrated their 61st anniversary with their three children and spouses, as well as their six grandchildren.

1962

Bob Vecchiotti, Ph.D., wrote an article on leadership for *Xavier Magazine*.

1963

Leonard Novarro published a new book, *Wordslinger: The Life and Times of a Newspaper Junkie* (AuthorHouse, 2022). The book can be found on Amazon and is also available for Kindle.

1964

William Hazelton is 80 years young and retiring from his position as an adjunct professor in the Caulfield School of Education at Saint Peter's University, a job he has held since 1968. He also retired as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army after 26 years and teacher/administrator at Union High School after 40 years.

1967

Joseph A. DeSciscio, former director of human resources at Saint Peter's, and his wife, Judy, announced the birth of their granddaughter, Mackenzie Rose DeSciscio, on September 27, 2022.

Anthony Ianni reunited with **Nick Fugaro**, **Martin Heagen**, **Doug Contreras** and **Richard Finch** for dinner in August 2022. All were members of the Saint Peter's ROTC band company.

Jim Manney's book, *What Matters Most and Why: Living the Spirituality of Saint Ignatius Loyola*, was published in November 2022 by New World Library. It is his sixth book on Ignatian spirituality. For more information, visit www.jimmanneybooks.com.

1969

Joe Hordych and his wife, Patti, finally celebrated their honeymoon, one year late, with COVID-19 restrictions for travel relaxed. They enjoyed 10 days in Greece.

1971

Ken Jennings conceived and performed *The Gospel of John* at the Sheen Center for Thought and Culture in 2019. The show was based on his memorization of Saint John's Gospel; his nomination for Best Solo Performance by the Off-Broadway Alliance paved the way for an Actors' Equity Association contract. He performs the gospel for free at churches, and also presented it at the Class of 1965 spirituality reunion at Saint Peter's

Preparatory School and Metro Baptist Church.

1972

Dominic J. Fruges published his first book, *The Product Launch Checklist* (Independently published, 2022), available on Amazon. It is a compilation of strategy and tactics to successfully launch a product or brand. He was responsible for 12 B2B product launches in high-tech and a B2C brand launch in his career.

Matthew Reilly welcomed his first grandchild, Henry William Zoll, on July 18, 2022.

Carol Wago-Kelly welcomed a new granddaughter, Genevieve Rose, into the family. She joins her brother, Gavin, and parents, Kevin and Natalie.

1973

Vincent Scuro, producer of *Woman in Motion*, the documentary about Nichelle Nichols' efforts to recruit minorities and women for the Space Shuttle program, received a 2022 Emmy nomination for Outstanding Music Composition in the News and Documentary category.

1974

Charlie Dullea and his wife, Jane, were blessed with their fourth grandchild, Cormick Charles, born on October 22, 2022. Much happiness and love for the proud parents, Maddie and PJ Brown.

Ledis Franciskovi Gazi has a new granddaughter born in Dublin, Ireland, on September 15, 2021. She also has two other granddaughters in Albuquerque, N.M., who are 13 and 11 years old. Gazi published her first book of poetry in Croatia in one of her native languages, Croatian, titled *Mornar U Meni Zna* (*The Sailor in Me Knows*, 2022). It has been very well received and she has been traveling doing readings of the book. Gazi is currently working on an English translation of the book and shares that it's an amazing experience.

Kenneth McLean proudly shares that his son, Matthew, has become a medical doctor.

1975

Thaddeus (Ted) Guzowski and his wife, Barbara, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on July 10, 2022. Immediate family and close friends were in attendance.

Robert Kennedy has retired from the classroom after 15 years of teaching science at Tenafly High School in Tenafly, N.J. He taught biology, AP biology, AP environmental science and methods in science research. Robert now teaches part-time in the biology department of Ramapo College and mentors student teachers from Montclair State University.

Kathleen (Adams) Porto and **Robert Porto** are the proud grandparents of James Francis Alexander Porto-Buchock, who was born on August 3, 2022.

1976

Donna DiNardo has retired from her position as a school counselor after more than 44 years of dedicated service to Toms River Regional Schools. She is enjoying retirement immensely, doing whatever she wants, whenever she wants.

Edward C. Meier, Ed.D., was named Most Caring Counselor in the State of New Jersey and has had several articles published about him.

Dennis Rhodes, a poet, won an honorable mention at the 91st Annual Writer's Digest Writing Competition. He also won an honorable mention in the 2022 Frank O'Hara Awards.

