A Landmark Celebration
SLU’s bicentennial begins pg. 10

PARTNERSHIP IN BELIZE pg. 16

ADVANCED COLLEGE CREDIT pg. 20

A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE pg. 24

SLU’S FIRST FIRST LADY pg. 26
As Communion began to draw to a close, I started to make my way to the stage to share remarks at the closing of the bicentennial Mass. I walked up the ramps behind the stage, feeling the presence of the Spirit in the spirit of the moment, running my comments though my head and scribbling last minute edits. I wanted my words to be just right for such an auspicious occasion. After all, the bicentennial is a once-in-a-lifetime event.

As I reached the top and looked out at the congregation, I witnessed 6,000 people from all creeds gathered together underneath the spectacular curve of the Gateway Arch. Right there on the banks of the tranquil Mississippi River — the very birthplace of our University, we prayed together with 47 members of the clergy from two countries? Could they have imagined having alumni doing this?! Doubtful. But they had hope. And they had faith. And they worked hard with the dream of a substantial Catholic and Jesuit university engaged with the region and the world. Could they have imagined five campus sites would one day become? Could they have imagined our students and our patients must continue to be at the forefront of all that we do.

We are a university that throughout the course of its existence, has witnessed, and created, some of the biggest flashpoints in the narrative of the United States and the planet. We witnessed the end of polio, and at SLU, the discovery of Vitamin K and the first successful open-heart surgery. We saw the beginning and end of two world wars and the building of barracks on the quad to accommodate the influx of veterans coming home from war, enrolling in school and creating prosperity at a level of which the world had never dreamed. We witnessed the end of chattel slavery and participated in the integration of universities. We are an institution that observed history, made history, researched history and documented history. While today’s challenges are certainly different from those of 200 years ago, the lessons that our past teaches us still hold true. The most prominent of which is that our students and our patients must continue to be at the forefront of all that we do.

Could our founders have known what Saint Louis University would one day become? Could they have imagined five campus sites in two countries? Could they have imagined having alumni doing good throughout the world? Could they have imagined the critical role we would play in St. Louis? Could they have imagined a Billiken as our mascot?! Doubtful. But they had hope. And they had faith. And they worked hard with the dream of a substantial Catholic and Jesuit university engaged with the region and the world.
Grand Hall — a residence hall at Saint Louis University — opened its doors in August. Located at the corner of Grand Boulevard and Laclede Avenue, the new building joined Spring Hall as SLU’s second new student living space in two years.

The $71 million Grand Hall houses 528 first- and second-year students on six floors in single and double suite-style rooms. The hall features classrooms, a conference room, meeting rooms, study rooms, floor lounges, and kitchens and laundry areas on alternating floors. Grand Hall is also home to a 740-seat dining hall that includes restaurant-style seating, a fireplace, food stations and an outdoor courtyard.

Alberici served as general contractor on the building, which was designed by Hastings+Chivetta. The hall meets LEED Silver standards as part of the University’s commitment to sustainability.
First SLU Giving Day a Success

In just 24 hours, Saint Louis University’s first SLU Giving Day raised $416,441 through 887 gifts from alumni, staff, faculty, students, SLU families and friends of the University. The Office of Alumni and Donor Engagement spearheaded the fundraising effort, which was on Nov. 16 from midnight to midnight.

Held on the University’s Founders Day, the event was designed to benefit a variety of needs across the University, including scholarships, book funds and priorities designated by individual college and school deans.

Donations were encouraged with special fundraising challenges that unlocked additional funds when certain dollar amounts or donor participation goals were met. Many challenges were school-specific, and individuals pledged to provide their own donations once a certain number of gifts had been reached. For example, Dr. Mardell Wilson, dean of Doisy College of Health Sciences, pledged $1,929 in honor of the school’s founding year once 40 gifts were made to the school.

SLU Is Ranked a Top-100 University, Named Top-50 Best Value by U.S. News

According to U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Colleges 2018” guidebook, SLU ranked No. 94 among the country’s top 311 national universities.

SLU also was named a top-50 “Best Value School.” U.S. News calculates value by comparing a school’s academic quality vs. the net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid.

Top Business Programs

SLU’s undergraduate business programs were ranked No. 31 among nearly 500 business schools in the country. The entrepreneurship, international business and accounting programs ranked at 9, 12 and 33, respectively.

Best Colleges for Veterans

SLU also made the magazine’s list of top schools offering benefits that can make pursuing a college education more affordable for military veterans and active-duty service members.

Academic Tech Commons Welcomes Innovators

A new 14,000-square-foot creator space in Pius XII Memorial Library provides students access to the latest technologies, innovative spaces and support. The Academic Tech Commons includes 3-D printers, 360-degree cameras and hologram technology, as well as SLU’s own Genius Bar.

Studios and lab spaces foster collaboration and creativity.

BY THE NUMBERS

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<td>6,000</td>
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<td>altar used originally by Pope John Paul II when he visited St. Louis in 1999</td>
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For more on the Mass, see page 10.

New Academic Deans

Dr. Thomas Burroughs

INTERIM DEAN OF THE COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Burroughs came to SLU in 1999 as an adjunct professor. He joined the University full time as executive director of the Center for Health Outcomes Research in 2003. Burroughs also holds appointments in the College for Public Health and Social Justice as a professor of health management and policy, as well as in the School of Medicine as a professor of internal medicine. He is serving a three-year term as interim dean.

Dr. Tracy A. Chapman

DEAN FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Chapman previously was associate dean for adult and e-learning for Creighton University’s College of Professional Studies, as well as executive director of Creighton’s Center for Academic Innovation. She also served as Creighton’s lead administrator and central point of coordination for the university’s summer sessions.

Dr. Gary Ritter

DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Ritter is the 21st Century Endowed Chair in Education Policy at the University of Arkansas. There, he also is the founder and director of the Office for Education Policy, a resource for state legislators, school board members and other policymakers in matters of K-12 education in Arkansas. His SLU appointment is effective-Aug. 1, 2018, until which time Dr. Molly Schaller will serve as interim dean of the School of Education.

Bicentennial Lecture Series Kicks Off

Greg Boyle, S.J., signs a book for a fan after calling for those gathered at SLU’s Center for Global Citizenship to “go to the margins” and create kinship with others during his lecture, “Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion,” in November. Boyle’s talk was the first in SLU’s bicentennial speaker series.
Awards and Honors

Thomas Campbell, who is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry, won a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship for 2017-18.

Dr. Ethel Frese (Grad Doisy ’06), professor of physical therapy, was named a 2017 Catherine Worthingham Fellow of the American Physical Therapy Association, the highest honor the organization awards.

Dr. Michael Graham (AGS ’73, Med ’77), professor of pathology, was honored with the College of American Pathologists Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jen Tennon, a doctoral student in aerospace and mechanical engineering, won one of 10 CADRE Fellowships awarded by the National Science Foundation for 2017-18.

Dr. Gina Yosten (Med ’10), assistant professor of pharmacology and physiology, received the 2017 New Investigator Award from the American Physiological Society.

More than 170 SLUCare physicians from a variety of specialties were recognized by St. Louis Magazine as best doctors of 2017. The list is based on the annual “Best Doctors in America” database.

SLU’s Department of Public Safety received a Department of Defense Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve “Above and Beyond” award for its support of staff who are also active in National Guard or Reserves services. This summer, four DPS officers — Chief Jim Moran, Capt. Darryl Walker, Sgt. Dan Lalor and Edward Agnew — received DOD Patriot Awards for their support of Mark Breckenridge, a DPS officer and Army reservist.

