Joshua Catalano, C'13, will begin a tenure-track position as an assistant professor at Clemson University this fall.
Catalano, who majored in history with minors in secondary education and Spanish and earned a master’s degree in American culture studies with a certificate in public history from Bowling Green State University, will receive his Ph.D. in American history from George Mason University this coming August.

Catalano will teach public history and digital history while serving as the undergraduate public history coordinator. He has been lecturing at Clemson this past year.

As a historian of American history, digital history, and public history, he ties all of his various research projects together on the role of language and symbolism in the process of settler colonialism. Catalano describes his dissertation, “Reweaving Myth and Memory on the Ohio Frontier,” the following way: “[It] demonstrates the remarkable ability of inaccurate or biased narratives to persist. What was included and what was excluded from the public memory of these events not only shaped historical race relations between Anglo-colonizers and American Indians, but it continues to influence how individuals locate themselves within the larger structure of settler colonialism and (dis)engage with the violence of 18th-century Ohio.”

In addition to Catalano’s dissertation research, he has published articles that include “Blue Jacket, Anthony Wayne and the Psychological and Symbolic War for Ohio, 1790-1795” in Ohio History, “Digitally Analyzing the Uneven Ground: Language Borrowing Among Indian Treaties” in Current Research in Digital History, and “President William T. Jerome III: Why Bowling Green State University Remained Open after the Kent State Shootings” in Ohio History.

At George Mason, Catalano worked at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media for three years developing software and educational tools for historians. He also taught in special education classrooms; youth programs, such as Upward Bound; and workshops at the Library of Congress.

From his time at Saint Vincent, Catalano credits faculty members and coaches for pushing him to think critically and creatively. “The members of the history department went above and beyond what was expected of them to provide me needed encouragement and feedback. Dr. John Aupperle taught me to stand up to injustice even if it was unpopular, and football coach John Bell’s sage life advice has helped me on and off of the field.”

“I am excited to work with Clemson students and the local communities to help document, preserve, and share their history,” Catalano said. Some of his current projects with the history department and students at Clemson University include “Upcountry Historical,” an app that will explore the history of upcountry South Carolina, and “Local History Matters,” a website that will allow local historians to collect and store digital records of an area’s history.
Cover: College President Brother Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B., Ph.D., with 2019 commencement speaker Alejandro Villanueva, offensive tackle for the Pittsburgh Steelers and decorated military veteran.

Cover photo: Alexander Byers.

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Completing a term as president, coinciding with our Honors Convocation and Commencement, makes me happy. This year the celebrations have been particularly special—the Honors Convocation was an opportunity to celebrate the Lally family whose story you will find on page 13 of the magazine and the recognition of exceptional students. Let me share the stories of three of the five finalists for the President’s Award …

A young Pittsburgh Promise recipient, Floyd Nichols, (the Pittsburgh Promise program promotes high educational aspirations among urban youth) came to Saint Vincent, recruited by our cross country coach, with the intention of doing a pre-med program. He became fascinated with what he saw in the planetarium, successfully completed a summer internship studying the inhibition of S-Nitrosoglutathione Reductase at Case Western and at the University of Notre Dame on a project titled “Determining Microbial Community with Altitude from the Active Layer of Permafrost Regions.” This fall, he will attend Northwestern University to pursue a Ph.D. in earth and planetary science.

Another young man, Benjamin Watt, homeschooled before coming to Saint Vincent and winner of our Wimmer Exam, pursued his love of mathematics and served as president of the Math Club, but at the same time took courses in biology and chemistry which prepared him for acceptance at Penn State Hershey Medical School. Interestingly, he chose that school over others because of its focus on patient care rather than medical research.

Another student, Sarah Malone, completed our four-year program in engineering science—but while she was doing those studies, double majored in English and found her real love of language, having published several poems and finally deciding to pursue a master of fine arts in creative writing at Columbia University. Finalist Thomas Kromka, an economics and mathematics double major, has accepted a position in Kennametal’s operations leadership program, while finalist Raylen Welling, an international business and marketing double major, will work in research service and sales for Qualtrics in Provo, Utah.

Commencement was nearly perfect—the weather was cool, the gymnasium transformed, completely full, and the Commencement address by Alejandro Villanueva was one of the finest that I’ve heard. The text is found on page 10. He generously extended his time to have his picture taken with a couple of Saint Vincent football linemen, our Bearcat B.E.S.T. students, and the veterans who were involved with graduation. One of the linemen, Ean Eshelman, a bagpiper, led the procession from the Carey Center to the ringing of the Ave Maria bell in Melvin Platz.

The stories of these graduates, and so many more which may be as interesting and as real, are what Saint Vincent is about … whether it’s two young men who are entering the monastery (one at Saint Vincent and one at Saint Andrew in Cleveland), an English major who will attend Duquesne Law School, a physics major commissioned into the U.S. Air Force who will train to be a pilot or a psychology major who has earned a full scholarship at Purdue to pursue a Ph.D. in special education. And in the McKenna School, 10 of our 13 accounting graduates were placed before graduation and 8 of our SAP software students have accepted jobs throughout the country … Arizona, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Utah.

Thank you so much for your personal friendship and support of Saint Vincent College. While this is this is my final presidential message in Saint Vincent Magazine, when you return to campus you can find me in an office on the second floor of Tenley Hall among our students and other math faculty … all engaged in doing mathematics!

I look forward to seeing you there. Thank you. God Bless.

God bless,

Brother Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B.
President
Leader, Listener, Lover of Liberal Arts ... and of People

By Suzanne Wilcox English

Rooted in the Benedictine vow of stability. A champion of the mission, yet inclusive of all. A listener who considers all perspectives before making a decision. A lover of liberal arts and of academics—and people. A handful of the many people who have worked with Brother Norman Hipps, O.S.B., offer their recollections of his past nine years as president, as well as some earlier times.

Father Thomas Hart, O.S.B., has known Brother Norman as a confrere since he himself entered the monastery in July 1983, and worked with him as assistant to the president for mission since 2010.

“He was always a stable monastic presence,” he said, describing Brother Norman as an oak tree with strong roots, born out of “down-to-earth, meat-and-potatoes, understated German Catholicism. There is no pretense about him, and I love that a lot.”

After working with him, “I began to see how he listened; he was projecting what he was hearing onto a chalkboard and trying to balance it with all the other information, factoring it into the larger equation. To me, he has a classically liberal mind, as in the liberal arts, in which he is steeped.”

In his role as assistant to the president for mission, Father Thomas has appreciated the monthly meetings Brother Norman began for administrators and staff. “He inaugurated asking not...
just monks, but members of the community, to illustrate some of our Benedictine hallmarks.”

He also sponsored intensive seminars on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and, beginning in May of this year, the Benedictine Tradition for faculty and staff members.

On his first Founders’ Day as president, in 2010, Brother Norman announced his intention to begin honoring a member of the community with the Projektmacher Award, which annually honors a person who, in the spirit of Saint Vincent founder Archabbot Boniface Wimmer, O.S.B., has brought vision to reality through hard work and perseverance.

In addition to embracing the mission, Brother Norman has always focused on high-quality academics. One person who has enjoyed longtime collaboration with him is Vice President for Academic Affairs John Smetanka, who joined the science faculty in 1997, when Brother Nor-
man was dean of the Herbert W. Boyer School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computing.

"Brother Norman has always encouraged partnerships," Smetanka said, adding that when he joined the Boyer faculty, Brother Norman was head of the STEM Math-Science Partnership of southwest Pennsylvania, which included Carlow, Chatham and Robert Morris universities along with Saint Vincent, and more than 60 area school districts, as well as local businesses were represented on an advisory council. As the higher education team leader, "he held the higher ed partners to their duties," which could be challenging given the very diverse and sometimes competitive nature of the four institutions.

The partnership has had lasting impact, Smetanka said; faculty members both attended workshops and offered workshops to others, with area high school teachers on campus for as long as a semester at a time. “It changed the way we taught courses and introduced more inquiry-based learning,” Smetanka said, adding that the partnership offered a systematic approach to reform teaching at both the high school and college levels.

The other significant characteristic of Brother Norman’s nature is balance, he added: “Listening to all perspectives and trying to find the balance in all of that.”

Despite the responsibilities, Brother Norman himself, as well as the other deans, became a student adviser, to ensure a strong connection to the students and their experiences. Brother Norman would have a half-hour meeting weekly with each of his advisees, Smetanka recalled, and as president continues to meet with student mentees. “He set the bar for how you work with students. I stand in awe of how he’s able to do that, whether it’s an international student struggling to fit in or a student dealing with culture shock after arriving at Saint Vincent.”

A person who has worked closely with Brother Norman’s for the past 13 years is his executive assistant Pat Owens.

The two of them have met the first thing each morning, when Brother Norman will share all that he has been thinking about on the overnight and dictate whatever he
needs to, then touch base throughout the
day as he follows his demanding sched-
ule. “He lives by that calendar,” Pat said,
“but we’ve had fun; we laugh together.”
She emphasized that Brother Norman
always makes time for people, from the
Student Government Association presi-
dent to his student advisees to visiting
alumni. “He knows their stories and he
can relate to them,” perhaps by recalling
monks they knew. One of her favorite
aspects of working with him has been
listening to stories of his life, growing up
at the College, the older monks he knew,
especially in the science department.
More recently, Dr. Jim Kellam, associ-
at- e professor of biology, who worked un-
der Brother Norman as “a pretty hands-
off dean” when he arrived in 2007, has
met twice a month with him in his role
as president of Faculty Council, and
has enjoyed an “open-door” welcome
throughout.
“Sometimes I have some agenda items
that faculty members have brought
to me, and I’m trying to get answers.
Other times, it’s busy and there haven’t
been faculty meetings, and I would
email or call him up and say, ‘Do you
want to skip the meeting?’ And he would
say ‘No, I think it’s important to have a
meeting.’”
“You never know what you are go-
ing to get, except that he is honest and
humble, and you know that he has the
best interest of the College at heart. He
gets frustrated with people who don’t
have the same vision, but he always has
respect for them because he knows they
also have the best interest of the Col-
lege at heart,” Kellam said.
More recently, Brother Norman has
worked to keep the budget in balance,
something Gina Nalevanko, who joined
the College as a grants accountant in
1991, has had tremendous experience
with as director of financial planning,
accounting and analysis. “It’s difficult
trying to balance the budget with all of
the outside constraints,” she said.
Smetanka pulled no punches about
the biggest concern for small liberal arts
colleges: “The greatest challenge right
now is the marketplace. It’s so highly
competitive with demographic and other
challenges.... We are a ship on that sea,
which has a lot of swells right now.”
As it says in the College alma ma-
ter, “Thy guiding hand has shaped our
course on life’s unruly sea.” To get
through these swells, Smetanka said,
“We have to have strength, and strong
partners. Brother Norman has developed
those partnerships for us and taught us
how to move forward. Higher educa-
tion is going to look a lot different in the
“I extend heartfelt gratitude to Brother Norman Hipps for his nine years as president of Saint Vincent College and for his 40 years in administration at Saint Vincent College. Brother Norman’s service to the community and college has had a profound impact on the community and on the generations of students who have experienced him as a teacher and administrator. We are all deeply grateful to Brother Norman for being a wonderful confrere and for his generous service to the college.”