Jose Vazquez has retired and is enjoying his senior years.

1977

Charlene (Darisaw) Grier has retired after 33 years as an elementary school teacher.

Ken Harms was named senior vice president at United Engineering Resources, Inc., and is in charge of business development and corporate strategy.

1978

Rosemary McGeady shares that she spent two weeks in Fiji.

1980

Hon. Maria (Del Valle) Koch was appointed by Governor Phil Murphy as director and chief judge of the Division of Workers' Compensation within the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development.

1982

Frances (Calello) Labiak retired from Con Edison of New York, Inc. after 37 years.

1984

Sharon (Doering) Cutola and husband, Kevin Cutola, welcomed their first grandchild, Maggie Mae, in November 2021 and celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary in June 2022.

1985

Thomas Steffens was recently selected to be the deputy chief financial officer for the U.S. Department of Defense. Prior to this assignment, he served for six years as the chief financial officer for the Army Corps of Engineers headquartered in Washington, D.C.

1986

Anthony Buccigrossi Sr. was recognized by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at the 2022 national convention in Atlanta. He received the Marvin Lewis Award for his significant contributions to scouting.

Jose Rafael Negron proudly shares that his oldest son was married in October.

1990

Wendy (Maurer) Crispe became an equity partner in ReMax Homeland West, Millstone, N.J.

1992

Anthony I. Day has been named Fordham Preparatory School's 37th president. Day is a long-tenured educator and experienced leader in Jesuit high schools, having held positions as assistant principal of Regis High School and principal of Loyola Blakefield, in Towson, Md., where he has served as president for the last nine years.

1995

Joe Pagetta, director of communications at Tennessee State Museum, proudly shares that his communications team picked up a gold medal at the 2022 Southeastern Museums Conference and multiple Awards of Excellence at the Tennessee Association of Museums Conference. The honors were all for creative marketing work done in the past year.

1997

Dan Castle published his first book, *A Modern Day Parable: Reflections on Faith, Love and Life* (Dan Castle, 2022). The work is available at all retailers and can be found at books2read.com/dan-castle.

Elaine (Parra) Santiago started working for the nonprofit Several Sources Shelters in October 2021 and was promoted to the position of community outreach and volunteer manager in March 2022.

2000

Jose L. Lopez, Ph.D., was recently appointed program director of plasma physics in the division of physics at the National Science Foundation, where he is responsible for directing and stewarding the federal government's investment in the development of basic research and investigations of plasmas. Dr. Lopez additionally is a tenured full professor of physics in the Department of Physics at Seton Hall University, where he leads the research efforts of the Laboratory of Electrophysics and Atmospheric Plasmas (LEAP).

2003

Angelette Waters graduated from Cornell Law School in August 2022.

2004

Kyle Bilin was promoted to partner at Geltrude & Company LLC.

2007

Sandra Vargas began a new job as an administrative specialist 4-hearing officer for the State of New Jersey Judiciary in September 2022. She previously served as a probation officer.

2008

Danielle Spina began working for Blend360 as a digital production manager consultant working in the financial services industry for a major financial client. She manages website content globally and in the U.S.

2010

Joseph A. Caplan, CPA, a partner of RRBB Accountants and Advisors, has assumed the role of vice president for the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJCPA) Monmouth/Ocean Chapter after previously serving as treasurer. An active member of the NJCPA, Caplan is also chair of the chapter's healthcare committee. In addition, he was one of 11 New York CPAs invited to participate in the 2022 New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants Leadership Institute.

2013

Tracy Louisse (Soriano) Chacon was promoted in July 2022 to director of operations for academic affairs at Saint Peter's University. She and her husband also celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary in November 2022. The couple met at Saint Peter's through an intercollegiate event.

Anna Namakula started her own consulting company, Makeda Enterprises, LLC. Her company focuses on government contracting, life and health insurance and international business development.

2016

Claudia Pope-Bayne, Ed.D., senior director of alumni engagement at Saint Peter's University, successfully defended her doctoral dissertation at Saint Peter's University on October 6, 2022, and now holds a Doctor of Education with a concentration in educational leadership (higher education).

2017

Kayla Paz graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University's pharmacy school in May 2022 and is officially Kayla Paz, Pharm.D.

2018

Scott Cumberbatch, Ed.D., successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at Saint Peter's University on October 18, 2022, and now holds a Doctor of Education with a concentration in educational leadership (higher education).