SLU Enrolls Second-Largest Freshman Class in University History

SLU started the first day of the 2017 academic year with 1,640 first-time freshmen, a more than 4 percent increase over last year. Hailing from 43 U.S. states and 40 countries, the new class is the second-largest in University history.

The freshman class has an average high school GPA of 3.9 and an average ACT composite score of 28.1 — an all-time high for SLU — placing these new Billikens among the top 10 percent of all students tested in the United States.

SLU has received a $1.2 million Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars Program) grant from the U.S. Department of Education to prepare eligible, high-achieving undergraduate students for doctoral studies.

The grant, which will provide $240,000 per year for five years, will serve 25 students each year. The McNair Scholars Program is funded through TRIO, a collection of federal programs that provides services to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The scholars receive ongoing academic counseling, faculty mentoring and research experience, and participate in many educational and professional development activities.

SLU’s School of Nursing will receive $1.5 million in federal funds over the next four years to support disadvantaged students by providing them student mentors, faculty mentors and pre-entry work experiences.

The HRSA Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant will help the nursing school increase the recruitment, enrollment, retention and graduation of students from disadvantaged backgrounds, especially for students who are African American or Hispanic/Latino. Both groups are underrepresented in nursing education. The grant funding will aid 40 students (10 each year).

Two Grants Will Help Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds

slu campus

Oberle Institute Supports Trauma Patients

The St. Louis man who was nearly killed by chimpanzees in 2012 is putting his name and energy behind a new initiative to support trauma patients. Andrew Oberle is a peer patient advocate and development officer for the Oberle Institute at Saint Louis University, which treats patients who have suffered severe trauma.

Oberle recently saw his first patient at the Oberle Institute, which was named by generous benefactors. Now in its pilot phase, the institute provides wrap-around, supportive care to help trauma patients recover.

Oberle also includes a trauma nursing coordinator, counselor, occupational therapist, chaplain, music therapist, dog therapist and trauma social worker.

Thousands of Billikens ‘Make a Difference’

As SLU anticipated the kickoff of its 200-Years In One Challenge, nearly 2,500 Billikens volunteered on Oct. 28 to give back to the St. Louis community at 100 different sites as part of SLU’s annual Make A Difference Day. Here, students help with landscaping at the St. Louis Science Center.

At Dr. Bruce Kraemer’s outpatient clinic, Andrew Oberle (left) talks with patient Benjamin Sliva.

WWW.SLU.EDU
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**RHINOCEROS**
By Eugene Ionesco — March 1-4
University Theatre, 3333 West Pine Blvd
The satirical and the humorous propel this story of one man’s beginning of the Democratic party’s rise of Jackson and the beginning of the Democratic party. Directed by Tom Martin.

**BLOODY, BLOODY ANDREW JACKSON**
By Alex Timbers Music and Lyrics by Michael Friedman — April 26-29
The Grand, 300 Grand Square
A rock score anchors this fictionalized, irreverent look in a world of conformists. Directed by Alex Timbers.

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A LANDMARK CELEBRATION

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY KICKED OFF ITS BICENTENNIAL WITH MASS, FIREWORKS AND FUN UNDER THE GATEWAY ARCH.

By Carrie Bebemeyer

Photos by Sarah Carmody, Steve Dolan and Kevin Lowder
The altar and coordinating furniture used at the bicentennial Mass were originally used during the Mass celebrated by Pope John Paul II when he visited St. Louis in 1999.

Members of the Osage Nation took part in the bicentennial Mass in recognition of the shared history between the Osage and the Jesuits.

Ronald Mercier, S.J., provincial of the Jesuits’ Central and Southern Province, was the homilist, and principal concelebrants were Lawrence Biondi, S.J., president emeritus of Saint Louis University; Christopher Collins, S.J. (Grad A&S ’71), SLU’s assistant to the president for mission and identity; Michael Garamzini, S.J. (A&S ’71), secretary of higher education for the Society of Jesus; and Douglas Macreullier, S.J., regional assistant for Canada and the USA for the Society of Jesus.

“With gratitude and awe we celebrate this liturgy of thanksgiving to God for what began with Bishop DuBourg and has been continued by women and men who have helped that not only take root but flourish,” Mercier said. “What a vision. Not simply being caught up by one’s limits but being aware of a vision to which one lay hold and of a future one wished to create with God.”

Mercier reflected on the ways in which SLU has achieved the vision that Bishop DuBourg laid out for it: directly in students, alumni, faculty and staff and indirectly through those they have served.

“With extraordinary achievements SLU has seen,” Mercier said. “From those first seeds planted by DuBourg in health care, in engineering, in basic sciences, in humanities, in social sciences. From a school founded on the frontier of the United States, it has become one that blazes new frontiers in the intellectual, the social, the faith, the common life of this community, and this world. And those endeavors, that harvest, continues unabated. We need to remember how the alumni of SLU and SLU High have enriched this city, this country and this world.”

On Sept. 23, Saint Louis University began its bicentennial celebration back where it all began — on the banks of the Mississippi River. SLU invited the entire community to Mass, entertainment and fireworks near the site of its first classes in 1818, which were held in a small rented home on what are now the grounds of the Gateway Arch.

Approximately 6,000 SLU students, faculty, staff, alumni and people from throughout the St. Louis region attended the event. It is believed to be the first Mass ever held beneath the Arch.

Originally known as Saint Louis Academy, the school that Bishop Louis William DuBourg founded in 1818 laid the groundwork for both Saint Louis University and St. Louis University High School, whose students and alumni were invited to participate in the bicentennial Mass.

St. Louis Archbishop Robert J. Carlson presided.

“Saint Louis University has been a great institution for 200 years since its foundation as the first institution of higher learning west of the Mississippi River,” Carlson said. “As we gather for this historic Mass under the Gateway Arch, we are reminded of those early missionaries who brought Christ with them as they ventured into the West. Their courage then should strengthen our faith now, and embolden us to share anew the joy of the Gospel with the modern world.”
In closing remarks, SLU President Dr. Fred P. Pestello told the crowd he wished each person could be standing in his location, looking out at the sea of people gathered there. He noted that it is fitting to begin SLU’s bicentennial year by coming together to celebrate Mass.

Pestello shared with the crowd the ways in which he experiences SLU each day, beginning with his drive in from the west each morning. “I see the shimmering Arch in the sunlight,” Pestello said. “I’m reminded that St. Louis is the Gateway to the West, and Saint Louis University and St. Louis University High are gateways to education. To upward mobility. To forming the citizens of the future.”

Pestello reminded the audience that each person helps shape the trajectory of SLU, noting that it was once said that it would require a miracle to come to fruition.

“In addition to reflecting upon our past, we are going to celebrate our bicentennial by giving back in a mission-centered way,” said SLU President Dr. Fred P. Pestello. “This is an effort that speaks to who we are as an institution and what this community means to us.”

To reach 200 years of service, students, faculty, staff, alumni and others will need to submit 1,753,176 hours (the number of hours in 200 years) between Nov. 14, 2017, and Nov. 14, 2018. The clock updates in real time as hours are submitted.

“Saint Louis University has a long history of volunteerism and service,” Wassel said. “If in addition to our campus community we get alumni, parents and others from the area serving to help us celebrate, I have no doubt we will succeed.”

The free app is available through the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. In addition, those who wish to participate can also submit volunteer hours online at slu.edu/200years.
Matt Ruhl, S.J., describes Belize as if it were paradise.