—ARCHABBOT DOUGLAS R. NOWICKI, O.S.B.

coming years and we want to be part of that innovation.”

Smetanka recalled a moment from Brother Norman’s inauguration day, when he planted an apple tree in Melvin Platz, recalling the story of Father Melvin Rupprecht, O.S.B., who continued planting trees even though he was dying of cancer. “I think that inaugural address set the tone for his presidency,” which was always about the future of Saint Vincent.

Father Thomas remembered a personal touch, after he fractured his foot while on a College trip to Turkey, and as the van pulled up to the monastery, bringing him back from the airport with a cast on his leg, Brother Norman appeared on the second-floor ramp with a wheelchair to take him inside.

As he dealt with all of the challenges of his presidency, Nalevanko said she will remember Brother Norman’s “calmness, compassion and faith. … ‘Forward, always forward.’ To me, he lives that motto. He is always reassuring … His leadership is what I’ll remember the most.”

Below, Brother Norman Hipps, O.S.B., with the one of the largest groups of international students to attend Saint Vincent in recent years, 2014.
Alejandro Villanueva spoke at the 173rd annual spring commencement at Saint Vincent College. A decorated Army Ranger, Pro Bowl NFL offensive lineman and humanitarian, he addressed more than 2000 guests including 340 graduates, their family members, faculty members, administrators and others. Villanueva is well-known for his Bronze Star Medal for heroism and service to the nation as well as for performance as a Pittsburgh Steeler, where he protects quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and opens running lanes for James Conner.

"It is an honor and privilege for me to be here today at Saint Vincent College," he said, noting that it was "a little early in the year" for him to be on campus. "This is a very special place. And I don’t mean the beautiful campus and wonderful staff, the monastery and the Basilica. I mean this gym. This gym is a very special place for me. You see, every single time they cancel practice due to the weather we come here. So every time I come to this gym I have this feeling that it is going to be a great day. But for all of you who do not appreciate the joy of work being cancelled just yet, graduates, this is a very special moment."

After pausing to invite the graduates to extend applause to their parents and to all of those who helped them get to this stage, Villanueva noted that he and his wife, Madelyn, now have three children under the age of three. Calling it a challenge, he advised to “never take your family for granted and never stop thanking those who help you all along the way.”

Villanueva was raised in Rhode Island, Spain and Belgium by his mother, Matilde, and father, Ignacio, a Spanish Naval Officer. A graduate of SHAPE High School in Casteau (Belgium), Villanueva attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he starred both on the gridiron and in the classroom before graduating in 2010, at which time he was commissioned as a second lieutenant. Villanueva earned his degree in systems engineering at West Point, went on to obtain his master of business administration degree in 2018 from Carnegie Mellon University’s Tepper School of Business.

Villanueva served three tours of duty in Afghanistan from 2010 to 2013 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was a rifle platoon leader of the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade combat team, before earning a promotion to captain in 2014. Upon returning from deployment, he was reassigned as a company executive officer. He earned numerous honors for his service, including a Bronze Star Medal for valor for rescuing wounded soldiers from enemy fire. Sharing some of his life’s lessons, “I would start by saying that to me life is somewhat like reading a tough book that, as you read it ... you sometimes find yourself reading a page or a paragraph where you have to stop and
ask yourself: what in the world did I just read?

“Similarly,” he said, “I think we all try to make sense of life the best we can and over time it becomes a collection of tough chapters and anecdotes that ultimately shape your outlook in life. Good experiences shape you in a way ... bad experiences shape you in different ways.”

He described Ranger school in the mountains of north Georgia during an unusual snowstorm. The Rangers had to walk through the night to avoid freezing. “The standard two meals per day was obviously not enough for some of the bigger candidates,” he said, “and it was pretty wild to see your own body wrestle with being cold, sleepy and hungry. I found out that being cold is by far the most debilitating weakness of the mind, followed by sleepiness, and finally hunger.

At times the Rangers would bend at the waist to rest their shoulders, and sometimes fall asleep that way. “We were so tired that we would go into a dream where we would actually dream of sleeping and having another dream! You would experience dreams within dreams. When you would wake up after a minute, you would look around and see nobody. It was a very powerful way of finding out how strong your mind really was.”

Returning to basecamp was a delight, he said. Weeks later, in his house in Columbus, Georgia, he said, “I remembered this simple mental note to myself in the midst of my misery. ‘As long as I am warm, fed, and have slept a couple hours ... there is absolutely nothing in the world that I can possibly complain about.’ Of course, not even a week went by when I started complaining again about absolutely everything. But the mental note stayed with me as a pretty important reminder that every single endeavor, activity or circumstance outside of those three is nothing more than a series of created expectations in my life. To include pain.

“I could control my outlook on everything else by simply changing my attitude or my perception of the world.

“The second life lesson that I paraphrased in my life into a mental note was when I got to the NFL,” he said. “But I realized that in such a competitive environment where egos, jealousy and envy are the three most common things you breathe in the air ... I made the mental note to myself that ‘in life, you are only competing with yourself.’

“There is a saying in the NFL that the day you sign a contract is the happiest and saddest day of your career. You think you are happy to achieve a milestone, but all of a sud-
Pittsburgh Steeler Alejandro Villanueva took time prior to commencement to greet Saint Vincent graduates, and pose for photos with the graduates and their families. Among those he met were graduate Katherine “Kat” Guevara and members of her military family. Below, right, Villanueva shares a frame with Saint Vincent football linemen Cullen Higgins, left, and Ean Eshelman, who played the bagpipes to lead his classmates to the ringing of the Ave Maria bell in Melvin Platz. Below, left, members of the Bearcat B.E.S.T. program’s Class of 2019, front, from left, Madison Orendi, Justin Miklos; back, from left, Colin Russel, Ryan Relosky, Zachary Clarke.
John M. Lally, C'77, served as principal speaker, while The Hon. Maureen Lally-Green received an honorary doctor of laws degree, at the spring honors convocation. Lally, CPA, MBA, CVA, has forged a successful career in accounting and finance. He currently serves on the College’s Board of Directors, and previously served on the Council of Advisors for the Saint Vincent School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

He began his career with a one-year stint in the U.S. Department of Treasury’s Office of International Banking, before accepting a position in the Pittsburgh office of PricewaterhouseCoopers (then known as Price Waterhouse). In 1983, he founded Lally & Co., a Pittsburgh-based business advisory firm specializing in simplifying and solving complex tax, accounting and business issues. He holds professional memberships in the American Institute of CPAs and Pennsylvania Institute of CPAs, while he has been a director of the Standard AVB Finance Corporation since 2009. He spoke about “How the Benedictine Experience Affected Me and Will Affect You!”

Tracing his family’s longstanding relationship with Saint Vincent (his father was a member of the class of 1939 and his brother Frank graduated in 1972) Lally spoke of uncertainty and doubt when he first arrived on campus. However, the Benedictines made him feel at home and he quickly met many people who have become lifelong friends. The experience, he said, “afforded me fellowship, friendships, and made my immediate big family that much bigger.”

He told the students that the Benedictine and lay faculty members “are your foundation and they will launch you like a springboard into your future.”

Advising students to “define your ‘success’ and make your plan to achieve it,” he noted they should “embrace the fact that learning is a lifelong adventure,” and said they should also be grateful for those who have helped them find their way. He advised that they lend a hand, and help others in the way they have been helped. Staying close to their own Benedictine experience will enable them to “shoot for the stars.”

Judge Lally-Green previously served on the Saint Vincent College Board of Directors, and is currently a member of the Board of Regents of Saint Vincent Seminary. She has worked as a private attorney, professor of law, consultant to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and judge of the state’s Superior Court.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in mathematics/secondary education from Duquesne University, Lally-Green went on to graduate from the Duquesne University School of Law. She spent more than a decade as a full-time professor in Duquesne’s School of Law, while also serving as research associate and consultant to the judges of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. In 1998, she earned an appointment as judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania and was elected to a full 10-year term on the court in 1999. After retiring in 2009, she was director of the Office for Church Relations for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, before returning to Duquesne in 2016, when she was acting dean, then became dean of the School of Law, the first female dean in the law school’s history.

The Lally family has established the The Francis L. and Charlotte M. Lally Memorial Scholarship Fund at Saint Vincent College.
In a few short weeks the world’s attention will be drawn to the skies. Not to the 12 new moons recently discovered around Jupiter. Nor to Mars, where the Curiosity rover is probing the planet. In July attention will focus only a few hundred thousand miles away, on the Moon, as the 50th anniversary of the landing on the Moon by the Apollo Lunar Module Eagle will be remembered.

Saint Vincent alumnus Jim Suda, C’60, never made it to the moon himself, but he was part of the team that fueled the space program in the 1960s, including the first moonshot when Frank Borman, Jim Lovell and Bill Anders journeyed on Apollo 8, becoming the first astronauts to enter the moon’s atmosphere and orbit the moon. They couldn’t have done it without Suda. He helped fuel the rockets with liquid hydrogen LH2 used in the upper stages.

The new graduate, with a newly-minted bachelor of science degree in management, took the Federal Service Entrance Examination in 1960 and landed at the Middletown Air Material Area, Olmstead Air Force Base near Harrisburg, working for the exotic-sounding Aerospace Fuels group. He started with helium, then moved on to hydrogen, which when cooled to -423 degrees Fahrenheit becomes liquid and can be used to fuel rockets, though highly flammable. It was, he said, heady for a 25-year-old.