2021

Kurtis Watkins was selected to present at the 2022 National Association of Academic Advisors (NACADA) Conference in Portland, Ore., on his dissertation research: *A Phenomenological Study of New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund Program Counselors*. The presentation was an opportunity to highlight the exceptional work of the EOF program and to showcase the state of New Jersey as a leader in student success in higher education.

Engagements

Damaris Medina '13 and Michael R. Griffith, Esq., became engaged on the beautiful island of Puerto Rico.

Marissa Fontanez '14 celebrated her engagement to Matthew McCue.

Tony Haywood '17 and his fiancée, Yohana, became engaged in the Maldives.

Kayla Paz '17 became engaged to her college sweetheart, **Nick Mederos '15**. A September wedding is planned.

Births

Nancy (Ward) Espinosa '03 welcomed her first son, Maverick, in 2018 and her second son, Major, in 2021.

Deirdre (Power) Van Deursen '09 and her husband, **Matthew Van-Deursen '09**, welcomed a daughter, Gwendolyn, in July 2021.

Danielle (DePaula) Maini '13, '16 and **Joseph Maini '13**, welcomed their son, Michael Joseph Maini, on September 16, 2022. Michael is the grandson of Anna DePaula, assistant vice president for campus services and facilities.

Marriages

Bill Armbruster '71 was married to Nancy Robinson on June 11, 2022, in Mahwah, N.J.

Michael Murcia '12 and Liliana Huerta, assistant director of alumni engagement at Saint Peter's University, were married on August 5, 2022.

Tristan Israel Cotto '19 and **Johana Angelica Julca '18** were married at St. Aedan's: The Saint Peter's University Church on November 7, 2022.

Save the Date

On Saint Peter Day, we need Peacocks to RISE.

The 5th annual Saint Peter Day is April 5 and we are counting on YOU. This is your chance to have double the impact on Saint Peter's students. In honor of Saint Peter Day, a group of generous donors will be matching the first $150,000 raised. Early gifts count, too, so you can make your impact today.

Visit saintpeters.edu/spd to make your gift.

Alumni Weekend

Members of the Class of 1972 gathered in September 2022 at Saint Peter's University to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation from Saint Peter's. Alumni enjoyed various activities throughout the weekend and raised a total of $650,922 for the University.

2023 Golden Peacock Alumni Weekend honoring the Class of 1973 is scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 8-10. Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for communications from the Office of Alumni Engagement. If you would like to confirm that we have your correct contact information, please contact us at alumni@saintpeters.edu or (201) 761-6122.







1. Matthew Donohue '72, Robert Gironda '72, John Wagner '72, Gerald McCann '72, Owen Daly '72 and John Kocot '72 **2.** The Class of 1972 presents its class gift to President Eugene Cornacchia, Ph.D. **3.** Carol Wago-Kelly '72 and Daniel Brambilla '72 lead a conga line of dancers

REMEMBRANCES

Ahead of Her Time



Friend. Role model. A trailblazer who broke new ground at Saint Peter's University and in the Association for Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU), **Barbara A. Chryst HA '99** did it all. "Barbara gave her everything to Saint Peter's," said Carmel Galasso '79, who knew Chryst as a student, colleague and friend. "She lived the Jesuit mission to be a woman for and with others and was really present for the students."

An influential dean to generations of Peacocks, Chryst passed away on April 15, 2022 at the age of 83. She arrived at Saint Peter's in 1967, shortly after the Day Session became co-ed and assumed the post of dean of women. Galasso calls her friend and mentor, "a woman who was ahead of her time." Chryst, who rose to assistant, then acting and finally dean of students, was the first female to serve on the University's Board of Athletics. She was also the first female and first layperson to hold the top student affairs position at Saint Peter's and in the AJCU.

With burgeoning responsibilities, she always maintained an open door policy and never stopped advocating for students. Two classes dedicated the *Peacock Pie* in her honor and when Chryst retired in 1997, the Annual Barbara A. Chryst Community Service Award was established in recognition of her service to Saint Peter's and the greater community.

A Mass of Remembrance was held for Chryst on June 25, 2022, at St. Aedan's: The Saint Peter's University Church. Chryst is survived by her sister, Margaret Bosold, brother-in-law Richard Bosold, sister-in-law Patricia Chryst and many nieces and nephews. The Barbara A. Chryst '99 Endowed Scholarship was established in her memory.