“On the Caribbean shores, on the Yucatan peninsula, lies a country so lovely that the locals refer to it as the ‘jewel,’” he said. But he knows as well as any that not all of the facets of this jewel are beautiful.

Since 2011, Ruhl (Grad A&S ’86) has been pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, a 50-year-old Jesuit apostolate in Belize City. He contends that the area suffers the same social problems any major city might face: unemployment, poverty and family instability, drugs and gang violence.

“I worked all over St. Louis, and I’ll tell you that Belize City is a mirror image, except it’s in Central America,” he said.

Surrounded by crime and overwhelming poverty, Ruhl eventually turned to the Saint Louis University community for help. He reached out to friends and colleagues, including philanthropist and education advocate Tom Nolan (A&S ’69, Grad ’70) and Chris Collins, S.J. (Grad A&S ’01), SLU’s assistant to the president for mission and identity.

Collins — recognizing that “there is some activity in Belize from almost every school or college we have at SLU” — brought together Saint Louis University, members of the business community and Belizeans for a symposium.

START AT THE BEGINNING: PROJECT HEAL

To improve the lives of Belizeans for generations to come, Belize 2020 began by focusing on the city’s youngest residents.

Tina Cuellar-Augustus (A&S ’03), a Belizean native who finished her degree at SLU after attending St. John’s Jesuit Junior College in Belize City, witnessed firsthand the toll that gang violence, domestic abuse and poverty took on her students at St. Martin de Porres. The only counselor for a grade school of more than 700 students, Cuellar-Augustus knew these children needed help — but she also knew she couldn’t put a plan in motion without a full understanding of the situation.

Cuellar-Augustus met Beth Embry (Doisy ’09, Grad Cook ’13), a former public health administrator and researcher at SLU, through Belize 2020. Embry and her team provided nutritional and trauma assessments on nearly half of the grade school’s students.

Out of the symposium came Belize 2020: An Ignatian Partnership, aimed at improving the lives of Belizean children and families by the year 2020. Together, the partners focus on health, continuing education and development in Belize.

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Embry, now pursuing her doctorate at the University of Colorado Boulder, considered herself a background worker of Belize 2020’s trauma initiative; she worked
behind the scenes to equip Cuellar-Augustus with the best tools to help her students, their parents and teachers. Embry provided quantitative, research-based data and resources to back up what Cuellar-Augustus sees behind the problem," Kavanaugh said. "I realized that. This research really painted the picture of the person behind the problem," Kavanaugh said. "I realized that it wasn’t one faceless person — but very acute and individual needs."

Those needs were addressed through a series of intensive, child-focused programs, under the umbrella of Project HEAL. (Hope and Education Altering Lives). Spearheaded by Cuellar-Augustus, Project HEAL treats the "worst of the worst” cases of PTSD. Cuellar-Augustus and her team provide play-based cognitive behavioral therapy for students and teachers to help them cope and learn to process emotion. While in Belize, Embry trained teachers to implement a trauma-informed classroom, the first of its kind outside the United States; she gave them tools to de-escalate and identify trauma-influenced acting-out in children, rather than simply resorting to punishment.

Other aspects of Project HEAL include HEAL Academy, a program that allows for longer school days and extended school years, giving students who have experienced trauma the extra attention and nutrition they need to thrive. A literacy coach helps students gain confidence and knowledge in reading. And a school greenhouse provides nutritious food for school lunches.

While Project HEAL has existed for only a few years, the students have already shown major improvements. The work has been far from easy, and progress is slow at best, but Embry and Cuellar-Augustus are proud of the progress they have made. Embry recalled a group of teachers who attended trauma management training in the middle of a country-wide strike. Cuellar-Augustus took pride in a young boy who just a few years ago was in the principal’s office for acting out nearly every week, but who this year only visited the principal three times. The women have stayed in touch with their first cohort of students, who are now in high school and are succeeding academically.

Mary Michael, director of Belize 2020, said Project HEAL is changing lives. "A lot of these kids think they’ll be dead by the time they’re 20,” Michael said. "So a lot of our job is to give them hope — that your life has more meaning than you think it does right now.

A CYCLE OF GROWTH: EDUCATING THE EDUCATORS

Hope permeates everything Belize 2020 does — and it has inspired a trajectory of education that goes from St. Martin de Porres to St. John’s College to Saint Louis University.

Saint Louis University educators and researchers provide teaching resources, education and training for students at St. John’s College, Belize City’s Jesuit junior college. There, future teachers and social workers receive a trauma-informed education focused on the most up-to-date practices provided by Saint Louis University’s schools of education and social work.

After St. John’s College, some students head to Saint Louis University to finish bachelor’s degrees and even pursue graduate work. Belize 2020 provides scholarships for education and social work students to continue their studies. Since the early 2000s, SLU’s School of Social Work has offered scholarships to a handful of Belizean students each year.

According to Dr. Sue Tebb, professor and former dean of SLU’s School of Social Work, many of those students ended up returning to Belize to give back to the community. One such student was Cuellar-Augustus, whose degree in psychology from SLU came thanks to Belizean scholarship funding. When the Sisters of Mercy, who are heavily involved in Belize’s education system, approached Tebb about bringing SLU’s social work resources directly to Belize in 2006, she jumped at the opportunity. "I’ve found if you go outside our borders, you realize what we have to offer,” Tebb said. "But we also learn so much from other countries.”

In Belize, that meant creating practicum positions for SLU social work students, as well as providing training for all of Belize’s social workers — essential for a country whose social workers do not tend to hold bachelor’s degrees.

Belize 2020 also works to foster excellence in teaching by offering scholarships for graduate work. In exchange, the recipient promises to return to Belize and serve its children for at least five years. The hope is that these educational endeavors will instill an attitude of paying it forward, propelling real and lasting change for generations to come.

This year, the first two recipients of the Saint Louis University-Belize 2020 School of Education scholarships received their post-graduate degrees. After their programs, Melissa Mendez Valladares (Grad Ed ’17) and Rosita Rose Mes (Grad Ed ’17) returned to Belize to make a difference.

AN IGNATIAN PARTNERSHIP

At its roots, Belize 2020 is a “Jesuit enterprise,” Rubi said. The Jesuits stand as connectors and mission bearers in Belize and in St. Louis — and they are the reason St. Louisans find their way to Belize 2020.

That was the case for Nolan and his wife, Maureen, philanthropists who jumped in when approached by Collins. The couple became partners in Project HEAL and have dedicated themselves to the educational aspects of Belize 2020.

Mark LaBarge, an old friend of Rubi’s and the president of SFP Landscaping Inc., brought his entrepreneurial skills and network to the project because of the Jesuit connection.

"If the Jesuits are there, there’s a reason,” LaBarge said. "More importantly, you know there’s hope." For others, the process begins with prayer. Community members and SLU alumni embark each year on a retreat to Belize City, where they live and pray with the people of St. Martin de Porres for three to four days. They visit the school and parish, see SLU’s work in the community and pray together at the vibrant Sunday evening Mass.

LaBarge credits these retreats as the catalyst for donors to get involved and spread the word.

"The people who go on the retreat, they come back here and talk to their neighbors,” he said. "We have board meetings where people come up to us and say, ‘Let me know when the next retreat is, because I want to go down there.’ And we reply, ‘Yes, you do want to go down there.’ Because it is life-changing.”