In 1965, the Air Force turned its program over to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and Suda moved his wife, Mimzy, whom he had met while working in Middletown, and daughter, Kelly, to Huntsville, Alabama. Mimzy graduated from Seton Hill and took accounting classes at Saint Vincent in the 1970s. Huntsville is where things really got interesting. NASA brought in Wernher von Braun and many other German scientists. Von Braun developed the rockets that launched the first space satellite in the United States, then was director of the Marshall Space Flight Center. He was the chief architect of the launch vehicle that propelled the Apollo spacecraft to the Moon. Suda handled the logistics and business of providing the LH2 fuel for the second and third stages of the Saturn V rocket.

Not bad for someone who grew up in the shadow of Saint Vincent. “My grandmother’s father, Joseph Orzechowski, from Poland, worked on the farm at Saint Vincent,” Suda said. “He was here ten years, then went back to Poland and brought over his entire family and three Suda boys from their village. His grandmother Henrietta married one, Lawrence Suda. Jim Suda’s father, Frank, was the oldest of their dozen children. “My uncle Thaddeus (Joseph) was a priest at Saint Vincent.”

When it came time for him to go to college, Saint Vincent was the logical choice. “I was a day hop,” he said, using the 60s term for commuter. “I would go to Sun Drug and thumb a ride to school.” His father passed away before he graduated, putting the pressure on for Suda to find a good job as soon as he finished school. The Air Force job left him in charge of a $20 million a year budget budget as he managed the logistics of its shipments of LH2 to test sites up and down the east coast.
When he moved to NASA he was responsible for providing the LH2 fuel to the Apollo launch site, Pad 39A, at Cape Kennedy, Florida.

The Saturn vertical assembly building at the cape, he said, was so big it had its own atmosphere. “It actually rained inside,” he said. The liquid hydrogen was dangerous in its concentrated form, he said, because its compressed state made it highly combustible. The dangers were made real in 1967 when an oxygen-filled cabin caught fire during a command module test at Cape Kennedy, killing the three Apollo 1 astronauts, Virgil “Gus” Grissom, Roger Chaffee and Ed White.

The event almost caused cancellation of NASA’s moon landing plans, but the race with the Soviets to be first to put a human on the Moon continued. It was decided to send Apollo 7 to orbit the moon as the lunar lander was not ready to fly, which was where Borman, Lovell and Anders became the first to enter the Moon’s atmosphere.

Suda has a memento of the first manned lunar flight, a piece of metal carried by the three astronauts that was melted down and incorporated into a commemorative medallion and given to those whose work helped the men get to the moon. A certificate signed by Borman accompanied it.

“That flight,” Suda said, “brought back confidence that we could get to the Moon.”

Then came July of 1969, 50 years ago. The Saturn V Apollo 11 blasted off on July 16, 1969, with Neil Armstrong, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin and Michael Collins on board. Four days later Armstrong and Aldrin took the Lunar Module to the moon while Collins orbited. Armstrong became the first human to step on the moon on July 20, and he and Aldrin spent three hours there, picking up dirt and rocks, and putting a U.S. flag and a sign on the Moon. They were back on earth on July 24.

As the anniversary of that historic date approaches, Suda is looking back at his role. He received an Award of Achievement from NASA signed by Von Braun for his contribution to the first manned lunar landing and return.

After NASA decided to discontinue manned space flights, he left Huntsville to work for Westinghouse. But those were the days, when, as the sign says, “men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon July 1969, A.D. We came in peace for all mankind.”

—Kim Metzgar

Opposite page: top, left, James Suda, C’60, in third grade at First Ward School in Latrobe; bottom left, inventory manager, U.S. military in Pennsylvania; bottom, right, with Col. Chapman, left, and Lt. Col. Ben Staskiewicz, right, in 1961 upon graduation from Junior Administrator Development Program, Middletown Air Material Area, Olmstead Air Force Base, Pennsylvania; and on this page from 1994, the 25th anniversary of the moon landing with a NASA display.

Tradition Continues

The Saint Vincent connection with space projects following Jim Suda’s work, and of course that of the late Angelo J. Taini, C’48, a retired aerospace engineer with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, continues with the work of Dr. Ronald G. Rosemeier, P’70, C’74. He is founder, president and CEO of Brimrose Technology Corporation in Sparks, Maryland, which has developed advanced technologies utilized by the Department of Defense, and the NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory, among others. Recently, Brimrose developed the Near-Infrared Volatiles Spectrometer System (NIRVSS), which detects the nature of hydrogen it encounters. The spectrometer has been ordered by NASA as part of the agency’s efforts to send new technology to the surface of the moon. In 2020, the instrument will be taken by a commercial moon lander to determine the presence of water and hydroxyl within the moon’s surface to hopefully gauge the possibility for man to live on the moon.

Rosemeier will be among eight alumni from the Saint Vincent Preparatory School honored in June. Additional details will appear in the fall issue of Saint Vincent Magazine.
Floyd Nichols received the 45th annual President’s Award, the College’s highest student honor, presented to the member of the graduating class who best embodies the Catholic, Benedictine, liberal arts and sciences values in its students—outstanding academic achievement, student leadership and community service, from Brother Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B., Ph.D., college president.

Nichols, a biology major from Pittsburgh, has been active as a member of the Environmental Awareness Club, Women in STEM Club and the cross country and track teams. He has been named to the Dean’s List each semester, and is a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta and Tri-Beta honor societies, while also being selected to the Presidents’ Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll. Nichols works as a prefect in Saint Benedict Hall, while also serving as a host in the Angelo J. Taiani Planetarium, a teaching assistant in the Sis and Herman Dupré Science Pavilion, a teaching assistant in astronomy, tutor for the Opportunity Program and buddy in the Bearcat B.E.S.T. (Building Excellence through Skills Training) program. In 2016, he completed a research internship in biology at Case Western Reserve University, while in 2018, he spent the summer at the University of Notre Dame performing research in biogeochemistry. Following graduation from Saint Vincent, Nichols will attend Northwestern University to pursue a doctoral degree in earth and planetary science and plans to pursue a career in either scientific communication or as a college professor. The son of Raeko and Gary Nichols, he is a graduate of Taylor Allderdice High School and member of New Testament Ministries.
TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD PALMER: A LIFE WELL PLAYED

Award-winning sports journalist David Shedloski, whose 2016 collaboration with the legendary Arnold Palmer became an instant bestseller, spoke at the Saint Vincent Threshold Series Lecture this spring. In addition to his prolific journalism career, Shedloski has authored or contributed to seven books, including a collaboration with Palmer, the world-famous golfer, noted Latrobe native and longtime friend of Saint Vincent College, for the book "A Life Well Played: My Stories." Released less than a month after Palmer’s passing, the book was an instant New York Times bestseller. A large crowd attended the lecture, including many of Palmer’s lifelong friends and associates. Pictured with Shedloski, above, are, from left, Archabbot Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B., Arnold Palmer’s longtime assistant Doc Giffin, Arnold’s secretary Gina Varrone, and Brother Norman Hipps, O.S.B., president.

William M. Derenge, C 19
COLUMBIA, MD
Major: Psychology
Minor: Computing and Information Science

"The Students First Fund has helped me attend Saint Vincent College and come out with a degree and minimal student loans. Thank you to all who support this fund and make attending Saint Vincent easier for so many students!"

Jessica Ray-Marino, C 20
VANDERGRIFT, PA
Major: Psychology and Addiction Specialist
Minor: Chinese Language and Culture and Biological Psychology

"The Students First Fund is important because it provides students from all socioeconomic backgrounds a chance to achieve higher education. Because of the financial support I receive from Saint Vincent, I am able to focus on my studies and campus activities."

For more information, contact us at:
annualfund@stvincent.edu
or 724-805-2949 or visit
www.stvincent.edu/studentsfirst
MANFRED HONECK
MUSIC DIRECTOR
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DR. CORNEL WEST TO GIVE NEXT THRESHOLD LECTURE

Dr. Cornel West, a professor of the practice of public philosophy at Harvard University, will give the fall Threshold Lecture at Saint Vincent at 7:30 p.m. October 17 in the Fred Rogers Center. His appearance is a joint presentation with the Ann Kinzer Clark Foundation.

Dr. West, who also holds the title of professor emeritus at Princeton University, has also taught at Union Theological Seminary, Yale, Harvard, and the University of Paris. He graduated magna cum laude from Harvard in three years and obtained his M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy at Princeton.

A prominent and provocative democratic intellectual, Dr. West has written 20 books and has edited 13. He is best known for his classics, Race Matters and Democracy Matters, and for his memoir, Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud. His most recent book, Black Prophetic Fire, offers an unflinching look at nineteenth and twentieth-century African American leaders and their visionary legacies.

Dr. West is a frequent guest on CNN, C-Span and Democracy Now. He made his film debut in the Matrix—and was the commentator (with Ken Wilbur) on the official trilogy released in 2004. He also has appeared in over 25 documentaries and films including Examined Life, Call & Response, Sidewalk and Stand.

He has produced three spoken word albums including Never Forget, collaborating with Prince, Jill Scott, Andre 3000, Talib Kweli, KRS-One and the late Gerald Levert. His spoken word interludes are featured on productions by Terence Blanchard, The Cornel West Theory, Raheem DeVaughn, and Bootsy Collins.

In short, Cornel West has a passion to communicate to a vast variety of publics in order to keep alive the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.—a legacy of telling the truth and bearing witness to love and justice.

GORKA SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

David Stephen, center, is presented the Class of 1968 Father Ronald R. Gorka Scholarship by Saint Vincent College President Brother Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B., left, and Julia Cavallo, C’03, Saint Vincent College director of assessment and institutional research. Stephen is a junior criminology, law and society major from Winter Garden, Florida. The purpose of the scholarship is to positively affect a junior student and to help him or her reach the potential recognized in him or her by faculty, administrators and staff.
Dear alumni and friends,

Ingredients are crucial to countless undertakings in life—from cooking to living healthy to finding the right school and then selecting the best field of study. In its initial phases, our Forward, Always Forward campaign has been focused on providing the best technology-enhanced ingredients to create world class quality student research opportunities. Progress on the state-of-the-art Dale P. Latimer Library and Technology Hub is on target for a spring 2020 dedication.

The foundation has been laid and the framework constructed. The drywall is in and the new galleries, classroom spaces and offices are taking shape. The library staff has moved into temporary quarters in Prep Hall and books are moved to temporary housing. The blueprints and architectural drawings are now a physical reality.

Since much of the new construction is inside the expanded library and gallery space, places where campus visitors are not able to see, this campaign update shows some of the work going on inside as the new space begins to take shape.

The gallery rooms will include a rare book storage and exhibition area, a multimedia video theater and three art exhibition galleries.

Two curved staircases lead to the mezzanine level, which provides access to the library collections. The large ceramic tile mural created by Roman Verostko remains as the artistic centerpiece and will continue to inspire students for generations to come.

The circulation desk and staff offices will continue to provide resource services for students, and sound-proof panels will preserve the quiet study environment. Solar panels on the roof will continue Saint Vincent’s commitment to constructing energy-efficient green buildings. American-made steel supports this structure.

An ADA-accessible ramp follows the anterior of the building.

Access to bright small and large seminar rooms on both levels, a makerspace, along with a welcome center and barista will make our library and technology hub a warm, inviting and inspiring study place—in the finest of Benedictine traditions. We look forward to watching the expansion and renovation continue through the fall. We will continue to update you on the progress of our campaign here and at www.stvincent.edu/forward. And, if you have not yet made a gift to the campaign, please take a moment to help Saint Vincent College complete this important expansion of the library, which is at the very heart of our Catholic, Benedictine, and liberal arts and sciences mission. There is still time to contribute to this endeavor.

All the best,

David M. Hollenbaugh  
Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Campaign Director  
724-805-2590
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Work on the art exhibition galleries, at top, along with an architectural rendering; above, center, the stairs leading to the mezzanine and the art galleries, with a finished artist’s rendering; at right, top, hallway leading to the library with finished rendering; at bottom, architectural renderings with construction view in mid-May 2019.
THE CAMPAIGN FOR SAINT VINCENT
Saint Vincent College President Brother Norman W. Hipps, O.S.B., Ph.D., announced the appointment of Dr. Margaret Watkins, professor of philosophy, to the position of dean of the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

“We are grateful for Dr. Watkins’ exemplary work as interim dean, in addition to her scholarly accomplishments as a member of the Philosophy Department,” said Brother Norman. “We look forward to her continuing contributions and leadership of the school as it moves forward.”

Expressing her gratitude for the appointment, Watkins said. “We have enormous opportunities for innovation and collaboration, and a wealth of resources in our dedicated and accomplished faculty and staff.”

A Hume scholar, Watkins has presented at nearly 50 professional conferences, and has had more than a dozen scholarly articles published. Her book *The Philosophical Progress of Hume’s Essays* has just been published by Cambridge University Press. Watkins is a member of the Executive Committee of the Hume Society and served as program director for the International Hume Society Conference held in Budapest in July 2018, a multi-year project involving leadership of a committee of four conference organizers.

Watkins was hired in 2009 as an assistant professor of philosophy, attaining the rank of associate professor in the fall of 2013, and professor in 2018. She has taught more than a dozen different courses in philosophy and ethics, from introductory to the senior and honors levels.

As interim dean she was active in promoting new programs within the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, including Saint Vincent’s digital art and media program, and the new major in literary translation. Under her leadership, faculty members from the anthropology, English and history departments collaborated with Carlow University and Ursuline College on a grant recently funded by the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC). This grant supports innovative work and teaching in the humanities at all three schools.

Watkins graduated Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude from the College of William and Mary. She went on to earn both a master of arts degree and Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame. Her doctoral dissertation was entitled “The Autonomous Hume: On the Search for the Kantian Moral Motive in Hume’s Moral Philosophy.”

“Everyone has been very patient with me as I learn the ropes,” she said. “There is a steep learning curve with this job, but it has been a great joy for me to see the College from a different perspective. We are blessed with a wealth of faculty, staff and students who are dedicated to our shared mission. Faculty members have been generous with me by giving me opportunities to get to know them and hear their perspectives. “The integration process is ongoing and will take some time, but everyone is working hard to advance our shared aims, and I am optimistic that we will see more and more collaboration as we move forward.”

Immediate goals “include securing the resources that we presently share and advocating for our faculty and students whenever possible. Longer-term, I see great potential for new programs and creative research and teaching collaborations. The next few years will be crucial for securing our school’s contribution to the Catholic, Benedictine and liberal arts mission of the College.”

She commended the work of the faculty, noting that “first, we do an excellent job at placing our students in careers and in graduate schools. Our most recent data shows 95% of our students in graduate school or employed in their fields. “Second, every day a new story comes out about how important the skills that a liberal arts education provides are, even for people working in business or the sciences. The notion that a humanities or social science degree is not ‘practical’ is a myth. Moreover, college ought to be the opportunity to explore your intellectual curiosity and your passion for ideas; our programs encourage—indeed, demand—this kind of exploration. “Finally, I think the excellent work of our faculty and students speaks for itself. The new digital art and media major, public history major, and literary translation minor are just a few examples of ways that we are innovating and adapting in response to the needs and interests of students. Students in every department of our School are publishing their work, receiving prestigious fellowships, and starting great careers.”
Saint Vincent Summer Theatre invites you to “Be Our Guest” as we celebrate our 51st Season with timeless musicals!

**DISNEY’S BEAUTY and the BEAST**

*Music By Alan Menken*
*Book by Linda Woolverton*

Step into the enchanted world of Broadway’s modern classic musical fairytale.

**June 27 to July 7**

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*By Ted Swindley*

This musical play, complete with down home country humor, true emotion and even some audience participation, includes many of Patsy’s unforgettable hits such as “Crazy,” “I Fall to Pieces,” “Sweet Dreams” and “Walking After Midnight” . . . 27 songs in all.

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Phone for brochure, show times and box office details: 724-537-8900 or visit [www.stvincent.edu/summertheatre](http://www.stvincent.edu/summertheatre)
Assistant Professor of Communication David Safin was awarded the 2019 Quentin Schaut Faculty Award at Saint Vincent College’s spring Honors Convocation. Named in honor of Father Quentin Schaut, O.S.B., an English professor and the seventh president of Saint Vincent College, the award recognizes the contributions, leadership and achievements of a junior faculty member to the curriculum and life of the College.

Safin graduated from Saint Vincent in 2000 with a degree in communication and information arts before going on to earn a master of science degree in multimedia technology at California University of Pennsylvania and a master of fine arts in film and digital technology at Chatham University.

After graduating from Saint Vincent, Safin worked in a variety of administrative positions at the College, rising to director of multimedia services before joining the faculty full-time in 2013.

His courses cover the topics of video production, film and television criticism, digital culture, social media and film studies.

In addition to his work as an educator at Saint Vincent, Safin is also a prolific filmmaker, as he has produced his own documentaries, promotional videos, satires and comedic shorts, yielding recognition through numerous awards and inclusion in film festivals.

“The work of his students highlights Professor Safin’s talents as a mentor and educator,” said Dr. John Smetanka, Saint Vincent College vice president of academic affairs. “Students point to his knowledge of film and digital media, often expressing awe at the level of detail he would relate about a film. He sees the potential in every student and believes in all of us.”

“This is really a tremendous honor for me,” Safin said upon receiving the award. “It means a lot because my history here extends to 1996 when I arrived as a student. So to me, this award is a testament to the type of education we offer—one that emphasizes lifelong learning.”

Safin noted that a number of Saint Vincent faculty members have played an instrumental role in his development as both a student and educator, and singled out a pair of colleagues as having the most impact on him.

“Jeff Zidek, our sports information director, was an adjunct in the communication department when I was a student,” Safin said, “and he quickly took me under his wing. His advice and guidance persisted well after I graduated and I never would have found my way into a classroom if not for him.”

“Dr. Jessica Harvey, the chair of the communication department, is my closest collaborator and, most importantly, she’s my friend,” he continued. “I’ve worked with a lot of great people in my time here, but the work I do with her has been most satisfying because our fruits benefit our students.”

Safin also offered praise to his students, both past and present, saying “they have never ceased to amaze me with the work they do inside and outside of the classroom.”

A native of Roscoe, Safin was joined at the Honors Convocation by his wife, Kate, daughter, Lily, son, Andy, and parents, George and Connie Safin.

—Jim Berger
Dr. Steven Gravelle, associate professor of chemistry in Saint Vincent College’s Herbert W. Boyer School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computing, was honored with the Boniface Wimmer Faculty Award at the Saint Vincent College Honors Convocation. Named for the founder of Saint Vincent and the pioneer of Benedictine monasticism in the United States, the Boniface Wimmer Award recognizes a senior faculty member for sustained excellence.

A member of the Saint Vincent faculty since 1991, Gravelle earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Saint John’s University (Minnesota) and both master of science and doctoral degrees from Northwestern University in physical chemistry.

Gravelle has served in many leadership capacities during his tenure at Saint Vincent. From 1996 to 2005, he was chair of the Chemistry Department, while he has also served on the College’s faculty council and the rank and tenure committee. He was integral in the planning of the Sis and Herman Dupré Science Pavilion, as he worked with Project Kaleidoscope in the design phase of the state-of-the-art science center on the Saint Vincent campus. Currently, he serves as director of Saint Vincent’s Teaching Effectiveness and Mentoring Program.

Gravelle is a member of the national Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL) project and his recent professional activities have centered on improving teaching and learning in the sciences.

In presenting Gravelle with the award, Dr. John Smetanka, vice president of academic affairs and academic dean at Saint Vincent College, said, “He has authored numerous papers and presentations on enhancing student learning of chemistry by using writing, technology and innovative, inquiry-based approaches. He also has supported and mentored faculty members in every discipline at Saint Vincent to enhance teaching and student learning. In the classroom, Dr. Gravelle puts into practice the techniques that allow students to achieve understanding and develop expertise.”

One student observed, “Dr. Gravelle is the stereotypical caring, good professor.”

Upon accepting the award, Gravelle said, “I want to thank Dr. Smetanka and our deans for considering me for this award. I greatly appreciate it and I’m very flattered. I also thank the faculty who make this job so wonderful and enjoyable, especially the faculty in chemistry, who are great. We’ve been a great family for my nearly three decades serving here, and I’ve really enjoyed it. And, thank you to the students. I don’t quite get the same comments about physical chemistry that Dr. Smetanka recalled—he must have dug deeply to find those—but thank you to my students who soldiered on through the course.”

In addition to teaching Physical Chemistry I and II, Gravelle also teaches courses including General Chemistry, Advanced Chemical Methods, Advanced Physical Methods, Special Topics in Chemistry and Quantitative Analysis.

He and his wife, Ann, are the parents of two sons: Sean, in graduate school in Nebraska, and Brian, a graduate student in Oregon.

—Jim Berger
The Saint Vincent Athletic Department announced the appointment of Dr. Terrance Smith as the College’s head men’s basketball coach.

A graduate of Saint Vincent and one of the top players ever to wear the green and gold, Smith takes over the helm after five seasons as an assistant coach.

Praising Smith’s work as an assistant on the Bearcats staff, President Brother Norman Hipps, O.S.B., noted, “With Terrance Smith as head men’s basketball coach, we look forward to continuing the winning ways of Bearcat basketball.”

During his time on the coaching staff, the Bearcats won three PAC regular season titles and two PAC Tournament championships.

Smith, a native of Raleigh, North Carolina, grew up in Sharon, Pennsylvania, and played high school basketball in Westerville, Ohio. He was a two-time All-American for the Bearcats and still ranks as the school’s second leading scorer of all time. From 1997-2001, he tallied 1,819 points, helping to lead the team to two National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Tournament appearances. Following the 1999-2000 season, he was named a Third Team NAIA All-American for his efforts, and earned Honorable Mention All-America honors the following year.

“I am extremely excited about this opportunity,” said Smith. “This is my alma mater; this is where I played. I’m overwhelmed with the support that I’ve received and I’m very appreciative of the opportunity.”

Smith’s accomplishments in life extend far beyond the basketball court. After leaving Saint Vincent, Smith served as a member of the United States Army. A Chief Warrant Officer 2, Smith served in both Iraq and Afghanistan during his 12-year military career.

He earned many medals and ribbons, including a Meritorious Service Medal along with multiple Army Commendation and Army Achievement Medals and Iraq and Afghanistan Campaign Medals with Combat Stars.

After earning his bachelor of arts degree in management from Saint Vincent, Smith furthered his education with a master of business administration degree in project management from Grantham University and a doctor of business administration degree in project management from Walden University.

Smith serves as an assistant professor in the Alex G. McKenna School of Business, Economics and Government at Saint Vincent College, teaching primarily in the Master of Science in Management and Operational Excellence Program. He is also the director of the Kennametal Center for Operational Excellence (KCOE) program on campus.

“Working at Saint Vincent and with our team for the past five years naturally helps with the familiarity with the players,” said Smith. “The relationships we’ve already built will be important in this process. The expectations remain the same as always, to win the conference and get to the NCAA Tournament.”

Smith began his duties as head coach immediately.
MICK JANOSKO GETS WIN 400 FOR BASEBALL SQUAD

On April 10, Fred Gillespie threw a three-hitter as the Bearcats defeated Geneva College by a score of 6-1, giving head coach Mick Janosko his 400th career victory.

Coach Janosko’s squads have eclipsed the 20-win plateau seven times, including a school record 27-17 mark in 2003 and a 26-20 record in 2004. The 2004 squad finished in first place in the American Mideast Conference’s North Division, and reached the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Region IX finals, falling one game short of the NAIA World Series. It was the most successful season for Bearcat baseball in over two decades, and Janosko was awarded Coach of the Year by both the AMC and NAIA Region IX.

Under Janosko’s leadership, the Bearcats have qualified for the PAC championship Tournament three times. The Bearcats made back-to-back appearances in the PAC Tournament (2012 and 2013) before qualifying again in 2018. During the 2018 PAC Tournament, the Bearcats upset top-seeded Washington & Jefferson in the opening round of play.

Janosko has coached seven All-Americans, while more than 80 have been named All-Conference. The Bearcats have finished with a cumulative team batting average over .300 more than 10 times under Janosko, while the Bearcats’ have finished with a fielding percentage over .945 in each of Janosko’s seasons.

His teams have also had success in the classroom, with numerous players named to the Presidents’ Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll stemming back to the 2006 campaign. Also, 2005 graduate Josh Morrow became the first player in program history to earn National Scholar-Athlete laurels from the NAIA. During the 2018 season, junior first baseman Bobby Finn was recognized as an Academic All-District 4 selection by CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America).

“The players and the staff realize the value of hard work,” said Janosko. “There is no substitute. That’s why our philosophy is pretty simple: Commitment, Hard Work and Focus. We want players who are committed, who work hard and who have good focus, not only on the field, but off the field as well.”

Janosko was previously the assistant coach at Point Park College from 1992-1994. During his two years as assistant coach, the Pioneers finished second and first respectively in the KECC.

As a player, Janosko had a successful career, playing at two top-ranked college programs, Marietta College (OH) and Point Park College. During his senior season at Point Park, Janosko played left field, catcher and designated hitter on a Pioneer team that posted a then-national record winning streak of 44 games. He hit .390 that year while driving in 32 runs. He participated in two College World Series and had several tryouts with pro clubs including Pittsburgh, Kansas City and Cincinnati. He is a member of the American Baseball Coaches Association.

A 1986 graduate of East Allegheny High School, Janosko lettered in both football and baseball, earning all-section honors his junior and senior years. In 2006, he was named to the East Allegheny Athletic Hall of Fame for his athletic achievements. He played semi-pro baseball for 12 years in the Daily News League, a newspaper-sponsored league in the Mon-Valley area of Pittsburgh that has been in existence for over 70 years. He retired after the 1999 season.

In 2013, he was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame, East Boros chapter, for his accomplishments both on the field and in the dugout.

A 1990 graduate of Point Park College, Janosko earned his degree in journalism-communications. He and his wife Melodi reside in East McKeesport with their three sons, Parker, Kendall and Traynor.

WISNESKI TO HEAD NEW MEN’S VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM

The Saint Vincent College athletic department announced the hiring of Scott Wisneski as its first-ever head men’s volleyball coach. Men’s volleyball is now Saint Vincent’s 24th varsity sport. Wisneski has been an assistant coach for the women’s team since 2004.

The Derry native won two state titles as a member of the Derry Area High School team, then spent 10 years coaching the boys program at Greater Latrobe. He has also coached a USA Junior Olympic team with the Foothills Volleyball Club.
The Saint Vincent women's basketball team traveled to Crestview Hills, Kentucky, for the first round of the NCAA Division III Women's Basketball Championship. The Bearcats lost to the undefeated and eventual national champion Thomas More Saints 79-54.

The game was close at the half, with Thomas More leading 27-24, and Saint Vincent led early in the third period. The Saints had a 10-point run, and another 9-point run, and led 52-41 going into the final period. Madison Kollar led the Bearcats with 17 points while Maria Morgan and Jenna Lafko each added 11 points. Seniors Morgan and Christina Davis will be the young team’s only graduates, thus positioning the Bearcats, who finished 15-1 in the conference and 23-5 overall, as a favorite for 2019-2020.

It was the team’s highest win total since 2010-2011.

Kollar earned a spot of D3Hoops.com’s Great Lakes All-Region Third Team. The honor was the second major honor for Kollar this season. In February, she was also named All-Presidents’ Athletic Conference First Team. She led the team in points per game, 16.1, and scored in double figures 21 times, including a career-high 35 points.

Senior forward Tom Kromka earned his sixth honor of the year, this time from the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC). Kromka was named 2019 Division III Men’s Basketball All-ECAC Honorable Mention. In the past month, Kromka was also named All-Presidents’ Athletic Conference First Team, PAC Player of the Year, Great Lakes Region Second Team by the National Association of Basketball Coaches, D3Hoops.com’s Great Lakes All-Region Third Team and Google Cloud Academic All-District.

The Saint Vincent men’s tennis team concluded its record-setting season with a 5-2 win over Bethany in the Presidents’ Athletic Conference consolation match. Coach Brian Niemiec’s team finished at 13-4 on the year, adding to a season record for wins.

Senior Jacob Davis competed in three events in the NCAA National Swimming Championships. Davis opened competition in Greensboro, North Carolina, with a 25th place finish in the 50 Freestyle. In the 100 Breaststroke, Davis finished 34th, but his time of 57.08 established a new Saint Vincent record. Davis saved his best performance for last, finishing 10th in the preliminary heats of the 100 Freestyle. He advanced to the finals, and captured 11th place, timed in 44.69.

Davis, a native of Pittsburgh and graduate of Brashear High School, was making his second straight NCAA appearance. Last year, he became the first SVC swimmer to earn All-America honors from the NCAA. Davis claimed his second-straight Presidents’ Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Year honors.

The women’s swimming team finished in third place among six teams competing in the PAC Championships, while the men finished third among five teams.
**LACROSSE**

The Bearcat men’s lacrosse team finished the season with an 8-8 record and 6-1 in the PAC. The team secured second place in the regular-season standings and hosted a playoff game May 1, losing to Westminster. Junior Ben Price became the 21st member of the 100-point club in Saint Vincent’s 12-5 win over Thiel College this season. With the three goals and an assist, senior Jeremy Kennedy tied the program record and Will DeLanoy for all-time points with 242. Kennedy finished the season with 47 goals and 13 assists.

The women’s team finished the regular season at 4-7, 4-3 in the PAC and faced number one-seed Westminster College in the PAC Playoffs on April 30.

**GOLF**

The Saint Vincent men’s golf team wrapped up the 2018-19 season with a third place finish in the Presidents’ Athletic Conference Championships. The final round was held at the Spiedel Golf Club at Oglebay, in Wheeling, West Virginia. Jimmy Dolan had the lowest round of the day at Oglebay, shooting a 75, which earned him a tie for fifth overall with teammate Nate Yackovich with a total of 233. Both Dolan and Yackovich were named All-PAC First Team for their efforts. Yackovich was also named to the PAC Sportsmanship Team.

Sophomore Sydney Ball earned Presidents’ Athletic Conference Most Valuable Player honors, and the women golfers finished third as a team at the 2018-19 PAC Championships. Ball, who held a three-stroke lead after the first two rounds, which took place in the fall, shot 82 in the final round, to pull away to a 9-stroke victory among individuals. As a team, the Bearcats shot 392, finishing third with a total of 1265.

**BOWLING**

The Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) announced that Dani Koehler and Jessica Guesman earned the conference’s top two individual honors for the 2018-19 season. Koehler was named AMCC Player of the Year, while Guesman earned the Newcomer of the Year award. Koehler, the Bearcats’ anchor bowler and team captain, finished atop the conference leaderboard in 19 of 34 individual categories, and was in the top two in 25 of 34 categories. The team advanced into round three of the AMCC Championships, but lost to Mount Aloysius by a 2-1 margin to end the season at 39-14-0, 9-3 in the conference.

**BASEBALL**

Bobby Finn hit his 12th home run of the season—the 22nd of his career—in a 16-2 Saint Vincent loss at Washington & Jefferson. The Bearcats ended the season with an overall record of 20-19, 12-12 in the PAC. For senior Finn, the home run, which accounted for both Saint Vincent runs, extended his own records for home runs in a season and career. Finn had two of the team’s seven hits in the game.

**SOFTBALL**

The Bearcats needed to win the final three games of the Presidents’ Athletic Conference Championship Tournament to capture the PAC title and advance to the NCAA Tournament. In game one, freshman Celia Knappenberger threw a shutout, as the Bearcats defeated Westminster College 4-0 to advance to the championship round. Knappenberger threw six scoreless innings in game two to defeat Thiel, 7-0, which forced a deciding game. The team came away with a 7-4 win and the championship.

On the final day, Knappenberger worked a total of 16 scoreless innings, and was named Tournament MVP. Riley Assalone, Lauren Miller and Shae Robson were also named to the All-Tournament Team. This is the Bearcats’ second PAC softball title, following a championship year in 2016 and the team only loses one senior, Kelly Flaherty. The team took on host DePauw University in the first round of the NCAA Division III Softball Regionals losing to the Tigers 4-1. The team took on Maryville College in an elimination game in the NCAA Division III Regional. The Bearcats fell 5-3 to the Scots.
Kevin Wanichko

SELFLESS ACT GARNERS NATIONAL ATTENTION FOR COACH WANICHKO

Saint Vincent women’s cross country and track coach Kevin Wanichko, C’12, never expected to become part of a “viral video” when he attempted his first Boston Marathon this spring. But that’s what happened. He became a sensation on Twitter® when @NBCOlympics tweeted a video of Wanichko and Mexican national Allan Villanueva of San Ysidro, California, helping runner Chris Fernandez of Malden, Massachusetts, cross the finish line with the text: “Why we love sports. This runner being helped to the finish line at the #BostonMarathon shows the camaraderie in competition.”

“I turned onto Boylston Street for the finish. You turn on that street and you see the big arches at the finish line. I’d say it was about halfway down that road whenever I saw the man fall over and kind of hit the side of the curb.... Being a coach, I look after my runners every day, so when I saw someone that needed help, I just wanted to give him a helping hand and get him to the finish line,” Wanichko told KDKA-TV.

Wanichko ran about 100 meters with Fernandez when Villanueva ran over to help, and they walked the runner to the finish while dozens of runners jogged past them.

After completing the race—he finished 1,116th overall with a time of 2:50:23, Wanichko still had no idea his act of kindness had been anything but that. Neither did his wife, Genie, Saint Vincent’s assistant women’s cross country coach. She was waiting to catch a glimpse of him on Heartbreak Hill at around mile 20. Then Wanichko got back to his hotel. There were more than 90 messages on his phone.

Fernandez contacted Wanichko the following day to thank him for his help. He had been suffering from heat exhaustion with a body temperature of 107 degrees, and was quickly assisted by medical personnel.

Wanichko is new to the marathon, having run his first in Erie in September, placing third overall, which qualified him for Boston. He had been training with his college roommate, Cam Stumme, C’13, for the event. Stumme placed 1,617th, with a time of 2:54:33, while Chansler Poole, C’14, finished with a time of 2:37:55, 282 overall.

“For the past 15 years I have been a runner,” Wanichko told the Tribune-Review. “For five of those years I have been a coach. We have all had those races where we needed a little boost... So I didn’t think twice when I saw another runner in need. Saint Vincent College has instilled these values in me.”

Wanichko was named head coach for women’s cross country and women’s track and field in 2016, after spending two years coaching at Chatham. Prior to that he spent two years as a volunteer assistant at Saint Vincent, while continuing his education in pursuit of his masters degree in sports management at California University of Pennsylvania. During that time, he helped train All-American runner Poole.

As a student-athlete, Wanichko excelled as a four-year competitor in both cross country and track. He won several championships, which included the 2011 PAC Individual Cross Country Championship. The men’s cross country team won team titles in both 2010 and 2011. He also claimed individual track titles. Wanichko was also a five-time ECAC medalist and an All-Region runner during the 2011 cross country season. At the time of graduation, he held five school records (1500, 3000, 5000, 4x400 and 4x800). During the 2014-15 academic year, Wanichko was named to the PAC’s 60th anniversary team.

“I’m proud of him, and he did such a great thing. I know that he was upset with the race he had, but I think this is greater than a really good run,” Genie Fratto Wanichko, C’14, said.

“It wasn’t in the cards that day,” Kevin Wanichko told The Latrobe Bulletin. “As we know at Saint Vincent, sometimes God has a bigger plan for us.”
While crowds will gather at Chuck Noll Field this summer for Pittsburgh Steelers Training Camp and later, the Saint Vincent College football games, we take a look at the old Bearcat stadium, which was located behind the Sauerkraut Tower. Who remembers?

SAVE THE DATES

ALUMNI LUNCHEONS

**SUMMER LUNCHEONS**
- June 14  Latrobe
- June 18  Greensburg
- June 18  Pittsburgh
- July 12  Latrobe
- July 16  Greensburg
- July 26  Cranberry
- Aug. 9   Latrobe
- Aug. 16  Ligonier
- Aug. 20  Greensburg
- Sept. 13 Latrobe
- Sept. 17 Greensburg

**FALL LUNCHEONS**
- Sept. 20  Pittsburgh
- Oct. 11  Latrobe
- Oct. 15  Greensburg
- Oct. 25  Cranberry
- Nov. 8   Latrobe
- Nov. 19  Greensburg
- Nov. 15  Ligonier
- Dec. 13  Latrobe
- Dec. 17  Greensburg
- TBD     Pittsburgh Alumni Luncheon (Teutonia Mannerchor)

Contact:
Shawn Gouch, Alumni Director
724-805-2568 or alumni@stvincent.edu
Alumna Suzie Cool achieved two firsts for baseball—she was the first female broadcaster for the minor league team the Salem Red Sox, which also made her the first in the Carolina League. Now, she is one-half of the first all-female broadcasting team in all of professional baseball.

On April 23, 2019, Cool, C’15, and her colleague Melanie Newman officially made history and broadcast the 2-0 victory of the Red Sox over the Potomac Nationals in Virginia. Since then, they have continued to cover minor league games, with Cool offering primarily color commentating and Newman calling the play-by-play. Since it is minor league baseball, however, these roles can switch or one of them can even call a game solo when required—as Cool did on multiple games early in the season. Additionally, that isn’t Cool’s only job. She also is the marketing and promotions manager and, when she isn’t in the broadcast booth, is the on-field host.

Cool, who was a communication major, has been on a sports-oriented career path since her arrival at Saint Vincent College. “SVC was only the beginning of my journey into the job world. It helped set me up with the skills that are needed in everyday life and brought me the most beautiful friendships.”

She was a member of the softball team and worked for the athletic department to interview players. In 2014, though, her sights became set on larger venues when she stepped onto the field at PNC Park as a ball girl for the Pittsburgh Pirates. “On April 19, 2014, when I walked out onto the PNC Park warning track, that was the moment that I knew I wanted to be a part of sports forever.”

Soon after, she earned an internship with the Penguins, which led to another with Root Sports (now AT&T Sports), and her path in sports media was set. She had on-screen debuts as in-game host for the Wheeling Nailers minor league hockey team and the Pittsburgh Riverhounds Soccer team. In her third season as a Pirate’s ball girl, she also worked as a co-host for events and promotions at PNC Park and during games.

As Cool told Last Word on Baseball in March, “They always say, make sure you network, network, network, and that’s absolutely true. Every position I had, all of my bosses had worked together.”

The option to leave Pittsburgh came through the Salem job offer to work as an on-field host and media graphics assistant, and the decision wasn’t an easy one for her to make. She did decide quickly that she had to make the most of it, and that meant advocating for herself, as she told The Athletic in May. “I was like, How am I going to make these people proud that I left? How am I making a name for myself doing graphics in A ball?” Cool found Newman’s interviews, and went to the Salem management, saying she would pay her own way if she could be in the booth. And May 4, 2018, she did—despite all the juggling of that with the jobs she was already doing. “By the time I calculated my hours by the end of the summer I was making 67 cents an hour. But I’m chasing a dream.”

Newman, who had been in minor league broadcasting for two years prior to joining Cool at Salem, moved from an inspiration to a colleague for Cool and the pair broke this barrier together. They join a total of just six other minor league female commentators and two in the major leagues.

Cool is propelled by her support system back in Pittsburgh and the amazing reception to this news. “It’s been amazing. Of course you’re going to have the negatives, but for every one negative comment there’s about 300 positive ones that follow. I always tell everyone that it’s so hard to even see any negativity when so many people are backing you up in a positive light.”

As her Twitter feed shows, she’s already an inspiration and role model, with a photo of her signing a baseball for a young girl and the caption, “If you give a girl a baseball, she’ll try and change the world.”
Kriak Speaks In Manoli Series

The Saint Vincent College School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Herbert W. Boyer School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computing and the Charles G. and Anita L. Manoli Scholarship Committee presented a lecture by Michael Kriak, C’96 this spring. Entitled “The Once and Future Internet,” his talk discussed “What Web3 and blockchain is trying to get right in the 2020s that the first Internet got wrong in the 1990s.”

Kriak is the media circle global lead for ConsenSys, the leading blockchain venture production studio, and works alongside the technologists and entrepreneurs building and funding solutions for the media and entertainment industry. These initiatives include Civil, a platform for sustainable and trustworthy journalism, and Ujo, a digital rights management platform enabling fairness, transparency and profitability in music and other creative works. Kriak most recently worked as chief operating officer and chief financial officer for Mashable, the global media and entertainment company with upward of 100 million monthly users. Along with directing operations, he led the strategic capital funding as well as mergers and acquisitions, and helped lead the process to sell Mashable to Ziff Davis in December of 2017.

Prior to Mashable, Kriak worked at Haymarket Media, one of Britain’s largest private media companies, as the chief operating officer of its United States division. He has also worked at RxCentric, the early digital media and marketing company for the health care industry, after beginning his career at Arthur Andersen’s Technology practice auditing and advising some of the internet’s first companies.

Kriak is also a Tony Award-winning producer of Dear Evan Hansen and co-producer of the Broadway musical The Prom. He sits on the board of Lincoln Center Theater and mentors at Backstage Capital, a venture capital firm that invests in underrepresented technology founders. Kriak earned a bachelor of science in accounting and attended the London School of Economics during his junior year.

Speedskating Champ Vince Morris

Vince Morris, C’70 recently competed in the 28th Masters All Around Speedskating World Championship held in Bjugn, Norway. The championship—held over three days—combined the times of the four distances skated: 500, 1000, 1500, and 3000 meters—with Morris winning both the 1500 and 3000 meter events—and having the third fastest combined total, for a third-place podium finish behind skaters from Norway and the Netherlands.

Better recognized for his cycling experience during his college days, when he competed at the beginning of his junior year in the 1968 U.S. Olympic Cycling Trials in Los Angeles, he continued to develop his speedskating skills in the years after, achieving several National Masters records and titles. After his retirement from Merck & Co. Inc., where he headed operations for the various vaccine manufacturing departments, he devoted more time to competing internationally. He has represented the U.S. competing against many of the best Masters’ skaters in Canada and throughout Europe and Asia.

His year-long program at home in Doylestown typically includes 15 hours a week of indoor ice skating, cycling, weights, rowing cardio and skating technique exercises. He said he is still drawn by the level of competition, as well as the opportunity to meet and compete against such dedicated athletes in foreign countries. In January he will compete in the speedskating events at the Winter World Masters’ Games, which will be held at the site of the 1976 Olympic Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria.
Alumna Part Of Visiting Writers Series

The Saint Vincent College English Department welcomed Abigail Chabitnoy, C’09, as the first speaker in its Visiting Writers Series for the spring semester. Chabitnoy also announced the student winners of the annual Ragan Poetry Contest, for which she was this year’s judge.

Chabitnoy is a poet of Unangan and Sugpiaq descent and a member of the Tangirnaq Native Village in Kodiak, Alaska. She received a master of fine arts degree from Colorado State University, where she was an associate editor for Colorado Review. Her poems have appeared in Hayden’s Ferry Review, Tin House, Gulf Coast, Pleiades, Tinderbox Poetry Journal, Nat Brut, Red Ink and Mud City. Her first full-length book of poetry, How to Dress a Fish, was published in February by Wesleyan University Press.

Now in its 10th year, the Visiting Writers Series brings writers and literary translators from across the country to read and discuss their work at Saint Vincent.

Graduate Awarded Fellowship

Mallory Truckenmiller, C’19, has been awarded a full scholarship to the master of fine arts (MFA) program in literary translation at the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop. Truckenmiller will be funded under the Iowa Arts Fellowship, a non-teaching fellowship that covers the entire two-year program.

Truckenmiller, a native of Belle Vernon, is an English major with minors in Spanish and secondary education. She has completed internships with Asymptote, a journal for world literature in translation, and Eulalia Books, a small press which also publishes literary translations and is affiliated with Saint Vincent College.

Truckenmiller discovered her passion for literary translation after taking Spanish literature courses, which introduced her to Latin American and Iberian literature.

“The literary translation program at the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop is the very top program in the field,” said Michelle Gil-Montero, associate professor of English and alumna of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. “Mallory will have rare opportunities to work with major writers from around the world while gaining expertise as a publishing literary translator.”

Truckenmiller is the first ‘official’ student in Saint Vincent’s new literary translation program.

Alumna Illustrates Book

Alumna Kathleen Dillon, C’16, illustrated Paul J. Volkmann’s new book, A Talk with Delbert and other Creatures of Southwestern Pennsylvania. The book teaches readers about wildlife through fictional conversations with animals, and is complemented by Dillon’s large illustrations of the wildlife. Dillon majored in computing and information science with minors in graphic design and photography. After graduation she was hired by Blue Sky Sign Company in Greensburg as a graphic designer.

Condolences

Neil M. Larimer, (Col. Retired), C’55, on the loss of his sons, Neil Larimer, on December 5, 2017 and Bret Larimer, on January 1, 2019, and his wife Dolores Larimer, on May 15, 2019.

Charles A Beck, Jr., C’71; Donald Beck, D.P.M., C’79; Charles A Beck, III, C’08; and Matthew Beck, C 21, on the loss of their father and grandfather, respectively, Charles Beck, who was also the brother of the late Father Aelred Beck, O.S.B., P’40, C’45, S’48.

Martin T. Kuzmkowski, C’73, and John F. Kuzmkowski, C’75, on the loss of their mother, Helen Kuzmowski, on August 18, 2018.

George A. Fetkovich, C’80, and his wife, Marilee, on the loss of their daughter, Emma Fetkovich, on February 19, 2019.

Kenneth Montrose, C’83, and Paige Montrose, C 20, on the death of their father and grandfather, respectively, Russell Montrose, on February 25, 2019.

R. Mark Metz, C’89, and Natalie Metz, C’88, on the loss of their father and father-in-law, respectively, Ronald J. Metz on April 16, 2019.

Eileen Flinn, Esq., C’90, on the loss of her father, Kurt R. Flinn, on March 13, 2019.

Jenny (Gaffron) Woytek, C’99, on the death of her mother on October 25, 2018.
Class News

1960s


CLASS OF 1962 GOLF OUTING—March 2018 class of '62 annual golf outing in Tampa, front, from left, Bonnie Belan, Ron Blase, Dick Payne, Bob Belan; back, from left, Bill Wydo, Wayne Deblander, Pat Keith, Jim Nardo and Don Demshire.

“The Ring”

Getting my 1968 class ring was a touch-and-go proposition my senior year at Saint Vincent College. While I had held down good jobs every summer while I was in college, the money I earned went toward helping my parents with tuition and paying my weekly expenses. There wasn’t a lot for extras, and the $100 I could muster toward the ring wasn’t enough. My parents, however, thought a class ring was something I should have and graciously gave me the remaining money needed to purchase it. Their generosity would make what would happen the summer after graduation that much more painful.

I was working at Seven Springs Mountain Resort that summer as technical director of the resort’s summer theater. It was work I had come to love at Saint Vincent, where the late Father Thomas Devereux had instilled a deep appreciation of the magic that was possible in live theater. The rustic playhouse at Seven Springs operated as a repertory theater, meaning that all four of its shows ran throughout the season. The demanding schedule of constant set and lighting changes left little time for anything else, but somehow I managed to fall in love with one of the actresses in the troupe. We took what time we could for ourselves, and one quiet evening when the theater was dark and we had no set change, we took advantage of the resort’s swimming pool and sauna. There was a dressing area between the pool and the sauna where we changed. I took my ring off and put it in the pocket of my jeans. That was the last time I would see it for more than 50 years.

I swallowed my pride and told my parents what had happened. They were, of course, disappointed; but at that point they were more concerned by the fact that I had been drafted and was headed into the U.S. Army at the height of the Vietnam War. After my two years in the Army, I thought of replacing my lost class ring with a U.S. Army ring but decided it wouldn’t have the same emotional pull, so I did without.

There were many times during the intervening 50 years when I thought of ordering another Saint Vincent College class ring. The bookstore assured me that it was possible, but the design of the ring had changed, and the bell tower that had been a campus landmark until the disastrous fire of 1963 was no longer featured on the ring. I wanted the ring, but I wanted a ring with the bell tower. I had been a scholasticate in the former Saint Vincent Preparatory School at the time of the fire, and that bell tower had marked my life for most of the previous three years. It had a deep resonance in my life.

It still does, only now, 50 years after it was lost, the ring is back
to help memorialize the tower in my mind.

That the ring is back on the finger where I last wore it is remarkable enough, but even more astounding, it is in absolutely pristine condition, looking exactly as it did the last time I took it off.

If only that ring could talk. As it stands, the 50 years between then and now is a complete blank slate. I know nothing of its fate between that eventful day in the summer of 1968 when I last took it off and one improbable day near the beginning of this March when an anonymous person handed the ring to a security guard at Saint Vincent and told the guard that the ring had been found at Seven Springs.

Fortunately, when the ring was purchased my name had been engraved inside the band.

1970s
Charles D. Cleveland, C’72, and his wife, Joan, represented Saint Vincent College at the inauguration of David A. Armstrong, J.D., as 10th president of Saint Thomas University, Miami Gardens, Florida, on March 20, 2019.

1980s
Neal P. Panza, C’83, has been named senior vice president, retail sales and operations at Vitamin Shoppe, Inc.

Thomas A. Summers, C’85, was nominated to be a member of the board of directors of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board for the remainder of the five-year term expiring October 18, 2020.

Michael J. Lucci, Ph.D., C’86, defended his dissertation, “Using Mixture, Multi-process, and other Multidimensional IRT Models to Account for Extreme and Midpoint Response Style Use in Personality Assessment,” in November 2017. He is grateful to all of his former professors from Saint Vincent College and the University of Pittsburgh. He appreciates the support of his family and friends, especially Julia.

Leaders and Advocates for Early Childhood Education—William (Bill) Isler C’68, right, received the 2018 Halo Award from Angel’s Place for his work as former president and chief executive officer of the Fred Rogers Company. His work to positively impact children in the community through advocacy and quality early childhood education created a pathway for future generations of children to learn and grow to be their best selves. He was presented the award by another children’s education advocate, Angel’s Place Board President John Arch C’61. Through the comprehensive family service model implemented at Angel’s Place, both parent and child become equipped with the tools necessary to become self-sufficient and lifelong learners.

From left, Father Paul Taylor, O.S.B., C’87, S’92; David Hollenbaugh, associate vice president for institutional advancement; Fran Bradley, C’58; Marian Bradley; Brother Norman Hipps, O.S.B., P’61, C’66, S’69; Shawn Gouch, C’09.

Front, from left, Mary Alice Cronin, SHU’60; Sara Eusebi, SHU’63; Tom Skoloda, P’60, C’64; back, from left, Joe Barresi, C’59; Nate Arendas, C23; Jim Bendel, C’60; Shawn Gouch, C’09.
Revitsky; Giuseppe Riga, MS, C’84; Don Ammon, MA, C’86; and Deane Smith, M.D., C’86.

Dr. Ralph E. Rapa, C’87, has been named director of operations for the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA). A native of Jeannette, he graduated with a bachelor of science degree in business management. He was the president of the Class of 1987 and was a standout lacrosse player. He possesses over 12 years of railroad experience, beginning with Amtrak On Board Services in 2006. He joined Veolia Transportation (now Transdev) in 2007 and served as communications manager and supervisor of safety and security. He is a certified passenger train conductor, and a certified locomotive engineer and rose from the ranks as a conductor trainee. A graduate of Albizu University in Miami, Florida, Dr. Rapa holds master of science and doctor of psychology degrees in clinical psychology. With 17 years of collegiate teaching experience, he is also an adjunct professor at Barry University in Miami Shores, and a faculty member of the University of Phoenix South Florida campus.


James J. Fetzer, Ph.D., C’89, represented Saint Vincent College at the inauguration of Irma Becerra, Ph.D. as the 7th President of Marymount University, Arlington, Virginia, on Thursday, March 28, 2019.

2000s

Angela Sheffler Abreu, C’00, has been named corporate vice president, loss mitigation manager of Northwest Bank.

1990s

Christopher M. Berdnik, C’93, is the new business administrator of Pennsbury School District. He is a registered school business administrator through the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO), and has received numerous awards from PASBO and the Association of School Business Officials International, among others.

Jennifer L. Ball, Ph.D., C’94, is the associate professor of history and social documentation in the humanities and social sciences in the School of Arts and Sciences of Clarkson University, New York.

Andrea Redinger, C’01, a Greensburg Salem biology teacher, was inducted into the Plum High School Distinguished Alumni Class of 2019.
Mandy Welty Zalich, C’02, is the chief executive officer of Westmoreland Community Action. She was the executive director of CASA of Westmoreland for over ten years.

Sherrie E. Dunlap Gallagher, C’09, earned a master of business administration and master of sustainability from Chatham University during the spring 2019 commencement.

Vincent P. DeAugustine, C’03, was inducted into the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Adam T. Paticoski, C’03, represented Saint Vincent College at the inauguration of Mary Karsten Surridge as the 10th president of North Park University, Chicago, Illinois, on Friday, February 15, 2019.

Josef J. Kennis, C’09, represented Saint Vincent College for over ten years.

Andrew T. Geisler, C’16, is on the football coaching staff at Thiel College. He will work as Thiel’s defensive backs coach.

Hannah Wojtowicz, C’16, operates her own business—Blushtan Pittsburgh—an organic spray tanning studio which she owns with her sister. She notes that the business has already been featured in several magazines and newspapers, including the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and that it is especially popular with the bridal community. She notes that her Saint Vincent education helped prepare her for her professional career.

Emily Duerr, C’18, B.S. in integrated science, will begin the doctor of occupational therapy (OTD) program at the University of Pittsburgh in June.

Dr. Sharon Emerson-Stonnell, national president of the Alpha Lambda Delta national honor society, announced that Taylor Hanson, C’18, was awarded the organization’s Dorothy Anderson Graduate Fellowship for the 2019-20 academic year. Hanson, a biology major, is enrolled in the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Veterinary Medicine.

Madeleine Bartrug, C’19, biology major from Bridgeville, will enroll in Chatham University’s master of physician assistant studies program.

Kylie Bible, C’19, biology major from Flintstone, Maryland, will attend Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee, to pursue a doctor of optometry degree.

Mitchell Bredice, C’19, physics major from Jeannette, will attend the University of Connecticut to pursue a Ph.D. in physics.

Anna Coletti, C’19, mathematics major from Asheville, North Carolina, will attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to pursue a Ph.D. in mathematics.

Deaths

John C. Rennels, Jr., C’42, on March 6, 2019.

Robert D. Kuhn, C’43, on January 26, 2019.

Jeremiah B. Sullivan, P’43, C’47, on November 19, 2018.

Dino Barontini, P’44, C’50, on August 14, 2017

Vincent F. Lackner, Ph.D., C’44, on December 27, 2018.

Henry A. Bashour, P’46, on March 8, 2019.

Robert H. Henley, P’48, on November 19, 2018.


Sidney H. Beauchamp, Jr., P’55, on April 21, 2017.

William Stillwagon, P’55, C’59, on April 8, 2019.


Robert G. Dorsch, C’56, on December 17, 2018.

Robert P. Gannon, M.D., C’56, on December 7, 2018.

Anthony J. Bobenrieth Sr., P57, on September 12, 2017.

Gerard W. Ryan, C’59, on March 26, 2019.

James R. Ferry, C’60, on March 17, 2019.

Thomas D. Hagg, C’60, on February 22, 2019.


David R. Gray, C’62, on March 6, 2019.

John Murtha Kearney, C’63, on November 18, 2018.

Michael R. Chipaloski, C’65, on March 5, 2019.

John W. “Jake” Markiewicz, C’65, on March 11, 2019.


Norman J. Ciaccia, C’72, on December 31, 2018.

Rev. Thomas A. Scala, S’73, on October 15, 2018.


David M. Valentovich, C’75, on February 26, 2019.

Mark G. Gruss, C’80, on April 6, 2019.

Tommy L. Priddgen, C’80, on May 20, 2017 due to a car accident.


Joseph P. Swantner, C’00, on November 10, 2018.

Kanette E. Collier, C’08, on February 25, 2018, due to brain cancer.

Jacob E. "Jake" Leonard, C’12, on July 26, 2017, in a car accident.

Joseph C. “Joey” Proviano, C20, on March 8, 2019.
Michael Cooper, C’19, biology major from Harrisonburg, Virginia, will pursue a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree at Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine at Virginia Tech.

Emily Daily, C’18, was accepted into the M.F.A program in popular fiction at Seton Hill University.

Taylor Easter, C’19, biology major from Manns Choice, will enroll in Life University’s chiropractic program in Marietta, Georgia.

Marion Emerson, C’19, will pursue a master’s in public administration at American University, where she received a Merit Scholar Award.

Kelly Flaherty, C’19, integrated science major from Pittsburgh, will pursue a doctorate of pharmacy at Duquesne University.

Katherine Guevara, C’19, biochemistry major from Springfield, Virginia, will attend George Mason University to pursue a master of public health degree.

Lauren Gugliotti, C’19, biology major from Finleyville, will enroll in Chatham University’s master of physician assistant studies program.

Gina Johnston, C’19, will pursue a master’s degree in education from Saint Vincent College on a graduate fellowship from Penn Trafford High School, where she will be teaching.

Nick LaCava, C’19, will attend Duquesne University Law School.

Jennifer Larnino, C’19, a biology major from Carnegie, will pursue a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Bradenton, Florida.

Sarah Malone, C’19, engineering science major from Gibsonia, will attend Columbia University to pursue a master of fine arts degree in creative writing.

Arianna Martino, C’19, biology major from DuBois, will enroll in Duquesne University’s bachelor of science in nursing program.

Samantha Mears, C’19, biology major from Monroeville, will pursue a master of health administration degree at Mount St. Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Chelsea Sarring, C’19, biochemistry major from Delmont, will attend Penn State University to pursue a Ph.D. in biochemistry, microbiology and molecular biology.

Benjamin Watt, C’19, mathematics major from North Huntingdon, will pursue a doctor of medicine degree at Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey.
Births

Emilee Johanna Britton to Devin Britton, C’12, and her husband, Matthew Britton, C’12, on March 21, 2019. She joins big sister, Madisyn, 3.

Marriages

Jason Brinker, C’10, and Hannah Kahn, C’16, on November 3, 2018, at Saint Paul’s Cathedral in Pittsburgh. Alumna Jocelyn Stas, C’16, was in the wedding party.

Sara V. Maurer, C’13, and Ryen Wilkins were married September 8, 2018, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica. The reception was at The Barn at Ligonier Valley in Ligonier. Pictured are front, from left: Ashlee Stevens, C’13; Sara (Maurer) Wilkins, C’13; Alison Maurer, C’15; Joshua Thomas, C’14; Sarah Robbins, C’15; Karalyn Hillebrecht, C’13; back, from left: Maxwell Schrenk, C’13; Sadie Stresky, C’13; Abigail (Bryant) Brenler, C’13; Patrick Mendus, C’12; Thomas Nielsen; Logan Dorminey, C’13.

Sara V. Maurer, C’13, and Ryen Wilkins were engaged on July 4, 2018. The wedding will be held on July 6, 2019, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

Stephanie N. Tate, C’11, and Adam Sherlock. A June 22 wedding is being planned at Saint Paul’s Lutheran Church, Johnstown.

Engagements

Natalie M. Hozak, C’11, and Nicholas Calhoun of Evansville, Indiana, were engaged on July 4, 2018. The wedding will be held on July 6, 2019, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica.

Anna Hillman, C’17, and Thomas McKee, C’17, at Saint Peter’s Church in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia on September 8, 2018. The other Bearcats in the photo from left: Liz Loftus, C’17; Casey Trout, C’17; Melony Hurlburt, C’17; bride and groom, Meghan Murphy C’17, Connor Chywski, C’17; Alaina D’Aloiso, C’17; G’19; Hannah Galvin, C’17, G’18; Claire Galvin, C’20; and Timothy Robbins, C’17.

Julia Clare Rodaitis, C’17, and William Kyle Arthur, C’17, on February 16, 2019, at Saint Vincent Basilica with Father Philip Kanfush, O.S.B., C’96, S’99, and Father Jeremiah O’Shea, C60, S’64, officiating.
“My family is one of many claiming three generations of Saint Vincent graduates. My father, John, C’37, daughter, Kim, C’07, son, Mike, C’11, as well as son-in-law, Matt Feigel, C’08, and daughter-in-law, Katie Macioce, C’10, are proud Bearcats. We are hoping one or more of my four grandchildren extends us to four generations. My late wife, Leslie, valiantly received her degree later in life from Seton Hill University.

“My dedication to Saint Vincent is rooted not in my years as a student, but in my years as a parent. I saw my children receive a quality education, saw them grow socially as active participants in campus activities, and I saw their Catholic faith strengthened under the influence of the Benedictines. Now as a member of the College Board of Directors, I am able to see the foundation is in place for a better Saint Vincent far into the future.”

The strong commitment of John Stevens recently resulted in his establishing a named scholarship for needy students at the college. Additionally, to strengthen that fund in the future, John has made an estate gift in his will.

There are many important ways to financially support Saint Vincent. The most familiar is with gifts of cash, check or appreciated securities.

There are also ways to show support that has a lasting impact that may be beneficial to you, your family and Saint Vincent. A planned gift can potentially reduce or eliminate long-term capital gains tax, provide current income tax deductions or even increase your income.

A variety of estate planning vehicles is available, and the planned giving team at Saint Vincent will work with you and your advisers, to create the best possible gift that honors your intentions and the needs of the college.

When you are ready to begin the process, give us a call. I am available to talk or visit with you at any time.

Thanks for your interest in the college.

Future generations of students will benefit from the creation of a legacy gift by you.

—Jim Bendel, C’60, D’85, Planned Giving Director
james.bendel@stvincent.edu, 724-805-2948
Dive Into Training Camp!
SAINT VINCENT & THE STEELERS THIS SUMMER!

For training camp dates as they become available, please visit this link: www.stvincent.edu/trainingcamp