Faithful Leadership



John P. Murray '57, H '02, the former chair of the Board of Regents and Board of Trustees at Saint Peter's University, passed away on August 20, 2022. A prominent insurance executive who enjoyed a 38-year career with Prudential Financial, Murray sustained a lifetime connection to Saint Peter's. "John was a proud alumnus who served *alma mater* faithfully," said University President Eugene J. Cornacchia, Ph.D.

Murray earned a B.S. in accounting from Saint Peter's. Early in his career he committed time, talent and financial resources to education and charitable organizations. In addition to serving on the Board of Regents and Board of Trustees, Murray was an academic lecturer, leader of a capital campaign and acting vice president for finance and administrative support during a time of transition at Saint Peter's. He received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1997, was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame in 1999 and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, in 2002. His name was added to William J. & John Murray Peacock Athletics Golf Outing this past year in honor of his exemplary contributions to the University.

Murray's family established the John P. Murray '57 Endowed Scholarship in his honor which many have generously supported. He is survived by his four children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Simply the Best



John "Jack" Hampton, D.B.A., was the best business professor and mentor a M.B.A. candidate could hope for. A faculty member at Saint Peter's University for more than 17 years, Dr. Hampton extended the same enthusiasm and passion to students as to his area of expertise, enterprise risk management.

A mainstay in the Frank J. Guarini School of Business, admired by students and faculty alike, Dr. Hampton passed away suddenly on June 13, 2022. "Jack was a real thought leader in risk management," said Mary Kate Naatus, Ph.D., former KPMG Dean of the Frank J. Guarini School of Business. "He was also an incredible mentor and leader who helped students believe in themselves." When the graduate business students he taught struggled with competing demands of school, career and family, "Jack helped them find the balance so they could manage everything going on."

Prior to Saint Peter's, Dr. Hampton served as executive director of the Risk and Insurance Management Society, dean of the schools of business at Seton Hall University and Connecticut State University and provost of the College of Insurance and SUNY Maritime College. A witty and insightful writer, he was a regular contributor to *Risk and Insurance* magazine.

Dr. Hampton is survived by his wife, Doreen, and son, Dean. A Mass and memorial for the late professor was held in August 2022. To honor his life and ensure a legacy that will impact students far into the future, Doreen established The Jack Hampton Endowed Scholarship.

Requiescant in Pace

Saint Peter's University wishes to extend its prayers and condolences to the families of alumni, members of the University community and friends who have passed away.

Sister Mary Lou Bauman
Robert L. Boyle
Edwin A. Butler, Jr. '64
Raymond J. Campion '57
Mary Jane Cardiello
Audrey Carnevale
Charles T. Carney '56
Thomas G. Cestone '55
Barbara A. Chryst HA '99
Phyllis Amoroso Cicirelli '70
Joyce A. Collins '80
Sister Patricia Daly, O.P.
Grace DeFazio
George K. Degnon '63
Rose Donato
Richard F. Dreyer '67
James F. Dronzek, Esq. '71
Thomas M. Farley '55
Richard S. Finnerty '67
Bernard Fitzsimmons '62
Bryan J. Granelli '90
John J. Hampton, D.B.A.
Barbara E. Henderson-Toivonen
Kenneth Holland '74
Roseanna M. Kahrer
Sang J. Kim
Henry S. Kolokowsky '61
Robert Lillis '77
James F. McGeehan '61
William Meyers
John P. Murray '57, H '02
Bert C. Nieves
Anthony J. Palombini '71
William T. Petrina '69
Jeffrey Procanik '82
James D. Quinn '52
Michael Raccioppi '78
Andrew J. Repka '62
Martin H. Rosenbluth
Donald A. Sabella '68
Amalia Sottile
Arthur Stamburg '56
Joseph J. Vecchione '59
Robert P. Zammit, M.D. '52

In the Spring 2021 issue of Saint Peter's Magazine, we incorrectly reported Joseph J. Suruda '69 as deceased. We apologize for this error.



How to Make a Gift in Memory of a Loved one

A gift made to honor a loved one who has passed is a meaningful way to ensure their memory lives on. Such gifts offer a lasting tribute while providing family and friends the satisfaction of knowing they have helped future students. For more information on ways to honor a loved one through a current gift or planned gift, please contact Linda Moore, J.D., senior director of leadership and planned giving, at (201) 761-6128 or lmoore2@saintpeters.edu.