Collins sees the role of alumni and donors as providing support and capacity for Belize so it can begin to flourish — from continental education to on-the-ground infrastructural projects. Recently, St. Louis-based board members have focused on a capital campaign to build Swift Hall, a multipurpose recreational center for parish and community members. Named after Karl Swift, S.J., a Belizean brother who spent more than 15 years at St. Martin de Porres, the space was christened this September in celebration of St. Martin’s 51st anniversary.

While specific campaigns will develop and change as the needs of Belize change, the mission of Belize 2020 will remain the same: Everything that the partnership does filters through its Ignatian roots.

Rubi credits the 1973 speech by Jesuit Superior General Pedro Arrupe, S.J. — in which he called on Jesuit alumni to be men and women for others — for inspiring Belize 2020’s volunteers and a full generation of people to enter into a life of service, bringing hope and joy to others.

That hope and joy, at the end of the day, is what the Jesuits are trying to spread in Belize — and it’s how Rubi measures success. He says that the smiles of the young children in Belize are what he cares most about.

"After a while, those smiles start to fade, and reality hits them hard,” he said. "Every time I see those kids smiling and enjoying the campus, that’s a victory. Our job is to keep those smiles on their faces."
When Abby Unverferth (A&S ’12) enrolled at SLU in 2008, she was assigned to live on the freshman floor of Marguerite Hall, though she hardly was a first-year student. The then-18-year-old from Red Bud, Illinois, had 31 college credits under her belt, vaulting her to sophomore status.

By taking several core and general education courses at Gibault Catholic High School through SLU’s 1818 Advanced College Credit Program, Unverferth had a leg up on her peers.

“Because I’d done so much of the basic coursework ahead of time, I had the luxury of taking things a little slower than other students,” said Unverferth, who entered SLU as a still-deciding/undeclared student. “Even though I didn’t know anything about the subject, I took a course in art history my freshman year. It turned out I loved it and chose it as one of my majors.”

Bretton DeLaria (Ed ’12) is director of the 1818 Advanced College Credit Program.

“Having dual credit opens pathways for students,” he said. “Many students today are taking up to five years to earn bachelor’s degrees because they don’t have the room to discover who they are. Students with dual credit typically graduate in four years because they have that room.”

DeLaria enrolled at SLU with dual credits, and even though he changed his major three times, he still managed to graduate in four years. During her four years at SLU, Unverferth triple-majored — art history, history and French — spent a semester in France and earned two bachelor’s degrees. She is now a French teacher and a teaching assistant at St. Margaret of Scotland School in St. Louis.
MAKING THE GRADE

Established in 1959, SLU’s 1818 Advanced College Credit Program is one of the oldest dual college credit programs in the country. It was the first west of the Mississippi. The program allows high school students to get both high school and college credit by taking college-level courses taught by specially qualified high school teachers. The tuition rate for dual college credits is significantly reduced — $65 a credit hour for high school students versus $1,100 for SLU students.

SLU started the 1818 program by partnering with two local Catholic high schools — St. Louis University High School and the now-closed Xavier High School — to promote academic excellence, improve college access and encourage students to matriculate at SLU. The program grew in the 1970s to include other metro-area high schools, both public and private.

“We saw the program as an opportunity not only to connect with Catholic high schools but to help change the culture of education in St. Louis by creating access,” DeLaria said.

In the 1980s, SLU became one of the first universities in the country and the only Jesuit university at the time to offer dual credit courses in high schools nationwide. The 1818 program now has partnerships with more than 100 schools in six states (Missouri, Kansas, Ohio, Illinois, Iowa and Hawaii). A majority of SLU’s 1818 partners remain Catholic high schools.

SLU’s dual college course selections have quadrupled in the last decade. SLU offers nearly 70 different dual credit courses in 35 disciplines including history, science, math, foreign languages, women’s studies and political science. High school juniors and seniors can take up to 18 dual credit hours per semester. Dual credit students are invited to luncheons with department deans, have access to SLU’s network of libraries, are eligible for 1818 scholarships and get preferential enrollment status over other incoming freshmen. As part of a pilot program, dual credit high school students have been invited to campus for a foreign language immersion day.

“We do everything we can to make 1818 students feel connected to SLU,” DeLaria said. “Even if they don’t choose to attend SLU, I tell students they’ll always be Billikens.”

Of the more than 6,000 high school students who participate in the 1818 program each year, approximately 550 enroll at SLU.

PREP SCHOOL

DeLaria said dual credit not only helps students get a head start in college and save money, it exposes them to the rigors of college learning.

“There are no makeup exams, no credit for late assignments,” he said. “If it doesn’t happen in a college course, it doesn’t happen in our dual credit course. Students learn to do research using the University’s database and submit papers that are college-level work. We’ve created a culture around excellence and are indoctrinating students with the SLU approach to learning.”

More than 100 colleges and universities in 50 states accept 1818 dual college credits.

“The number of colleges and universities that accept 1818 credits speaks to how widely respected SLU is as an academic institution,” DeLaria said. “Educators recognize we’re offering students an authentic and legitimate college education.”

DeLaria said professors at colleges and universities report that 1818 students are their top performers, with GPAs of 3.5 or higher. 1818 students also tend to be more involved in campus activities, including student government and service work.

In addition, a growing number of studies show that dual credit students are more likely to enroll in four-year colleges, earn higher grades than peers who haven’t taken dual credit classes and are more likely to earn a degree.

Mario Patiño, a high school biology teacher at a private school in Hawaii to participate in the dialogue online.

HIGH STANDARDS

Patiño and other 1818 adjunct instructors are required to meet the same criteria SLU uses to hire the University’s on-campus adjunct instructors.

1818 instructors participate in SLU workshops and professional development courses to maintain their credentials, and they are offered stipends to pursue advanced degrees at SLU. High schools are awarded grants to encourage their teachers to train as 1818 instructors.

Every summer, SLU hosts a symposium for its more than 500 adjunct instructors to discuss academic trends and program protocols. Patiño wakes at 4 a.m. in Hawaii to participate in the dialogue online.

Each high school instructor has access to an appointed SLU faculty member as a resource. These liaisons offer guidance, answer questions and give feedback for teaching SLU courses. Liaisons also make annual visits to the high school classrooms and share their observations with the adjunct instructors.

Patiño said what he has learned from SLU professors and his colleagues has given him the confidence to teach community college courses.

“What we’re doing for high school students and their teachers is phenomenal,” DeLaria said. “If you’re looking for an example of how SLU is living its mission and being a part of the community, the 1818 program is it.”

The community went global this fall. The 1818 Advanced College Credit Program has established its first international partnership with a high school in China. UTAS
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN  
Developed by the SLU community and approved by the board of trustees in September 2015 — sets the University's course for the future, answering the question: “What must we become?”

The answer: A world-class research university.

To get there, the University must navigate current challenges that include rising costs and declining revenues, student debt and greater competition for the best students. These and other factors, institutions all across the country are being challenged to change like never before.

SLU is not immune to these pressures.

To realize change, to become the institution boldly envisioned in the University’s strategic plan, there are five key initiatives underway that comprise an effort known as Transforming SLU. These initiatives are charting the course for everything from a new renovated campus to future building needs.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The most established of the Transforming SLU initiatives is the Operational Excellence Program. Launched in February 2016, the program seeks to foster an institutional-wide culture of excellence, effectiveness and efficiency that is deeply rooted in the University’s institutional mission and Catholic, Jesuit values — a goal directly described in the strategic plan.

Self-study committees program began with a comprehensive review of SLU’s operations and extensive stakeholder engagement. The result was a diagnostic report that detailed opportunities for cost savings, revenue growth and other improvements.

After reducing expenses and flattening organizational layers last spring, attention has turned to growth and process improvements with a focus on enrollment, housing occupancy, student advising, faculty research and corporate partnerships, among other priorities. For all initiatives, the University is using a team-based approach to help cultivate leadership, enhance cross-training and reduce bureaucracy.

“At its core, Operational Excellence is about supporting a shift in our culture and changing the way — and speed — we develop and implement solutions,” said Dr. Eric S. Armbrecht, Grad PH ’77, associate professor in the Center for Health Outcomes Research and School of Medicine and co-leader of the Operational Excellence Program Coordination Team.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

As University operations become more effective and SLU positions itself for the future, it’s important that its buildings and physical plant are ready for the future, too.

With this in mind, the University has developed its first campus master plan since 1989 — looking at where SLU is today and how its strategic priorities will impact facilities during the next 10 to 20 years.

The plan identifies a number of needs. Among them are new academic buildings, including a new interdisciplinary facility for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs; renovation of Macelwane Hall, which was damaged in a fire last May; street enhancements on Grand Boulevard to address pedestrian safety; and investment in the University’s utility infrastructure.

SLU also plans to partner with Great Rivers Greenway on a trail project to connect Forest Park to the St. Louis Gateway Arch. The project also will connect the University’s north and south campuses.

While the master plan doesn’t call for anything specific on the site of the former Pevy Dairy at Grand and Chouteau Avenues, it does note that the prominent corner should be home to a significant structure one day.

“In the process of building the master plan, we engaged many different stakeholders and identified a number of desires within our campus community,” said Michael Lucido (A&S ’98), vice president for facilities. “This plan gives us direction and will help us prioritize the strategic use of our capital dollars in the most meaningful way.

With the campus master plan now completed, feasibility work for identified needs has begun.

CORE CURRICULUM

For educational institutions, curriculum is the backbone of teaching and learning.

While academic units at Saint Louis University have had their own core curricula for varying years, there isn’t a university-wide core curriculum for every student pursuing a baccalaureate degree at SLU.

To direct the development of a University Core Curriculum, the Office of the Provost, with the input of deans and faculty, will develop a new core of learning outcomes for all undergraduate students, regardless of major or degree. In essence, these outcomes are what all SLU students are expected to know or be able to do by the time they graduate.

“The new outcomes demonstrate SLU’s expectation that our graduates will significantly advance their understanding of themselves, others and the world we share,” said University Provost Dr. Nancy Brinkhouse.

The core learning outcomes are expected to be finalized by the end of the calendar year. Upon their adoption, a faculty-led committee will use them to design a new, University-wide core curriculum, starting with a general framework expected to be completed by fall 2018.

When the skies clear, colleges and universities that were able to adapt and innovate will emerge ready to grow and thrive in the years ahead.

The Growth Initiatives Committee has analyzed more than 400 ideas generated by faculty, staff and students — categorizing areas with the greatest potential for growth. To refine the list further, there will be conversations with deans, faculty, staff, students, clinicians, industry partners and trustees. Ultimately, the committee will put forward three to five initiatives that will help SLU grow and give the University the resources it needs to pursue a path to even greater excellence.

GROWTH

Some industry experts have called the current state of educational institutions a “perfect storm.” When the skies clear, colleges and universities that were able to adapt and innovate will emerge ready to grow and thrive in the years ahead.

To help Saint Louis University grow, SLU appointed Juan Daffron, S.J. (Grad Ed ’00) special assistant to the president for growth in February 2017. In this newly created role, Daffron is leading a group of deans and vice presidents charged with developing recommendations for programs and opportunities that have the potential to generate new net revenue, raise SLU’s national prominence and extend the University’s educational mission to new markets.

“The strong commitment of our faculty and administration to innovate, coupled with a diverse array of strong academic programs, positions SLU well to advance within the competitive landscape of higher education,” Daffron said.

The Growth Initiatives Committee has analyzed more than 400 ideas generated by faculty, staff and students — categorizing areas with the greatest potential for growth. To refine the list further, there will be conversations with deans, faculty, staff, students, clinicians, industry partners and trustees. Ultimately, the committee will put forward three to five initiatives that will help SLU grow and give the University the resources it needs to pursue a path to even greater excellence.

CONVERSATIONS FOR THE DECADE AHEAD

No discussion about SLU’s tomorrow can begin without a clear understanding of what’s happening in higher education today. Through a new speaker series, “Conversations for the Decade Ahead,” the University is bringing national experts to campus for presentations open to the entire SLU community. Some speakers also are participating in small-group workshops with faculty, staff and administrators.

During this academic year, thought leaders and best-selling authors will explore a number of critical issues, including trends currently impacting higher education and the challenges that colleges and universities can expect to face in the near term.

Participants will also learn about innovations taking place in the industry and the steps SLU may take to become the leading innovator among Catholic universities.

“Successful transformation of an institution as complex as SLU can only come through an engaged and informed conversation across our community,” said Doug Williams, professor, co-leader of Operational Excellence and organizer of the speakers series. “Our speakers and workshop series will kick-start that process.”

WWW.SLU.EDU
Dr. Frances Pestello finds her way as Saint Louis University's first first lady.

— By Amy Garland

Dr. Frances Pestello describes herself as “a sociologist of law and deviance,” and she has the curriculum vitae to prove it. Her research has examined the effect of punishment on behavior, the impact of psychiatric medications on the sense of self, and the relationship between attitudes and behavior with her spouse, Fred. She’s taught abroad in Italy and England. She’s been a professor for more than three decades. Her husband, University President Dr. Fred P. Pestello, has referred to her as “the original Dr. Pestello,” hinting affectionately at the fact that she earned an advanced degree before he did. He might also call her original for another reason, though: Fran is the very first first lady of Saint Louis University.

The Origins of a Life in Higher Ed

Fran grew up in suburban Philadelphia, in a town called Berwyn, “the next stop over from the very last stop on the Main Line,” she said.

One of six children in the Geyer family and the oldest daughter, Fran took care of her siblings. And although she always knew she wanted to be a mother, she also knew she was destined to get a degree.

“My father had a Ph.D. in chemistry, and my mother entered Vassar College at 16 and got a bachelor’s degree in chemistry. They were huge advocates of education, particularly at small, liberal arts colleges,” she said. “All of my siblings ended up at similar kinds of schools, and all went on to get professional or advanced degrees.”

Fran chose the College of Wooster in Ohio and fell in love with higher learning. “I hadn’t been a great high school student, in part due to a spinal fusion for scoliosis at 16, which took me out of most of my junior year,” she said. “I got to college and thought, if this is what education can be, I love it. Everything I took my first year, I thought, I could major in this.”

She graduated in 1973 with a degree in sociology. But instead of continuing to graduate studies, she got a job in Kent, Ohio, with two college friends and spent a year working full time at a fast-food restaurant while figuring out her next step.

“It was a great sociological experiment,” she joked. “I quickly decided: This is not what I want to do with the rest of my life.”
Leap of Faith

A year after, while taking a graduate course about social stratification at the University of Akron, she met Fred Pestello, who was just beginning graduate school. “He remembered being in the class together, but I don’t remember that detail,” she said. “I do remember being in the same graduate student cohort, and after a few years as friends we began dating.” They married in 1981. “Fred thought it wasn’t a good idea at the time because neither of us had a job, but we took a leap of faith,” she said. “Marriage is always a leap of faith, right? And you know what? It all worked out.”

It all worked out. If Fran Pestello has a mantra, that might be it.

East Coast Girl, Cleveland Boy

The couple was about to embark on a series of leaps of faith, as they hopped-scotched around for academic positions.

In 1983, both Pestellos entered the job market. While he finished his graduate work, she interviewed at Central College in Pella, Iowa. “I came back and said to him, ‘I think they liked me. I think they’re going to make me an offer. And I don’t know what I am going to do.’”

Eventually, Fred left Dayton to become president of Le Moyne College, a Jesuit institution in Syracuse, New York. This time, they stayed relatively close for two years while he settled into his new position and she finished up her term as department chair. She arrived at Le Moyne as a full-time, tenured faculty member, but a third of her time was dedicated to the president’s office.

“I think they’re going to make me an offer. And I don’t know what I am going to do,” she said. “It all worked out. If Fran Pestello has a mantra, that might be it.”

First Lady Firsts

First Name: Harriet. Fran is her middle name.

First Course Taught at SLU: Intro to Sociology.

She also teaches “Dietary Behavior.”

First Trip as SLU’s First Lady: Madrid, Spain. She recently visited again to celebrate the 50th anniversary of SLU’s first trip to Spain.

First Date with the President: “Our first official date was an evening walk in one of the parks in Akron. He arrived at my door with a bouquet of pink carnation roses. To this day, he surprises me with fresh flowers.”

First Child: Vitina. She also has a son, Freddie.

First Place to Look for Her at SLU: Samuels Cupple House, her favorite campus building.

She also loves Chiatté Anna during men’s and women’s basketball games.

First Time She Felt Like a St. Louisian: When she used the landmark Arch sign on Highway 40 and St. Charles Boulevard to navigate.

1950

Richard Ampleman (A&S ‘50, GRAD COOK ’58) is professor of English at the University of Mississippi in Oxford.

2014

John R. “Bob” Long Jr. (A&S ’61, GRAD SW ’69). He owns a consulting firm in Cape Coral, Florida. He and his wife, Karen, have two children and three grandchildren.

1962

John N. “Bob” Long Jr. (A&S ’61, GRAD SW ’69)

While he finished his graduate work, she interviewed at Central College in Pella, Iowa. “I came back and said to him, ‘I think they liked me. I think they’re going to make me an offer. And I don’t know what I am going to do.’”

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It all worked out. If Fran Pestello has a mantra, that might be it.
G. J. Meyer, A&S ’62
BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, JOURNALIST
By Marie Dilg

1971
He spends a year at Harvard on a Nieman Fellowship. He returns to St. Louis and joins Fleishman-Hillard, a public relations firm. His biggest client is McConnell-Douglas, where he later becomes vice president of communications.

1978
His second book, Evocative Blues: Down and Out in Corporate America, receives critical praise.

“I do a lot of my writing in longhand and am a compulsive rewriter. I set first drafts aside to cool; until I can look at them objectively. Doing a second draft, I often change almost every line. Writing is a hard, hard process for me.”

1996
He moves to Manhattan to join an investor relations agency. He eventually gets a publisher’s contract to complete A History of the World. The Story of the Great War, 1914-1918.

“Travel in Europe made me aware that Americans have little sense of how terrible a tragedy WWI was because it was a relatively easy war for us. It was the beginning of a generation, a world-changing horror.”

2005
He writes full time, teaches at colleges part time. He moves to Hawaii. He goes on to write:

The Tudors: The Complete Story of England’s Most Notorious Queen
The Borgias: The Hidden History
The World Remade: America in World War 2 (2017)

2017
He collaborates on a documentary about the papacy while beginning work on a first novel.

“My established myself as a nonfiction, Fiction, I think, is a new, possibly harder challenge for me. It’s my Mount Everest.”

1984
Hes lives less about his age to work as a soda jerk.

1958
He receives a National Merit Scholarship and goes to SLU.

“I joined The University News, where I found fun, bright, intellectually lively people. That transformed college for me.”

1962
He is “sazed from law school” by a Woodruff-Willey fellowship for graduate work at the University of Minnesota. He completes a master’s degree, the Navy and serves as a lieutenant aboard a destroyer in the South China Sea during the Vietnam War.

1988
Wendy Wiedeman Hudson Linn is chief counsel-counsel for the U.S. Postal Service Federal Labor Relations Service and works in private practice for 25 years before joining the U.S. Postal Service law department. She lives in Los Angeles.

Dave Laderbrack (GRAD ’79, DOISY) and his wife, Gloria, Eleanore, are retired and reside in St. Charles and Alexander, in November 2018. They live in Long Beach, California.

Dr. Sharon Paulin (GRAD ’79) practices family medicine in rural Northern Mississippi County, California.

1989
Margaret Fauvel-Brown (A&S ’89, ED ’93) is the organizational leader of the American Cancer Society.

1940
Meyer is born in north St. Louis to a postal worker father and a homemaker mother.

“My parents assumed that any degree was a ticket to the middle class, so they didn’t think twice when I majored in English rather than something ‘practical. ’I was free to go my own way.”

1954
He becomes a copy boy at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and then a reporter for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. He forever leaves Alaska--bleedling blue skies.
3. J. Breecie Rickele

Rickele’s drive to help others led her from Chicago to Cabulka, India, where she worked with Hiroshi.Teresa. She has dealt with isolated populations: children with HIV/AIDS, women struggling with both physical and mental illness, and neighborhoods overrun by gang violence. She has been a dean of student affairs in China and a faculty member at Loyola University-Chicago.


Riley’s engineering skills enabled him to create his own company, Endible Inc., a manufacturer of shock-absorbent vibration-isolation products. A holding company, International Motion Control, formed in 1996, grew into a worldwide conglomerate. After its sale, he established the Patrick P. Lee Foundation, which supports scholarships at Park College, among other endeavors.

5. Patrick Lee

Patrick P. Lee (BUS) ’82, 1989. Lee’s engineering skills enabled him to create his own company, Endible Inc., a manufacturer of shock-absorbent vibration-isolation products. A holding company, International Motion Control, formed in 1996, grew into a worldwide conglomerate. After its sale, he established the Patrick P. Lee Foundation, which supports scholarships at Park College, among other endeavors.

6. Dr. William Sty

An internationally known physician and surgeon was the inaugural speaker at SLU’s breakfast. David is currently a resident in the Surgical Oncology program at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

7. J. Barry McCormick

McCormick joined the McDonnell Douglas Corporation as an instrumental designer in the Cruise Control and Electronic Engine Control Systems group at Edwards Air Force Base in California, where he oversaw the test firing for the F-15 fighter jet. By the 1990s, he was manager of advanced planning at the National Aeronautic Plane Program. He has been a professor at Fontbonne University and an active volunteer.

8. Dr. Margaret Vanden
c

Vanden, most recently was Misson’s commissioner of education. She began her education career as a teacher in the classroom. She taught English and was a school administrator. In Missouri and Maryland, and later earned her doctorate at Virginia State University. She is a founding Board member of the Boeing Employees Community Foundation. She lives in Littleton, Colorado.


Friedlein, chief financial officer and treasurer of billig Oil, Plumbing Co., has been in senior financial management for nearly half a century. While at SLU, he was vice president and controller at Brooks Eireton and Construction Co. Friedlein later formed Construction Accounting Services. He is a founding member of the nonprofit Friends of the Springfield Sisters-St. Stanislaus.

Dr. Lisa Heitman

Heitman’s experience as a clinical nurse specialist and coordinator at Southeast Missouri Hospital, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, led to a faculty position in the Department of Nursing at Southeast Missouri State University. She specializes in cardiovascular nursing and has presented nationally and internationally on clinical nursing topics.

Do you want to recognize a fellow Saint Louis University alumna or alumna whom you would like to nominate for the 2018 Alumni Merit Award? Visit alumni.slu.edu/nominationform for more information.

Pioneer Award

This year, SLU’s Office of Alumni Engagement introduced the Pioneer Award as a recognition award of an alumna or alumnus who is committed to Jesuit ideals, is a trailblazer in her or his field and whose actions have helped pave the way for others. Any living or deceased alumna is eligible. The first Pioneer Award was presented to Dr. Tracey Clark.

Dr. Tracey L. Clark

Dr. Clark is a Board-Certified OB-GYN physician, Anderson was one of his area’s first OB-GYN physicians. He lives in Atascadero in San Luis Obispo County.

Dr. William Sty

Early in his career, Dr. Sty presented nationally and internationally on clinical nursing topics. Later, he began presenting on topics concerning the body, mind, and spirit connection. He lives in his birthplace, Goshen, Connecticut.

Dr. Margaret Vanden
c

Vanden, most recently was Misson’s commissioner of education. She began her education career as a teacher in the classroom. She taught English and was a school administrator. In Missouri and Maryland, and later earned her doctorate at Virginia State University. She is a founding Board member of the Boeing Employees Community Foundation. She lives in Littleton, Colorado.
2000
Marlene Hammersman (COOK) was honored in 2017 with the Women of Achievement Award for her community service and social justice efforts.

2001
years, she has been a social justice and women’s rights activist as a volunteer for Conedera’s training has taken him to for Sept. 28-30, and join your of Medicine dean and visit to reconnect, meet the School for nearly four years. Beggs started her career in Hagerstown, Maryland, as the chief meteorologist, during her time there, she covered Superstorm Sandy on the Mississippi River. In 2013 she also published in Policy and Practice in Palliative Care.

2005
Sawyer (A&S) is a member of the St. Louis office of Lewis.

2007
Kevin Arons (A&S) is a senior vice president of mergers and acquisitions of Enterprise Bank and Trust. He and his wife, Christine (Provat) Arons ’01, and daughters live in Orland Park, Kansas.

2008
Carly (Camerl) Barner (GRAD COOK ’07) married David Barner in August. She bought a house in a small town at the edge of the city. She practices emergency medicine at the VA.

2010
Jessica Bower (A&S) is president of Amacon Medical Center and St. Luke’s South Shore in Milwaukee. She started law school in 2017.

2011
Brittany Beggs (A&S) served in the Peace Corps in Mongolia for a year and a half. She then returned to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to pursue her master’s degree in health administration.

2012
Melinda (Krum) Harland was one of the “Five Brothers” on the track team at SLU. She now works in internal communications and is finishing a Master of Nursing degree at Aurora University.

2013
Sarah (Welsh) Gordon (PARKS) is a project manager at Medtronic as a surgical site monitor. She works in the area of spinal surgery and has worked as a project manager in medical ethics, humanities and law at Brown University. She recently completed a Master of Public Health degree at the Harvard School of Public Health.

2014
Laura (Sewdial) Schenck (GRAD ED) is the supervising paraprofessional for the Special School District of St. Louis. She also is a Project Director at the St. Louis Pre-K Partnership. She lives in the St. Louis area.

2015
Katie Castro (GRAD ED) is an occupational therapy manager for Accumen. She works in the area of spinal surgery.

2016
Kathleen (Rehfeld) Smith (COOK) is the state director of the St. Louis Metropolitan Association of School Boards. They live in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2001
James “J.R.” England (LAW), Troy Walton (GRAD ED), and Jared Walsh (GRAD ED) have been awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of philosophy at Ellise College in Columbia, Missouri. They live in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2003

2004
Lolan Henderson (A&S) is a senior vice president of Stifel Financial. He and his wife recently built their dream home in an upscale neighborhood in Atlanta. Kelli and Sam Loven (NURS) live in the area.

2005
Kristene (Stadler) Reffett (A&S) and her husband, Jason, welcomed their first child, Raymond James, in June. They live in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2006
Matthew Morrissey (GRAD ED) is vice president of strategic development at Howard University School of Education.

2007
Thomas Greene (A&S) was named Defender of Distinction by the Missouri State Public Defender System. He also received a doctorate from the University of Missouri.

2008
Diana (DeLassus) Nicolosi (GRAD A&S ’06, ’09) is a corporate communications and the corporate persona. She has a third book slated for release that focuses on communication and the use of social media. She also works as a social media and career relief volunteer.

2009
Emily Farina (LAW) is a corporate communications and the corporate persona. She has a third book slated for release that focuses on communication and the use of social media. She also works as a social media and career relief volunteer.

2010
David Barner in August. The couple lives in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

2011
Dylan and Emily. Hodge has been a member of the American Social Science Association and the American Historical Association.

2012
Sarah Wilde-Jockel (LAW) is a partner at Hunton and Williams. He lives in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2013
Dr. Andrea Lynch (PARKS) is a project manager at St. Louis University. She lives in Clayton, Missouri.

2014
Carly (Caminiti) Barner (A&S) married David Barner in August. She bought a house in a small town at the edge of the city. She practices emergency medicine at the VA.

2015
Emily Farina (LAW) is a corporate communications and the corporate persona. She has a third book slated for release that focuses on communication and the use of social media. She also works as a social media and career relief volunteer.

2016
Sarah Wilde-Jockel (GRAD COOK ’06) is a partner at Hunton and Williams. He lives in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2005
Dr. Thomas Greene (A&S) was named Defender of Distinction by the Missouri State Public Defender System. He also received a doctorate from the University of Missouri.

2006
Kevin Arons (A&S) is a senior vice president of mergers and acquisitions of Enterprise Bank and Trust. He and his wife, Christine (Provat) Arons ’01, and daughters live in Orland Park, Kansas.

2007
Dr. Tommy Smith (PHIL) was one of the “Five Brothers” on the track team at SLU. He now works in internal communications and is finishing a Master of Public Health degree at the Harvard School of Public Health.

2008
Lauren (Labovisky) Sullivan (GRAD ED) is the associate dean for student affairs at Western Illinois University. They live in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2009
Dr. David Barner (GRAD COOK ’08) married Caley M. Creech (NURS) in May. The couple lives in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2010
Briana Wright (A&S) is a line cook at thegleaning table in Chicago.

2011
Dr. Brien Ashdown (GRAD ED) was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of philosophy at Elms College in Springfield, Massachusetts. They live in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.

2012
Dr. Jason Burke Murphy (GRAD P&L) was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of philosophy at Elms College in Springfield, Massachusetts. They live in the Buckhead neighborhood and is excited to connect with Billiken in Georgia.
IN MEMORIAM

Father W. Charles Heiser, S.J. (1910-93) taught SLU's School of Social Work from 1951 to 1993. He was 96, a Jesuit for 77 years and a priest for 54 years. Father Heiser’s knowledge of languages helped him build a research-laboratory collection in French, German and Spanish, in addition to English-language texts. He retired in 2011.

Dr. Richard Miller 1931-2021

Dr. Richard Miller, 90, an aerospace consultant who graduated from the Air Force Institute of Technology, had been a member of the senior class in SLU’s master’s program for urban affairs, died May 26 at 91. Dr. Miller was a founder of Bunzl North America, the techniques developed in his lab contributed to the evolution of the field into an integral part of medical education.

Dr. Paul Lemmens, a member of SLU’s board of trustees since 1996, died Nov. 30 at 76. He was CEO and president of Bunzl, the fourth-largest supplier of procedural clothing to hospitals in the U.S. In 2003, at which time Bunzl honored his years of service by elevating Dr. Lemmens to senior vice president in the name of this dining club in Chaifetz Arena.

Mr. E. Allan Toney, retired chair of the U.S. Steel Corporation, died May 18 at 98. Mr. Toney was on the SLU faculty for more than four decades. He joined the faculty in 1965. He received a master’s degree program in urban affairs, died May 25 at 92. He was 91. Dr. Green was a professor and faculty for more than four decades. He joined the faculty in 1965. He received a master’s degree program in urban affairs, died May 25 at 92. He was 91. Dr. Green was a professor and instructor at the Center for Advanced Dental Education for more than 60 years, died July 7. He was 92. “Dr. Green” was one of the forefathers of SLU’s orthodontic program. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1955-65. He was also in private practice with his brother for 40 years.

Dr. Peter G. Sotiropoulos (DENT ’48, GRAD DENT ’50), a professor and instructor at the Center for Advanced Dental Education for more than 60 years, died July 7. He was 92. “Dr. Green” was one of the forefathers of SLU’s orthodontic program. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1955-65. He was also in private practice with his brother for 40 years.

Dr. Joseph Mardesich (MED ’55)

Father John Cuddigan, S.J. (A&S ’55)

Dr. William Atkinson Jr. (MED ’55)

Sr. Mary Meyer, F.S.M. (DOISY ’70)

Sr. Mary Eibner, F.S.M. (DOISY ’71)

Dr. Douglas Parashak (MED ’77)

Dr. Harold Matthews (ED ’77)

Mr. Ronald Briggs (ED ’12)

Mrs. Ilene Chambers-Fortner (DOISY ’10)

Dr. John Bexon 1942-2021

Dr. Rich Ricci 1939-2021

Dr. Martha Richardson 1941-2021

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Dr. Martha Richardson 1941-2021
Kirkwood, Missouri

Ballwin, Missouri

(A&S ’80)

Chang, Life on the Mississippi

Ruth Ann (Patty) Baldwin

Dr. Rachel McBride Lindsey’s “Arch City Religion”

happened to folks from that course. I still remember the tall grass prairies and pies from Golden City. I loved my combination biology and literature class. We traveled all over Missouri, sleeping in tents most nights and catching the animals we studied by day. Books and stories were geared to the locality (Pilgrim at Tender Creek, Life on the Mississippi), and we kept a notebook of plants and animals that we saw along the way. I learned to handle snakes without fear and, most of this course. I became a science teacher and recently completed my 33rd year. It would be great to see what happened to folks from that course. I still remember the tall grass prairies and pies from Golden City.

Julie (Lind) Northrip (A&S ’80)
Ballwin, Missouri

CHANGING THE SUBJECT

The “cool classes” featured in “Changing the Subject” (spring 2017) made me wish I were a SLU student again! I studied history and art history and was intrigued by the role religion played in both. Dr. Rachel McBride Lindsey’s “Arch City Religion” sounds like a fascinating approach to looking at religion through the culture, art and history of our city.

Dr. Terry L. Heysen (A&S ’82)
Sault Saint Marie, Michigan

RELIGIOUS WOMEN, ROLE MODELS

Thank you for the article about Mary Bruemmer (“Extraordinary Mary” spring 2016). It was so refreshing to read about someone with the dedication of Miss Bruemmer! Also, I enjoyed the article about the Jouts-in-training who study and serve on campus (“In Formation” spring 2016). Are there religious women on campus serving and studying? I still write to one of the religious women that taught in the School of Nursing that played a significant role in shaping the ethics and caring spirit at SLU. I was speaking to a former classmate and remarked about how the dedication of Miss Bruemmer!

Col. Joseph F. Teiber Jr. (A&S ’64)
Austin, Texas

GET THE PICTURE

I enjoyed seeing the photo of Usadomba’s with the note by D.J. Wenzel (“Feedback,” spring 2017). Indeed, one could get “sides” — the potato salad was especially good. For $1.75 to $2.50, one could purchase a veritable feast, which, if judiciously consumed and managed properly, would last through afternoon classes. The photos on the next pages (“The Last Look” spring 2017) also brought back memories. The Air Force ROTC cadet who appears in the photo of President Lyndon Johnson, I am sure is one of my friends, but unfortunately I am unable to recognize him. The Air Force ROTC detachment was “volunteered” to provide “security” for the LB’ visit. Of course, with the contemporary threat existing today, such an arrangement would never happen. How times have changed! Please continue the excellent work you and your staff accomplish with the editions of Universitas. Thank you for your time.

Dr. Terry L. Heysen (A&S ’82)
Sault Saint Marie, Michigan

CHANGING THE COURSE OF A LIFE

SLU changed my life because of one extraordinary course, “Ozarks: The Uncommon Classroom” (“Changing the Subject” spring 2017). Taught by two professors, the six-hour summer course was a combination biology and literature class. We traveled all over Missouri, sleeping in tents most nights and catching the animals we studied by day. Books and stories were geared to the locality (Pilgrim at Tender Creek, Life on the Mississippi), and we kept a notebook of plants and animals that we saw along the way. I learned to handle snakes without fear and, most importantly, decided my career after the completion of this course. I became a science teacher and recently completed my 33rd year. It would be great to see what happened to folks from that course. I still remember the tall grass prairies and pies from Golden City.

Ruth Ann (Patty) Baldwin (A&S ’80)
Kirkwood, Missouri

KEEP US UPDATED.

Send us your class notes, address changes and letters.
EMAIL: universitas@slu.edu
WEB: slu.edu/universitas
And follow SLU on social media:
facebook.com/billikensalumni
@SLU_Official
instagram.com/slu_official

There were religious women who were administrators of the hospital, such as head nurses and medical student volunteers involved in the Red Cross during a flood. The same article references two earlier medicine-related projects: a blood drive in 1929 and service during a flu outbreak in 1936.

The history of helping

According to University Archives, the first record of SLU students doing service is a short article in the May 23, 1917, student newspaper about medical students volunteering with the Red Cross during a flood. The same article references two earlier medicine-related projects: a blood drive in 1929 and service during a flu outbreak in 1936.

THE GRAND SWEEP

On Oct. 11, 1980, more than 500 SLU students joined representatives from the Scottish Rite Cathedral, Powell Symphony Hall and other local institutions to scour the needy streets and alleys north of campus. Volunteers collected more than 1,200 bags of trash during “The Grand Sweep,” an event in the autumn 1980 issue of Universitas (picture).
Saint Louis University is celebrating 200 years not just by looking back — but by giving back. SLU invites all alumni to join us as we work together to complete 200 years of service — that’s more than 1.75 million hours — all in one year.

HERE’S HOW YOU CAN JOIN THE 200-YEARS-IN-ONE CHALLENGE:

1. Download the app by visiting slu.edu/200years.
2. Throughout the coming year, use the app to track your volunteer hours.
3. Keep checking back to see how your hours help achieve our goal.

Once submitted, your volunteer hours will be added to the running total on a large illuminated clock at the southeast corner of Grand and Lindell boulevards.