Why We Give

by Kathleen M. McKenna, Esq. '75 and Anthony O. Pergola, Esq. '92



Ours is the quintessential Saint Peter's story. We arrived at The Jesuit University of New Jersey 17 years apart, Kathleen in the early 1970s, Anthony in the late '80s. We came from different boroughs, Brooklyn and Staten Island respectively, built lasting relationships with different professors, Jesuits and administrators, and even witnessed separate yet significant additions to the Jersey City campus as Saint Peter's students.

For Kathleen it was the opening of The Victor R. Yanitelli, S.J., Recreational Life Center in 1975. Anthony attended the groundbreaking for Whelan Hall—the residence hall built thanks to a $1 million donation from Thomas V. Whelan '68—which in 1992, represented the largest single donation in Saint Peter's history.

Of course, these differences pale in contrast to all we share. A deep love for Saint Peter's University. Gratitude for a Jesuit education that shaped us and exposed us to a wider world. And the recognition that our lives might have turned out very differently if not for this small Jersey City school that places its full faith and resources into the possibilities of its students.

Like many of you, we were the first in our families to go to college. There was no road map, no legacy or family tradition to prepare or guide us. Just the universal conviction held by our parents and grandparents that education was the lever to better opportunities and a successful future. *Was it ever*. It didn't take long for either of us to connect with faculty who believed in us. Or understand that a bigger life—one filled with meaning and purpose—was possible. Step by step, we learned how to translate aspirations into achievable goals. We were ready for whatever our respective law schools, Boston College (Kathleen) and Harvard University (Anthony) threw our way.

These narratives are hardly unique. Legions of Peacocks who came before and after us can tell a similar tale. "If not for Saint Peter's…" is the refrain heard over and over at alumni receptions, reunions and pre-game gatherings before basketball tournaments. Given how much this institution invested in us, we've made it our mission to give back because the best and most gratifying parts of life began at Saint Peter's. Fulfilling careers. The ability to provide for our families. Loving relationships that endure. The recognition that we are called to be men and women for others.

"Given how much this institution invested in us, we've made it our mission to give back because the best and most gratifying parts of life began at Saint Peter's."

It's also why we signed on to steer *Peacocks Rise: The Campaign for Saint Peter's University* from its inception to its successful conclusion. Community-wide participation to meet and likely exceed the $75 million goal will ensure that present and future generations of students get their shot at a bigger life. It will support the people and programs that make this University a place of transformational change. And it will manifest essential improvements that will create greater opportunities for students, advance Saint Peter's and impact society-at-large.

Peacocks keep showing us how high they can rise, in every pursuit: academic, athletics, service and research. Let us each return the favor.

Kathleen M. McKenna, Esq. '75 and Anthony O. Pergola, Esq. '92 are co-chairs of Peacocks Rise: The Campaign for Saint Peter's University. *McKenna is an attorney and partner in the Labor & Employment Law department at Proskauer Rose, LLP. She holds a B.A. in history from Saint Peter's University and a J.D. from Boston College Law School. McKenna is a former member of the University's Board of Trustees and served as Chair from 2008-2012.*

Pergola is a partner and private equity/M&A attorney at Lowenstein Sandler where he also serves as vice chair of the firm's emerging companies and venture capital financing practice, which he co-founded in the late 1990s. He holds a B.A. in political science from Saint Peter's University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. He previously served as a member of the University's Board of Trustees. Pergola is married to Maureen Lemke Pergola '94, a current member of the Board of Trustees.

Hearts & Minds

The Saint Peter's University Scholarship Celebration

Thursday, May 11, 2023
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

HONORING

Bigyan R. Bista, Ph.D. '07
Rising Star Award

Robert C. Garrett
Magis Award

Sandra R. & Charles M. Lizza, Esq. '77
Service to Community Award

The Grove
691 Pompton Avenue
Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

Cocktail Attire

For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni Engagement
at (855) 772-1000 or heartsandminds@saintpeters.edu.

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More Scholarships. Less Debt.

The Gateway Scholarship Fund provides essential support that bridges the tuition gap for Saint Peter's University students whose talents and ambition exceed their financial means. Since its inception, Gateway Scholars have been empowered to pursue Jesuit education, and rise to their fullest potential while minimizing student debt.

Together, we can ensure more funding for promising students. Every $1 donated to the Fund unlocks $2.50 in government aid. Make your gift today!
campaign.saintpeters.edu/peacocksrise.

PEACOCKS RISE
THE CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY