That is certainly what our campus in Spain aims to achieve — and accomplishes with great success. From signage to statues, SLU-Madrid succeeds at carrying out our branding. But much more than that, it lives our mission. This campus shares our vision for building a better world with more Jesuit-educated graduates. To do so on the global stage is a testament to the power of a SLU education.

The stories I hear from our students, both when I visit SLU-Madrid and those who come back to St. Louis after spending time studying abroad, never cease to amaze me. Their stories and experiences remind me why I was called to higher education. As you will see in this issue, our students absorb culture through their time with our student leaders who are Jesuit educated. (Read more on page 16.) Learning together, or host families, who help broaden their perspective of Spanish culture. (Read more on page 16.) Learning together, or host families, who help broaden their perspective of Spanish culture. (Read more on page 16.)

The excitement we feel at SLU crosses international waters, and I’m thrilled this issue brings you a flavor of the pride we feel for our Madrid and St. Louis campuses. From regional development to record-breaking enrollment and fundraising, we certainly look forward to sharing our good news.

The start of our third century and SLU-Madrid’s 52nd year brought a record-setting year for us at Saint Louis University. Our online offerings in particular were strong, surpassing our previous largest class by 200 students. Turning to page 22 to learn more.) SLU-Madrid continues to draw hundreds of students from dozens of countries who learn and grow together.

As we look to our University’s future, we continue to focus on opportunities that will strengthen the University for generations to come. You will read more in this issue about a few examples of the burgeoning development in the Midtown St. Louis area. These include projects on and off campus. Momentum and excitement continue to build for our new Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building, and we are thrilled that progress continues on the new, $550 million MSSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital and Ambulatory Care Center. All will open this fall.

SLU is also proud to be involved in developments that lead the resurgence taking place in the city’s central core, such as the redevelopment of homes in the Gate District West neighborhood near the hospital, and the forthcoming City Foundry. (Read more on page 15.) As we share in the story about Gate District West, we are grateful to our St. Louis community neighbors for sharing our vision for and commitment to growing stronger together.

In closing, I ask that you remember how these stories and the many initiatives behind them help fulfill our noble mission. I also ask that you share our exciting news with those you know who are young — or young at heart — who are seeking higher education. Tell them about SLU and your experience. Our world always surprises you.

May God bless you and Saint Louis University.

Dr. Fred P. Pestello
President

I cannot tell you what it’s like to step off of a plane after an eight-hour flight to Europe, only to walk onto a campus that feels just like home. Or perhaps I don’t have to tell many of you — those of you who have studied at or visited SLU-Madrid, or our international students in St. Louis.

The many ways in which we meet those needs is broad. For example, regional development and the physical changes across campus.
Women’s Soccer Wins A-10 Again

The Billikens women’s soccer team defeated George Washington 3-1 in the Atlantic 10 Conference Championship title game in November, securing its second straight A-10 Championship crown.

Senior Courtney Reimer was named the most outstanding player of the championship. Senior Emma Farley, sophomore Hannah Friedrich, senior Alli Klug and graduate student Mary Niehaus joined her on the All-Championship team.

Over the season, SLU extended its school-record unbeaten streak to 16 games. Already the winningest class in SLU women’s soccer history, the Billiken seniors registered their 64th victory.

The team lost to Notre Dame in the first round of the NCAA Championship.
The University also started a formal review of its academic programs. In spring 2019, the provost established the Academic Portfolio Review Committee, tasked with analyzing and making recommendations to the provost about the size and academic scope of the University’s portfolio of offerings. This process will eventually become a regular assessment tool for all graduate and undergraduate programs.

Led by faculty, the committee has representatives from the student body and administration. Dr. Mark Kneuper, a professor in the School of Medicine, serves as the committee chair.

SLU Offers New Academic Programs, Begins Comprehensive Review Process

Saint Louis University began offering many new academic programs in the fall, with analyzing and making recommendations to the provost about the size and academic scope of the University’s portfolio of offerings. This process will eventually become a regular assessment tool for all graduate and undergraduate programs.

SLU Names Nursing School to Honor Trudy Busch Valentine

In August, Saint Louis University announced that University trustee Trudy Busch Valentine (VSN ’80) made a gift of $4 million in support of the School of Nursing and Accelerating Excellence: The Campaign for Saint Louis University.

In recognition of Valentine’s history of philanthropic support of SLU totaling nearly $8 million, the University renamed its nursing school the Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing and hosted a dedication during Homecoming and Family Weekend 2019.

Valentine’s gift was made in honor of former deans Dr. Teri Murray (VSN ’79, Grad VSN ’93, Grad Ed ’97) and the late Dr. Joan Hrubetz (VSN ’80, Grad Ed ’70, ’75) as well as her leadership in chairing the nursing school. The gift will support faculty development as well as continued academic excellence among the University’s faculty in teaching, research, scholarship and leadership.

Valentine has been a member of the Saint Louis University Women’s Council since 1995. She joined the School of Nursing Executive Advisory board in 2000, assuming the chairperson role from 2006 to 2015. She was elected to SLU’s board of trustees in 2017. Valentine and her family have been supporters of SLU’s nursing school for years. Her mother, Gertrude Behobler Busch, established an undergraduate scholarship and the Joan Hrubetz Endowed Chair. In 2012, Valentine and her daughter Christina Valentine Cammon (VSN ’12) established the Trudy and Christina Busch Valentine Endowed Lecture Series.

Nursing has made me respect people from all walks of life, and it has opened my heart, mind and life to the well-being of others,” Valentine said. “I’m so proud to be a part of a profession that cares so deeply about people and can make such a positive impact on the lives of others — a profession that lives SLU’s Jesuit mission to seek a higher purpose for the greater good. I am so grateful to the Saint Louis University School of Nursing and very happy to honor Dean Teri Murray, a dear friend and mentor, for her many years of service and magnificent leadership.”

An active conservationist and philanthropist, Valentine also has worked as a volunteer nurse at the Salvation Army Residence for Children, Mercy Hospital and the Visiting Nurse Association Hospice program.

SLU Startup Raises $30 Million in Bid to Better Manage Pain

In one of the biggest investments in research commercialization in Saint Louis University’s history, Biolenterpe, a biopharmaceutical company founded in 2014 by SLU pharmacologist Dr. Daniela Salvemini, has raised $30 million in series A funding from MPM Capital. The investment will propel Salvemini’s discoveries forward and set the stage to begin Phase I clinical trials for a new non-addictive painkiller later this year.

Salvemini, who is professor of pharmacology and physiology and director of the Henry and Amelia Nasrallah Center for Neuroscience at SLU, pioneered research on a treatment for neuropathic pain that could provide the first alternative to ineffective steroids and addictive opioids, a market projected to reach $8.3 billion by 2024.

Neuropathic pain affects between 15 and 20 million people in the United States. Exceedingly difficult to treat, this type of pain can occur after injuries to the nervous system due to trauma, disease or exposure to neurotoxins, including after chemotherapy. There is a need for new medications that do not cause side effects and addiction, the way narcotic pain killers do.

“Having the opportunity to translate one’s discoveries from the bench to the bedside is a dream come true,” Salvemini said. “I am hopeful that our efforts will lead to the alleviation of suffering while helping end the opioid crisis.”

Supported by a five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Dr. John Morley, professor of internal medicine, and Dr. Maria Berg-Weger, executive director of SLU’s Geriatric Education Center and professor of social work, will partner with multiple educational, patient care and service organizations in educating, studying and caring for older adults.

Dr. Verna Hendricks Ferguon, the Irene Riddle Endowed Professor of Nursing at SLU, is a principal investigator for this first-of-its-kind study. The goal of the five-year study is to see if early palliative and end-of-life care discussions at the time of a child’s cancer diagnosis will improve the quality of life for parents and their children.

Chemistry professor Dr. Jim Edwards (A&S ’99, Grad A&S ’01) received this National Institutes of Health grant to understand cellular changes that could lead to better therapies for diabetes and heart disease. Dr. Chris Arnott, assistant professor of chemistry at SLU, is also a principal investigator.

Dr. Ryan Teague, associate professor of molecular microbiology and immunology, will study how obesity influences outcomes for cancer patients being treated with immunotherapy.

An active conservationist and philanthropist, Salvemini discovered that alterations in signaling within the body contribute to the development of chronic pain states and that compounds that target a key receptor can “turn off” pain signals, providing relief from chronic pain of various types.

This discovery, she noted, provided the starting point of her collaboration with Dr. Kenneth Jacobson, chief of the molecular recognition section, in the laboratory of biorganic chemistry at the National Institutes of Health.
SLU Launches Geospatial Institute

A new Geospatial Institute at Saint Louis University will support research, training and innovation in the rapidly growing fields of geospatial science and technology. Also known as GeoSLU, the institute brings together faculty and students from various disciplines to use geospatial research tools to solve challenges and to enhance graduate and undergraduate education.

The institute’s primary areas of research will include artificial intelligence, machine learning and informatics. In launching the Geospatial Institute, SLU seeks to strengthen collaborations with other universities, including the University of Missouri System schools, Washington University in St. Louis and Harris-Stowe State University, as well as innovation partners in the region, including Cortex and T-REX.

GeoSLU also builds upon SLU’s existing relationship with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA). In January 2019, the University signed a partnership agreement with the NGA, and the organizations partnered on the GeoResolution conference last April. Dr. Vasit Sagan, associate professor of earth and atmospheric sciences, is the institute’s faculty director. Robert Cardillo, former director of the NGA, advises the institute as part of his work as a distinguished geospatial fellow at SLU.

For more information, visit slu.edu/geoSLU.

SLU Urban League Honor MLK’s Legacy

At their annual memorial tribute honoring civil rights leader the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 16, Saint Louis University and the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis honored those carrying forward King’s legacy of activism and advocacy for racial equity and justice across the St. Louis region.

The keynote speaker, noted journalist and author Roland Martin, told the crowd in SLU’s Busch Student Center that “leaders step up when it’s time to lead.” He challenged those attending the tribute to recall King not as a mascot, but for his radical commitment to social justice and advocacy on behalf of the economically, racially and socially marginalized.

“He was a man of more than giving speeches,” Martin said. “Don’t you dare quote Dr. King unless you are willing to live like Dr. King.”

SLU Research Institute Grants Second Round of Funding

The Saint Louis University Research Institute awarded its second round of funding last summer: More than $740,000 was given to 13 faculty members through the Research Growth Fund. More than 70 proposals had been submitted. Launched in September 2018 through a gift from Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield (CSB ‘67) — the largest gift in University history — the SLU Research Institute has furthered SLU’s goal of becoming the world’s leading Jesuit research university.

The first round of grants was announced in January 2019, with a total of $1.8 million going to 13 faculty members. Among the 13 faculty who received grants in this second round are:

- Miriam Cherry, professor and co-director of the C. Wefel Center for Employment Law, who will study methods of online justice such as online dispute resolution and online about abusive labor practices and people using the Internet to mount harassment campaigns.

- Dr. Terra Edwards, assistant professor of anthropology, who will finish a book manuscript, Going Tactile: Life at the Limits of Language. Her research focuses on the protactile movement, which advances the claim that hearing and vision are not necessary for things like greeting people or joining or leaving a conversation.

- Dr. David Ford (IASS ’80), professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and director of the Center for Cardiovascular Research, who will use new technology to investigate endothelial and epithelial barrier dysfunction. This technology will be used in the planning for a SLU Sepiak Center and the SLU Institute for Drug and Bioresearch Innovation.

- Nancy McNeir Ring Award Presented for Excellence in Teaching

Dr. Katie Kelting, assistant professor of marketing in the Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business, was selected as the recipient of SLU’s 2019 Nancy McNeir Ring Award for excellence in teaching. Lauded by students for her emphasis on teaching the value of ethics in the business world, Kelting joined the SLU faculty in July 2016 and is director of the business school’s Behavioral Research Lab. On a national level, she is a Women in the Marketing Academy Fellow, among her many fellowships. She addressed graduates during December’s midyear commencement at Chaifetz Arena.

Jesuits Reckon with the Legacy of Slavery

In late August, Jesuits of the USA Central and Southern (UCS) Province began contacting individuals believed to be descendants of people held in slavery by 19th century Jesuits, including at Saint Louis University.

This is the latest work of the Slavery, History, Memory and Reconciliation Project, which started in 2016 as a joint initiative of the UCS Province and the University. The goal is to find a path to reconciliation by illuminating the lives of the people who were enslaved and connecting with their descendants.

Historians have long known that when Jesuits established missions in St. Louis, they relied on the labor of enslaved people to help those missions survive. To reveal the stories of courage and resilience among those who were enslaved and to trace their families forward, researchers have combed through thousands of documents, including financial ledgers, Church records and personal journals.

Dr. Jonathan Smith, SLU’s vice president for diversity and community engagement, is leading the project for the University. To undertake a conversation about SLU’s next steps, Smith plans to assemble a working group that will include students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees and descendants.

To learn more about the project and to read the stories about the people who were enslaved, visit shme.jesuits.org.
SLU Hosts Opus Prize Foundation Awards
Saint Louis University partnered with the Opus Prize Foundation to select finalists for the 16th annual Opus Prize awards.

Each year, the foundation chooses one Catholic university to help it award one $1 million and two $100,000 prizes recognizing individuals who are addressing persistent and pressing social problems. These are among the world’s largest faith-based, humanitarian awards for social innovation. SLU’s jury called a list of 10 to three finalists, who were then vetted by SLU students, faculty and staff, along with Opus Prize board members via site visits to meet and engage with finalists and their communities.

At the Opus Prize awards ceremony on campus in November, SLU President Dr. Fred P. Petteri announced that Sister Catherine Mutindi, founder of Bon Pasteur in the Democratic Republic of Congo, would receive the $1 million prize for 2019. Mutindi is a member of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (Good Shepherd Sisters), an international congregation of religious women known for its ministries protecting and empowering adolescent girls, women and children at risk, and victims of human rights violations. In 2012, Mutindi started Bon Pasteur to assist widows and orphans in Kolwezi who were seeking alternative livelihoods to mining.

“Sister Catherine is working to address modern-day slavery, in children as young as 4 and 5, working in highly toxic cobalt mines, to earn enough to feed their families that day,” said Don Neureuther, director of the Opus Prize Foundation. “In a relatively short period, she has transformed the lives of 3,000 children and countless adults, and literally restored their humanity. She gives them hope.”

Mutindi and her fellow finalists — Michael Fernandez-Frey, founder and director of Caras con Causa in Puerto Rico, and Brother Charles Nuwagaba, provincial vicar of the Western Jesuit Missions in Uganda — spent a week on campus in November, interacting with students and members of the St. Louis community.

The trio spoke with multiple classes and service organizations. They also participated in a panel discussion about their service and an ecumenical prayer service.

SLU Launches Varsity Esports Program, Opens Gaming Lab

It’s game-on for Saint Louis University’s latest effort to enhance the on-campus experience for students: a state-of-the-art Esports Gaming Lab in Busch Student Center.

SLU celebrated the opening of the new gaming lab in January with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The opening marks the latest stage in SLU’s quest to launch a varsity-level program for competitive video gaming, also known as esports.

“Whenever we cut a ribbon on a new space or building, it’s a step forward,” University President Dr. Fred P. Petteri said. “To demonstrate how we’re progressing as an institution. As I said before, we are a student-centered institution. So I can’t wait to see the success of this team, the fun you will have and how you will use this as another opportunity to guide SLU’s efforts.

“SLU’s investment in the varsity program and lab recognizes the increasing interest in esports among students. There are more than 125 collegiate esports programs nationally.

Students selected to play on SLU’s varsity team will be eligible for up to $4,000 in scholarship. SLU’s Division of Student Development provided the resources to start the program.

An advisory group of students, faculty, staff and administrators has been formed to guide SLU’s esports efforts.

Esports supporters cite benefits similar to those of traditional sports, where students learn teamwork and discipline. In addition, esports are inclusive, allowing students of all genders and abilities to play.

SLU Honored with Top Rankings
Fall is college ranking season, with everyone from U.S. News & World Report to Niche to the Princeton Review releasing their lists. Here are some of the latest rankings earned by Saint Louis University.

Arts at SLU

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

The two remaining productions of the 2019-20 season are:
SAINT JOAN OF ARC

Adapted from Saint Joan of Arc by George Bernard Shaw

This telling of the saint’s life is a collaborative piece with Prison Performance Arts.

Feb 27-29 @ 8 p.m.
Feb 29 11:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.
Kranzberg Arts Center
St. Louis, MO

MR. BURNS POST ELECTRIC PLAY

By Anne Washburn

This dark comedy is an homage to the best of Stock, Simpson, April 22-25 @ 8 p.m.
April 25 @ 2 p.m.
The Grand Hall
3610 Grand Blvd.
For tickets, contact MetroTix at 314-534-5817 or metrotix.com

SLUMA Named a Top 10 University Museum

USA Today named Saint Louis University Museum of Art as one of 10 university museums in the country worth exploring.

Other university museums highlighted include UC-Art Hammer Museum, Yale University Art Gallery, Princeton University Art Museum and the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University.

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USA Today named Saint Louis University Museum of Art as one of 10 university museums in the country worth exploring. The article notes that SLUMA is home to an “impressive permanent collection with a focus on modern and contemporary art, Asian decorative arts and artifacts from the Western Jesuit Missions.”

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Saint Louis University has set another record for fundraising. In August, the University announced that it received $119.4 million in gifts during fiscal year 2019, surpassing the previous record set just the year before. The 2019 total includes 18 gifts of $1 million or more, or a record.

“Our record fundraising is impressive and demonstrates our stakeholders’ belief in our vision and our execution toward achieving it,” said University President Dr. Fred P. Pestello. “But our numbers fail to tell the full story of the dramatic impact the generosity of our donors has on Saint Louis University’s students, faculty, staff and patients.”

Pestello continued: “Our donors have made a rigorous Jesuit education — one that is values-based and rooted in the liberal arts — more affordable and attainable by supporting student scholarships. Their investment in our academic programs and research projects is propelling Saint Louis University to national prominence in select areas of excellence.”

Perhaps the best example of that investment during the 2019 fiscal year was the transformational $10 million gift from Dr. Jeanne and SLU alumnus and trustee Rui Sintrafilho — the largest gift in SLU history. Among other things, the gift advances SLU research through the newly founded Saint Louis University Research Institute. (See more on page 6.)

RECORD YEAR FOR FUNDRAISING NETS NEARLY $120 MILLION
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THE CAMPAIGN’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE | SCHOLARSHIPS | HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION | BUSINESS EDUCATION | ATHLETICS

WAYS TO SUPPORT ACCELERATING EXCELLENCE

- Cash
- Stock
- Gifts in kind
- Sustaining gifts
- Automatic monthly donations
- Donor-advised funds
- Employer-matching gifts
- IRA disbursements

BY MAIL

Planned giving

Cash gifts

Stock, bonds, securities

Gifts in kind

Sustaining gifts

Automatic monthly donations

Donor-advised funds

Employer-matching gifts

IRA disbursements

ONLINE

Visit giving.slu.edu

BY PHONE

For additional assistance, call 314-977-2341

You also may direct all giving-related questions to giving@slu.edu.

BY MAIL

Check or money order payable to Saint Louis University and mail to:

Saint Louis University
DuBourg Hall, Rm. 319
1 N. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63103

137,169 GIFTSAHEAD TO THE CAMPAIGN

259 GIVINGfeldRAILIEFNDORS TO THE CAMPAIGN

22,553 ALUMNI DONORS TO THE CAMPAIGN

259 SCHOLARSHIPS CREATED SINCE THE START OF THE CAMPAIGN

101 | 11

O’Malley Named Law School’s Ambassador in Residence

Kevin F. O’Malley (J.D.’76, Law ’73), former United States ambassador to Ireland, will serve as professor of practice and ambassador in residence in the School of Law.

O’Malley was U.S. ambassador to Ireland from 2014 to 2017. In his new role with SLU, he will counsel students and serve as a resource for the School of Law’s Center for International and Comparative Law.

A longtime litigator, O’Malley began his career in the organized crime section of the U.S. Department of Justice, where he prosecuted cases across the country. Returning to St. Louis as an assistant U.S. attorney, he prosecuted white collar criminal cases and taught law at SLU and at the Washington University School of Law. He later entered private practice.

O’Malley received a honorary doctorate from SLU in 2016 and was inducted into the School of Law’s Order of the Fleur de Lis Hall of Fame Class in 2019.

New Deans and Administrators

Dr. Thomas Burroughs

Dean, College for Public Health and Social Justice

Burroughs’ appointment began last summer; he’d been interim dean since July 2017. He started at SLU in 1999 as an adjunct professor and joined the full-time faculty in 2003 as the first executive director of SLU Center for Health Outcomes Research.

Dr. Scott Duellman

Interim Edward Jones Dean, Chaifetz School of Business

A member of the SLU faculty since 2010, Duellman was chairman of the accounting department and the Alfred V. Dunkin Professor of Accounting. A committee will lead a national search for the next dean.

Dr. Danny Willis

Dean, Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing

Willis will join SLU on July 1, succeeding Dr. Peggy Ellis, who is interim dean this academic year. He is currently the associate dean of academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing.

Dr. Debbie Rudder Loehe

Interim Vice President, Student Development

Lohe has worked in higher education for 25 years and at SLU for more than 10 years, serving as director of SLU’s Burvet Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning since 2011. She succeeds Dr. Kent Porterfield, who left SLU in December. A national search is underway to identify a permanent vice president.

Dr. Noelle Fearn

Director, School of Social Work

Fearn, professor of criminalology and criminal justice, directs SLU’s undergraduate and master’s programs in criminalology and criminal justice for the past five years. She holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies.

Dr. Michael Lewis

Interim Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

An associate professor of chemistry, Lewis has been on faculty since 2004. He has served as associate dean since 2013, overseeing the Office of Faculty Affairs. A national search is under way to select the college’s next dean, with an appointment expected by July 2020.

Dr. Robert Wilmott

Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean, School of Medicine

Wilmott was the unanimous choice of the committee that reviewed internal candidates for this position. He has served in leadership positions at SLU since 2001, including 17 years as chair of the Department of Pediatrics. His term will run through December 2021.

Donna Bess-Myers

Interim Associate Vice President, Student Development, and Dean of Students

Bess-Myers (Grad Ed ’99) has served SLU students for 22 years, previously as interim director for the Cross Cultural Center and the Department of Student Life. She also led the SLU Women’s Commission for two terms as president. She succeeds Dr. Mona Hicks, who left SLU last fall.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Excellence: The Campaign for Saint Louis University, 2018-2028

In March 2018, Saint Louis University announced the launch of the University’s comprehensive fundraising campaign, “Excellence: The Campaign for Saint Louis University.” In addition to two firsts — a record year of fundraising for fiscal year 2019 and a $500 million comprehensive fundraising campaign — the announcement marked the beginning of a new era of philanthropic support.

This is the most ambitious fundraising effort SLU has ever undertaken,” said Sheila Manion, vice president for development. “And we are almost three-fourths of the way to exceeding our goal, thanks to our loyal donors. In this phase of our Accelerating Excellence campaign, we are broadening our outreach to all alumni, parents, friends and partners, asking them to invest in SLU’s vision for its future. We are seeking gifts, pledges and estate commitments at all levels.”

Manion added: “With the ongoing support of our generous donors, the leadership of Dr. Pestello and the board of trustees, and the hard work of our dedicated development staff, we are well on our way to exceeding our aspirations.”

For more information about Accelerating Excellence: The Campaign for Saint Louis University, visit slu.edu/campaignforslu.

THE CAMPAIGN’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Academic Excellence
- Scholarships
- Health Sciences Education
- Business Education
- Athletics

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Making Strong Progress

SLU is in the midst of a $500 million comprehensive fundraising campaign called Accelerating Excellence: The Campaign for Saint Louis University. To date, the University has raised more than $370 million, with more than 22,000 alumni making gifts to SLU since the campaign’s launch in November 2018. Campaign priorities include academic excellence, scholarships, health sciences education, business education and athletics.

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ON CAMPUS

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**Former Billiken Named G.M. of U.S. Men’s National Soccer Team**

Former Billiken soccer star Brian McBride (Ed ’96) was named general manager of the U.S. men’s national team in January.

As G.M., McBride works to build relationships with players and their clubs throughout the world, as well as recruit dual-national players. His contract runs through the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

A three-time World Cup veteran, McBride is the Billikens’ all-time leading scorer, accumulating 184 points during his four years playing for Saint Louis University. After college, he found success at every level of professional soccer. He enjoyed an 11-year MLS career with the Columbus Crew and Chicago Fire, and he played for several teams in England and Germany. He scored 30 goals for the U.S. national team and helped the United States reach the quarterfinals of the 2002 World Cup – the best finish by the team in the modern era. He was inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame in 2015.

**Two SLU Professors Win Fulbrights**

Two members of the SLU faculty have won Fulbright awards. The program is the U.S. government’s flagship international educational exchange program, designed to build lasting connections between people of the United States and those from other countries.

**SLU Prof’s Poetry Makes Best of 2019 List**

With the publication of his latest work, Mosses and Lichens: Poems, Dr. Devin Johnston is being lauded nationally by *The New York Times* for his poems that examine the boundary between human community and the wild edges of the woods. A professor of creative writing in the Department of English, Johnston’s poems have received widespread acclaim. His poems were recently included in Johnston’s newest book as “admirable as a ‘Best Poetry Book of 2019.’”

The committee chose proposals from Black Lab Development, Prime Property Investments, Simon’s Investment and UIC Homes. It also selected a proposal from Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis, which last year acquired five other parcels in the neighborhood from SLU for affordable housing.

Combined, their development plans call for 35 single-family homes and 12 condos. Construction could start as early as this spring.

**Development Boom Continues Near Campus**

The area around Saint Louis University is in the middle of a development boom. Here is an update on a few of the projects underway in Prospect Yards and close to campus.

**Gate District West Neighborhood**

In August, developers were asked to submit proposals to build new homes on 43 parcels the University owns in the Gate District West neighborhood near SLU’s Medical Center. While SLU was closely involved in the process, the neighborhood association’s development committee selected the developers after a call for proposals.

**Steelcote Square**

North of Gate District West, near the intersection of Grand Boulevard and Chouteau Avenue, the Steelcote Square development is in full swing.

The Steelcote Lofts building, which was vacant for more than 30 years, has been renovated by Pier Property Group. A historic rehabilitation of the Steelcote Manufacturing Paint Factory, the 42,000-square-foot building offers 33 units, indoor parking, a lobby lounge and a rooftop deck with panoramic views of St. Louis.

The adjacent Steelcote Crossings building is under construction. This part of the project is a historic rehab of the Columbia Oil Co. Building and will offer 15 loft units and a ground-floor microbrewery or distillery space.

Still to come will be Mill Creek Flats, a $30 million project with more than 100 apartment units and 10,000 square feet of commercial space. The design of the Mill Creek Flats allows for the Steelcote sign to shine through to Grand Boulevard. There will also be a pool deck and green roof accessible by the residents of the building and the residents of Steelcote Lofts and Crossings.

**City Foundry STL**

The City Foundry STL area has been transformed over the last year. While construction continues on the site of the former Century Electric Co., plans for the mixed-use space are being finalized. All of the office space is leased, according to Brooks Goedeke (MSW ’04), executive director of the St. Louis Midtown Redevelopment Corp. Scheduled to open this summer are the food hall; Fassler Hall, which has been renovated by Pier Property Group. A historic rehabilitation of the Steelcote Manufacturing Paint Factory, the 42,000-square-foot building offers 33 units, indoor parking, a lobby lounge and a rooftop deck with panoramic views of St. Louis.

The neighborhood includes 180 apartments, 12 condos and 12 condos. Construction could start as early as this spring.

**City Foundry STL**

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Ten things you might not know about SLU-Madrid

It was founded more than 50 years ago, and records show that at least 6,330 alumni have studied there, but even the most true-blue Billikens probably don’t know all there is to know about Saint Louis University – Madrid. So here are 10 facts that offer the inside scoop on what sets SLU-Madrid apart.

**FACT 1:** Students can pursue any of the 15 undergraduate and two graduate degree programs entirely in Spain. Plus, the Madrid Campus enables students to complete requirements for more than half of Saint Louis University’s nearly 100 undergraduate degree programs. For those programs, students begin their studies in Madrid and then transfer to St. Louis to complete their degrees. The campus has come a long way from its 1967 origins as a study abroad program. And the number of degrees available in Madrid has grown exponentially. In 2006, the campus offered just two bachelor’s degrees that could be completed in Madrid.

The variety of degree offerings adds to the many reasons SLU-Madrid is a destination for students. “What makes Saint Louis University Madrid Campus attractive to students first is the city of Madrid. You can’t beat it. It’s a vibrant city, it’s an exciting city, it’s a culturally rich city, it’s a city easy to get to from any point in the world,” said Dr. Paul Vita, director and academic dean of Saint Louis University-Madrid.

“The second reason is our American identity,” he continued. “We’re offering something that’s not readily available from the professional degrees offered here at both public and private universities in Spain. We’re also offering American, liberal arts programs outside of the United States, extending the reach of SLU’s degree programs. This opens up programs to students who otherwise couldn’t enter the U.S. for whatever reasons – political, economic, personal or family reasons.

“Thirdly, of course, is our Jesuit identity,” Vita said. “I think many Spaniards and people from around the world recognize that we’re part of a 450-year-old tradition that forms persons for others.”

**FACT 2:** In 1996, SLU-Madrid was the first U.S. university to receive official recognition from the Consejería de Educación y Cultura, Madrid’s Higher Education Ministry. This formal recognition of SLU-Madrid as an institution of post-secondary education grants it permission to deliver U.S. degree programs in Madrid.

The recognition also ensures that students are receiving an accredited education. “The ministry monitors the educational sector to ensure that all private universities have the appropriate level of faculty qualifications, such as doctorates, and that the institution has the facilities to offer a university education,” Vita explained. “SLU-Madrid does — and goes well beyond.

“Students may not recognize it, but the recognition is a quality assurance that certainly doesn’t apply to most study abroad programs in Spain or around the world.” And that’s not the only point of pride for SLU-Madrid. It is the only U.S. university in Europe with a campus that offers 15 distinct undergraduate degree programs. And it’s the only branch campus of a U.S. university to be a member of the Association of American International Colleges and Universities. The campus also received the Heiskell Award from the Institute of International Education for internationalizing professional education with its nursing program.
Beyond that, we have students from nearly every state,” Vita said. “With over 50 nationalities represented in our student body, that means in a single classroom, for example, you’ll have six or seven students from different countries — from China, from Germany, from Morocco and the Philippines, and of course from Spain and the United States.

“Beyond that, we have students from nearly every state,” Vita continued. “And our visiting students are not just from Saint Louis University, by the way, but from other colleges and universities as well.”

Dr. Anne McCabe, who teaches courses in English and communication and was the 2018 recipient of SLU’s Nancy McNeir Ring Award for Excellence in Teaching, said she finds it fascinating to teach students from all around the world. “That’s always been one of my favorite aspects of teaching here at the Madrid Campus because I learn so much from those students,” she said. “I can travel with them to countries that I’ve never visited because through their writing and class discussion I get to know about their culture, about where they’re from, about ways they think.

“And so for me, it’s really opened my eyes to the notion that there’s not just one way of doing things,” she said. “And not even two — not just the American way and the Spanish way. There are multiple ways of doing things—many different ways, for example, of writing. To encounter that in classroom after classroom has been a great learning experience for me.”

“The Madrid Campus shares Saint Louis University’s mission,” he said. “We’re advancing the same mission here overseas in Spain. There are physical signs of that all over campus — whether it’s the same archway leading into San Ignacio Hall or the statue of St. Ignatius himself. We’re one university, and that’s an important part of the Madrid Campus’ identity.”

Students agree. Matthew Staley, a SLU junior who spent the fall semester at SLU-Madrid, found the campus itself reassuring. “I was a little bit worried about studying abroad and not being able to figure out the university and the campus,” he said.

“But when I first came to Madrid, I felt at home right away, just seeing the Billiken and SLU signs all over the walls really made me feel like I was at SLU. Seeing the students wearing their SLU gear — it was incredible to be in another country but also feel at home at the same time.”

FACT 3: STUDENTS FROM MORE THAN 50 COUNTRIES PURSUE DEGREES AND STUDY ABROAD AT SLU’S MADRID CAMPUS.

Each semester, the campus enrolls approximately 900 students — roughly 500 of whom are studying abroad for the semester and roughly 400 of whom are “permanent” students who will complete their degrees in Spain.

“What makes Saint Louis University Madrid Campus an extraordinary place is its student diversity — all kinds of diversity,” Vita said. “With over 50 nationalities represented in our student body, that means in a single classroom, for example, you’ll have six or seven students from different countries — from China, from Germany, from Morocco and the Philippines, and of course from Spain and the United States.

FACT 4: MOST VISITING STUDENTS LIVE WITH HOST FAMILIES.

The host families, also known as señoras, introduce students to Spanish culture and language firsthand while immersing them in a home environment. The students typically receive two meals per day, laundry service and Wi-Fi.

Many families host two or three students and are located within a quick walk or subway commute from SLU-Madrid.

“Aubra Ladd, a SLU junior who studied in Madrid last fall, said she was pleasantly surprised by how hands-on her host family was. “I thought we were just going to live with them — cohabitation in a sense,” Ladd said. “But it’s like living with your own regular family; you do things together, you go places together, you eat together, you have late-night talks. It’s great.”

Ladd also appreciated the chance to deepen her Spanish fluency. “My host mom only speaks Spanish so it’s a perfect way to practice and be immersed in the culture,” Ladd said. “She sits down and gets to know me and my roommate. And it’s a beautiful experience. You really get to make a bond with someone who is not a student on campus.”

FACT 5: SLU’S CAMPUS IN SPAIN FEATURES MANY PHYSICAL REMINDERS OF THE “HOME” CAMPUS IN ST. LOUIS.

“I think immediately when students figure out the university and the campus,” he said. “We’re one university, and that’s an important part of the Madrid Campus’ identity.”

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FACT 6: THOUGH SELECTED COURSES ARE TAUGHT IN SPANISH, THE PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION IS ENGLISH.

“That’s our distinctive feature,” Vita said. “We’re an American university overseas. That does incredible things. It opens up study abroad to new groups of students who otherwise could never spend a semester in Europe.”

It also reflects the campus’ place within its local community. “Our American, English-speaking identity distinguishes us from the Spanish universities here in Madrid,” Vita said. “We’re offering liberal arts, quality classes, small classes, engaged classes, continuous assessment — in other words, we’re offering a kind of education that’s not readily accessible outside of the United States.”

McCabe, who studied at SLU-Madrid in 1977-78, remembered that at that time, all classes were taught in Spanish, and students were penalized for speaking English. But she’s pleased by the evolution to an English-speaking campus.

“It is beneficial for students coming from a range of contexts,” she said. “Obviously for all of our international students who come in with a first language other than English, it’s fantastic because they really, really get a bilingual level of English. For our American students, the benefit for them is the deep friendships that they can make with people from all over the world through that shared language of English.”
FACT 7: SLU-MADRID STAYS OPEN TO CELEBRATE AMERICAN HOLIDAYS SUCH AS THANKSGIVING AND INDEPENDENCE DAY. Vita said the July 4 celebration includes a barbecue and make-your-own ice cream sundae bar. “It’s an opportunity for our community to reflect on our identity as an American community,” he said. “And it also takes a form of sharing American culture with others.”

In addition to an annual food drive for the less fortunate, SLU-Madrid’s Thanksgiving festivities include more than 200 servings of turkey, countless pumpkin pies and some city-wide attention. “One thing that’s fun for our students is that often the local Madrid television station comes to our campus because we’re one of the largest groups of Americans who are celebrating Thanksgiving together,” Vita said. “Thanksgiving also helps us affirm our American identity, as well as reflect on what we’re thankful for.”

FACT 8: SERVICE IS A BIG PART OF THE SLU-MADRID EXPERIENCE. Each semester, hundreds of SLU-Madrid students volunteer in the local community.

“We think it’s important that our students, especially our visiting students, get out of the little bubble that they might create coming over here with their friends who perhaps all live together and all go out together and all see the same things,” said James O’Leary, S.J., who leads SLU-Madrid’s campus ministry and teaches theology. “Volunteering and serving others allow a student to open his or her eyes to other realities of what Spanish culture and society is all about — of what Spanish people are all about. And I think that understanding broadens our minds to open our hearts to a wider world.”

One popular service opportunity is BocaTalk, a student-run club whose 80 members focus on outreach to Madrid’s homeless population. Students prepare food or other necessities in advance and then go out into the city to distribute the items and have conversations with those living on the streets. “Students try to give Madrid’s homeless people back their dignity as human beings with the excuse of giving them a sandwich or some hygiene products,” said Marta Maruri, SLU-Madrid’s director of student life.

Another longtime service project is SLU-Madrid’s Community ESL (English as a Second Language) program. Founded in 2002, the program typically engages more than 45 students each semester to teach English to approximately 300 members of the local community. The weekly classes, which are offered for free, give students experience as educators and leaders. The classes also encourage students to build connections with Madrileños from all walks of life. Program director for ESL and Modern Languages Hamish Binns assists with class preparation as needed. “Student-teachers learn as much about the language and themselves as their adult students,” Binns said.

FACT 9: STUDENTS STUDYING NURSING AND ENGINEERING CAN STUDY ABROAD FOR A SEMESTER — A Rarity For Those Majors.

In nursing, a summer immersion program, launched in 2007, allows students to spend several weeks training in a Spanish hospital with hands-on experiences, such as preparing IV medications. “Our nursing students here at the Madrid Campus have an extraordinary experience,” Vita said. “We have nursing labs, nursing facilities and even more exciting is that many nursing students have their first real clinical experience here in Madrid, Spain.”

In engineering, by offering courses that cover topics such as thermodynamics, material science and organic chemistry, SLU-Madrid opens up unique international experiences to future engineers. In Madrid, students earn the same credits toward SLU’s Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology’s degrees as students in St. Louis.

Vita also is enthused about the opportunities for engineering students to study abroad. “Engineering itself is an international profession, and it’s important for future engineers to develop that sensibility of working with people from around the world from the start,” he said. “Thus, we’re designing programs that connect our U.S. engineers who are visiting our campus for a term with our permanent students who are starting their degrees here and planning to continue in St. Louis. This creates a dynamic international experience in the classroom, which we increase further by offering special trips within Madrid and to Toulouse, France, to see the Airbus factory.”

FACT 10: CLASSES AND FIELD TRIPS AT SLU-MADRID TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE CAMPUS SETTING. Students can learn flamenco dancing. They can take a trip to Loyola, Spain, for the Loyola Pilgrimage Retreat, which traces the life of St. Ignatius, founder of the Jesuits. Other opportunities send students across Europe to locations such as Stratford-upon-Avon in England.

“Faculty have developed unique courses and special programs that are inventive and exciting,” Vita said. “Our art history courses take you into the Prado, into the flea Sofia, up to Bilbao to see the Guggenheim.”

“In oceanography class we have a field trip to one of the areas in Spain that I think if you didn’t participate in the class you would never go to,” said Mónica Pérez-Bedmar, a professor in the Department of Natural Sciences. “We get to see fish markets, we get to see coastal ecosystems that are in serious stress now. Basically, students see what the main problems of the Mediterranean Sea are. And they get to talk about the solutions to the coastal ecosystems.”

“These learning experiences only make sense,” Vita said. “We’ve gone out of our way to develop courses and programs that take advantage of the rich city of Madrid but also of the wonderful international identity of our own student body, courses that help students discover who they are by getting to know students from other places with other values. We have 15 degrees here in Madrid and not every degree because we’re purposely focused on those degrees that make sense to offer in this international setting — programs such as international business, international relations and Spanish, of course, too.”

Learn more about SLU-Madrid at slu.edu/madrid.
The first class of SLU’s third century is the largest and most diverse in the University’s history. — BY MARIE DILG

- 1,902 first-time students (part-time and full-time)
- 1,902 of financial assistance awarded to the class
- 3.91 average high school GPA
- $54,000,000 of financial assistance awarded to the class
- 25% enrollment increase over last year
- 28 average ACT score
- 1269 average SAT score
- 43 number of U.S. states and provinces represented, including New Zealand, South Korea and Mali
- 34 number of foreign countries represented, including New Zealand, South Korea and Mali
- 605 number of students who graduated from Catholic high schools
- 133 freshmen who graduated from Jesuit high schools
- 43% of students identify as Catholic
- 2011 is the last year SLU’s freshman class reached a record high (1,707 students)
- MOST COMMON NAMES
  - Grace, Emily, Matthew and Jacob
- New students seated in the lower bowl of Chaifetz Arena during convocation in August. SLU President Dr. Fred Pestello is standing center on the floor. PHOTOS BY JUSTIN BARR
An undeniable momentum is building.

The requests for campus tours were climbing. The number of high school seniors applying for admission was off the charts. The caliber of these prospective students was equally remarkable. Of the more than 15,000 who applied, more than 1,900 arrived on campus in August and became the largest freshman class in Saint Louis University’s history—a 25% increase over last year. This outpaces the national average of 2.4% annual student growth for four-year private institutions.

Not only is the Class of 2023 SLU’s largest, it is one of the highest achieving and most diverse. In fact, 14% of the class is made up of historically underrepresented students. And 214 members are first-generation students. Financial aid also hit a record high of $54 million.

Increasing affordability and student diversity are two of the primary commitments I made when I began at SLU five years ago,” said Dr. Fred P. Pestello, SLU’s president, “and we continue to make progress in these areas.”

A undeniable momentum is building.

AFFINITY AND BEYOND

Kathleen Davis, SLU’s vice president for enrollment and retention management, attributes the banner year to several factors.

The University increased its marketing efforts and doubled down on its digital and social media presence. In response to growing student interest in globally minded programs, SLU’s outreach emphasized the University’s Madrid Campus and its more than 50 other study abroad programs. Additional resources allowed admission counselors to strengthen relationships with high school guidance counselors and prospective students.

Further, Davis said the University’s promise to increase both merit scholarships, as well as need-based grants and loans, allowed SLU to offer competitive financial aid packages. And SLU began presenting prospective students with their aid packages in January, well before most other universities and colleges.

“Our students were in their formative years in 2008 when the country was hit by the largest recession in many years,” Davis said. “It had an impact on them and on their parents. It created a price sensitivity. They want to know the value of the degree they’re working toward.”

Davis said Saint Louis University’s 2019 expansion of the Career Services Center and development of programs to work with students as they reach college senior year on post-college careers went a long way toward assuaging concerns. (See the story on page 24.)

And Davis believes the University’s most powerful recruitment tool is the affinity for SLU in the region and beyond.

“Increasing affordability and student diversity are two of the primary commitments I made when I began at SLU five years ago,” said Dr. Fred P. Pestello, SLU’s president, “and we continue to make progress in these areas.”

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITY

The larger class has led to greater demand for student support services. The University added more sections of SLU 101, its two-day freshman summer orientation program. Walsh Hall in the Griessedieck Complex was renovated last year and opened just in time to accommodate the housing needs of the larger class. The University added more residence life staff, including graduate hall coordinators and resident assistants, to help students create community and a sense of belonging.

To address national trends that show today’s college-age students are more likely than earlier generations to report being anxious, depressed and under stress, the University also added staff in the Student Health Center, including additional psychiatry clinics and a full-time dietitian to support students with special dietary guidance and disorder counseling. The University’s counseling center also hired more therapists.

In addition, to foster the academic success of all students, the Office of Disability Services added another coordinator to support the larger number of students seeking accommodations based on learning, physical and mental health needs. The University also added staffing hours for tutoring, supplemental instruction, academic coaching and math labs.

Dr. Chet Gillis, SLU’s interim provost, said the University continually is assessing the needs of students to ensure they have the resources to reach their highest potential. And while it can be a challenge to accommodate such a large class, it also is an opportunity.

“Our responsibility for undergraduate residential education includes development of the whole person, not only academic accomplishment,” Gillis said. “I believe that the maturation of students requires time and personal attention from faculty, staff and administrators. We are happy to make that investment and know the benefits stay with students well beyond the college years.”

ENSURING A STRONG START

Welcoming students to campus is the first step. Helping them acclimate to college life is the next. SLU offers several first-year programs, many of which would not be possible without student leadership participation and the support of student leaders as mentors the first year on campus. The University’s counseling center also hired more therapists.

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ORIFLAMMÆ: A group of student leaders from across campus, who help new students move in and serve as mentors the first weeks on campus.

NEW STUDENT DAY OF SERVICE: A day when new students and their peer mentors engage in service projects across St. Louis as a means of introducing students to the University’s long-standing tradition of service.

WELCOME MASS AND FAITH-BASED RETREATS: These help new students make sense of their early moments of college life. The retreats include one called “A Fresh Look,” which is designed for new students.

CROSS CULTURAL CENTER: The center’s programs and retreats promote multicultural awareness and education of all students, and focus support on historically underrepresented and marginalized student populations.

UNIVERSITY 101: Small, interactive classes offered in the fall provide freshmen with ongoing information about campus resources and opportunities to reflect on the transition from high school to college. This year extra sessions were added to accommodate the influx of students.

NEXTGEN BILLIKENS

A ric Hamilton grew up surrounded by SLU memorabilia. His mother, Tina (Wallace) Hamilton (ABS ’94), took him to alumni events and to Billiken basketball games at Chaifetz Arena.

She knew her son had the makings of a Billiken because early on he demonstrated a passion for advocating for the underserved, but she didn’t push.

Hamilton had several offers from colleges, and in the end, he chose SLU. He is one of the 382 members of the Class of 2023 who is a legacy student—a student with at least one relative who graduated from the University.

“Being a second-generation Billiken means walking not only in my mom’s footsteps but in the footsteps of other students of color who attended SLU,” said Hamilton, a Martin Luther King Scholarship recipient from Bridgeport, Missouri. “I love being part of SLU’s history as it becomes more diverse and works to ensure that this is the most inclusive campus possible. I take that very seriously.”

Hamilton said SLU always was near the top of his list because of the great experiences his mother shared about her time at the University and how well prepared she was for her career as an elementary school principal. Hamilton said his campus tour solidified his decision to enroll at SLU because he felt “at home.” Hamilton plans to major in education and minor in political science. Now, he is also helping recruit another generation of students as an ambassador in SLU’s Project Billiken program. (Learn more at slu.edu/beabilliken/profiles.)

His mother said she is “ecstatic” her son is a member of the Class of 2023.

“During Homecoming Weekend, I had the great honor of pinning Aric with the legacy pin at the Legacy Luncheon,” she said. “I was filled with emotions as I was so proud Aric made the decision to become a Billiken.”
A little more than a decade ago, researchers found approximately 75% of college freshmen reported getting a good job was a “very important” factor in their decision to attend college. Today, that percentage exceeds 90%.

“With the rising cost of tuition, students and parents are asking, ‘What is the return on my investment?’” said Jeffery L. Jackson, Saint Louis University’s new associate provost for career development. “They want to know what degree they can earn and what they can do with it.”

UNIVERSITIES recognize the value of career services that offer assistance and career fairs, Jackson said the center will launch new initiatives designed to reach Generation Z. This includes greater use of technology and a higher profile on the web and social media to showcase the CSC’s approachability.

Beyond Career Fairs

Representatives from 425 employers recruited on SLU’s campus last year, and 94% of SLU graduates reported they were “satisfactorily occupied” within six months of commencement.

ELEVATE CAREER SERVICES.

Jackson also has plans to expand outreach to alumni, not only as potential mentors who may be between jobs or want to change jobs. (See sidebar)

“As far as I’m concerned, alumni have a lifetime membership to career services,” said Jackson, who is working on an alumni survey he hopes to distribute in 2020.

Elevating career services is a large task and his new crew wants more. They want feedback. They want to know how they fit into the big picture. They’re willing to take a chance on startups, which didn’t exist in my day. As part of our community outreach, we will meet with employers to help them understand how today’s graduates think and how they can attract the best candidates.”

Jackson admits changing the culture in career services is a large task and his agenda is ambitious, but he said he’ll begin by building a coalition of the willing.

“We’ll start with one student at a time, one faculty member at a time,” he said. “Once they start spreading the word about our distinct programs, they become ambassadors for our center.”

WHEN she arrived on SLU’s campus in 1996, Diane (Davis) Devine (A&S ‘00) was an undecorated freshman with no clear path. She flipped through a course catalog and landed on a map/chart analysis class offered in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

“I fell in love with meteorology,” Devine said. “I could either work for the National Weather Service or be a TV meteorologist and, at 19, being on TV sounded cool.”

A “Career Decisions” course assignment required Devine to conduct an informational interview with someone in her desired field. She made a connection with local meteorologist who mentored Devine for four years and helped her land her first job after graduation as the morning meteorologist for a Clarksburg, West Virginia, television station.

Then 9/11 happened.

“I just wanted to come home,” she said. “I was still dating my boyfriend in St. Louis, and the idea of packing up and moving to a new city every time I got a job suddenly didn’t seem as exciting as before.”

Devine returned to St. Louis in 2002 and started from scratch. The alum turned to SLU’s Career Services Center for help.

Her career counselor guided her through a personal inventory, provided resources and reading material, and suggested Devine take a variety of temporary positions to explore options.

Devine temps as an office account manager, a clerk for a construction company and office support staff in the undergraduate admissions office at Washington University in St. Louis. That position led to a full-time job and her epiphany.

“I found I was drawn to counseling and advising students,” she said. “Everything clicked into place.”

Devine pursued a master’s degree in counseling with an emphasis on career services from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She held positions in career services at UMSL and in the community college system before returning to SLU.

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“It’s surreal,” she said. “I walk through the doors and imagine myself as a homesick freshman from Omaha, eating in the Griesedieck cafeteria. Now it’s my office.”

THE WEATHER

W HEN she arrived on SLU’s campus in 1996, Diane (Davis) Devine (A&S ’00) was an undecorated freshman with no clear path. She flipped through a course catalog and landed on a map/chart analysis class offered in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

“I fell in love with meteorology,” Devine said. “I could either work for the National Weather Service or be a TV meteorologist and, at 19, being on TV sounded cool.”

A “Career Decisions” course assignment required Devine to conduct an informational interview with someone in her desired field. She made a connection with local meteorologist who mentored Devine for four years and helped her land her first job after graduation as the morning meteorologist for a Clarksburg, West Virginia, television station.

Then 9/11 happened.

“I just wanted to come home,” she said. “I was still dating my boyfriend in St. Louis, and the idea of packing up and moving to a new city every time I got a job suddenly didn’t seem as exciting as before.”

Devine returned to St. Louis in 2002 and started from scratch. The alum turned to SLU’s Career Services Center for help.

Her career counselor guided her through a personal inventory, provided resources and reading material, and suggested Devine take a variety of temporary positions to explore options.

Devine temps as an office account manager, a clerk for a construction company and office support staff in the undergraduate admissions office at Washington University in St. Louis. That position led to a full-time job and her epiphany.

“I found I was drawn to counseling and advising students,” she said. “Everything clicked into place.”

Devine pursued a master’s degree in counseling with an emphasis on career services from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She held positions in career services at UMSL and in the community college system before returning home — yet again. Devine is a career counselor in SLU’s Career Services Center.

“It’s surreal,” she said. “I walk through the doors and imagine myself as a homesick freshman from Omaha, eating in the Griesedieck cafeteria. Now it’s my office.”
Powell Hall is positively flush with fans. It’s the last Sunday in September, and the place is packed hours before a mid-afternoon show. Out front on Grand Boulevard, a woman holds a homemade cardboard sign that reads, “I Need One Ticket.” Like a fan at a Grateful Dead show, she needs a miracle.

But what she and close to 2,650 others — a sold-out crowd — have come for isn’t a rock ‘n’ roll reunion or the orchestra that calls the symphony hall home. They’ve come for five men who changed the sound of the Catholic liturgy. They’ve come to hear the St. Louis Jesuits. And today the miracle is the music.

As Saint Louis University’s Homecoming and Family Weekend winds down on campus a few blocks away, the St. Louis Jesuits take the stage for their last concert, Coming Home: A Final Celebration.

The St. Louis Jesuits transformed liturgical music in the 1970s. During SLU’s Homecoming and Family Weekend, they performed together for the last time.

By Amy Garland
BREAK INTO SONG

Fifty years ago, when they started composing music for liturgy, they were not known as the St. Louis Jesuits. They were just five young men with musical inclinations at the same time who happened to be at Saint Louis University at the same time, of various ages and from different parts of the world. Bob Dufford, S.J. (A&S ’67, Grad ’72, ’75) and John Foley, S.J. (A&S ’68, Grad ’68, ’74) lived in Lewis Hall (now the Coronado Apartments) while they prepared for their ordination to the priesthood. The other Jesuits, Tim Manion (A&S ’70), Robert ‘Bic’ O’Connor, S.J. (A&S ’73) and Dan Schutte (A&S ’72) — stayed in Fusz Memorial Hall, where they’d gather for Mass in the chapel.

Their conclave at SLU put them on a point of change, just after the Vatican II Council transformed the way Catholics worship. The liturgy had become more personal, more connected with the human experience, and the music at the Fusz Masses began to reflect that.

The five men had their own influences and inspirations — everything from the poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins to classical music, Broadway musicals, and the folk songs of the 1960s and ’70s. But they shared a desire to compose songs anyone could sing that were also sophisticated and rooted in Scripture. When the Masses at Fusz outgrew the chapel, the composers were invited to sing at St. Francis Xavier College Church. As more people heard the music they were writing, it began to take on a life of its own. People requested copies to take to their parishes. The young men decided to record what they’d already composed and bind their handwritten songs into a book. In so doing, they bound themselves together.

“We didn’t have a vision that we were going to be a group,” Schutte said. “We wrote music for liturgies and at one point pooled our music together as three of us were getting ready to leave St. Louis. Our first publisher wanted to know what we wanted to be called. We couldn’t give them an answer, so they, on our first collection, put ‘music by St. Louis Jesuits’ on the cover.”

That first collection, a four-album set called Neither Silver Nor Gold, included 57 pieces, and the description on the cover became their name. Together the St. Louis Jesuits would go on to produce more than 150 liturgical songs and hymns. Their recordings garnered Grammy nominations throughout the 1970s, and their 1975 album, Earth revolves, continues to be one of the best-selling albums of Catholic music ever, with more than one million copies sold to date. Their songs have been translated into at least a dozen languages and have been performed in an Academy award-nominated film (Man of God) and at the inauguration of one U.S. president and the funeral of another.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

By the mid-1970s, four of the men had left SLU for other assignments. Today, Foley is the only one who lives in St. Louis, at Jesuit Hall. He is the editor of the Saint Louis University Sunday Website, a weekly review of Sunday’s liturgical readings from several dozen different perspectives.

Dufford lives and works out of the Creighton University Retreat Center in Grasward, but stays very much connected with the St. Louis Jesuits. During the last few years he has composed instrumental music based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. After years as an associate pastor and liturgical musician in parishes across the county and 13 years of teaching at Creighton University, O’Connor was assigned to his province as full-time composing and writing. He lives in Milwaukee.

Manion, who was never ordained, lives in Seattle. He continues to perform and compose folk music.

Schutte left the Jesuit order in 1986 and made music his life’s work, as a composer and also as a liturgist and music director in various pastoral and academic settings. Today, he is composer-in-residence at the University of San Francisco, and he travels across the country, visiting parishes for performances, retreats and workshops.

The St. Louis Jesuits took a hiatus from collaborating in 1986. In 2005 they came together to record a new collection of music, Morning Light, an anniversary album by the five men, and they began composing again. Some even shed a few tears. It felt like every person at Powell Hall had an emotional connection to these men and their music.

SET LIST

The St. Louis Jesuits have written hundreds of songs, of which they’d select some “greatest hits” while striving for a balance in tempo, melody and songwriting craft.

“We had to watch it,” John Foley, S.J., said. “We cut verses out of songs because we didn’t want people to be there for three or four hours.”

Notwithstanding the thoughtful planning, the show ended up clocking in at just under three-and-a-half hours. Here are the tracks they chose, with the names of the composer for each in parentheses.

“Lift Up Your Hearts” (O’Connor)
“City of God” (Schutte)
“Come to the Water” (Foley)
“No, Not Afraid” (O’Connor)
“This Alone” (Schutte)
“Here I Am, Lord” (Foley)
“The Cry of the Poor” (Manion)
“Then Amen Are Enough” (O’Connor)

INTERMISSION

“Lift Up My Soul” (Manion)
“Jesus the Lord” (Dufford)
“Like a Shepherd” (Schutte)
“Sing to the Mountains” (Dufford)
“A Song of Hope” (Foley)
“You Are Near” (Schutte)

“Let the People Say” (Dufford)
“There is a River” (O’Connor)

ENCORE

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” (Manion)
“Glory to God in the Highest” (O’Connor)

RAISE YOUR VOICES, LIFT YOUR HEARTS

At Powell Hall, the St. Louis Jesuits walked out onto a stage decorated with flowers and a large St. Louis Jesuits logo. Ten years of planning had led to this moment. As drums sounded, and the men began singing. Four of them played guitar. O’Connor, who wrote the opening song, “Lift Up Your Hearts,” practically danced as he strummed. After two numbers, he was the first to address the crowd.

“Let me first say: Wow! And then let me say, let us pray,” he said.

With a prayerful and occasionally playful tone, the men took turns introducing and leading their respective songs. Sometimes the composer offered insight into the song’s origin or meaning, as Dufford did for “No, Not Afraid” — which, incidentally, was chosen as the No. 1 hymn of all time by readers of America magazine.

“This song isn’t telling us not to feel fear. Fear is a gift,” Dufford said. “The song is here to encourage us to face our fear, because of the One who goes with us.”

Before the show, the St. Louis Jesuits wanted to make clear that they didn’t see this concert as a performance, per se, but something more participatory.

“In the early days, we actually slid away from doing concerts,” Schutte said. “Whenever we were asked to do a public appearance, we fashioned it around prayer and scripture, and presented it in that way, as opposed to doing what people would now call a concert.”

“We were much more about serving the Mass and the people, rather than performers,” Foley said.

“As we finish our long careers, we’re thinking the importance of the thing is the people’s spirituality, it’s continued. ‘They’re taking this all to heart. One place we appeared, they said, ‘You know the soundtrack to our spiritual lives. That’s what we’re trying to do here.’”

To encourage the audience to participate in the concert, the group made sure the printed program detailed each song, including musical notations and chords to join in.

In actuality, the audience didn’t just sing. They stood and swayed. They clapped along in rhythm and raised their arms. Some even fell a few tears. It felt like every person at Powell Hall had an emotional connection to these men and their music.

BRING HOME A RECORDING OF COMING HOME

For those who couldn’t attend the Coming Home concert — or who would like to experience it again — the St. Louis Jesuits plan to produce an audio recording and a video of the performance. Learn more on the St. Louis Jesuits website (slujesuits.org) or Facebook page (Facebook.com/STLouisJesuits).

LET THE PEOPLE SAY AMEN

John Niemann (A&S ’71) came from Denver to share the concert experience with friends who listened to the St. Louis Jesuits at students at SLU.

“It was rad and all we had to do to have guitar mass,” Niemann said before the show. “They became a real changing force in the Church.”

“They adapted the music of their time,” said Denny Donnelly (A&S ’93, Law ’64), whose wedding had been officiated by the late beloved SLU philosophy professor John Kavanagh, S.J., a founding member of the St. Louis Jesuits singing group before he devoted himself full time to philosophy.

Kavanagh’s brother Tom (A&S ’71) helped coordinate the Coming Home concert, and nephew John (A&S ’90) reflected on the experience afterward.

“Like most kids in Catholic grade school and high school in St. Louis, I grew up with their music, singing it at Mass. Unlike most kids, I also grew up with that music in my house — occasionally live,” he said. “My ties to those men and their music are deep. I truly felt my uncle’s presence there with us, and it was beautiful to see these great composers and performers together on stage back in St. Louis.”

Emily (Sides) Schiltz (Grad A&S ’02) had no personal connection to the St. Louis Jesuits but was influenced by their music nonetheless. She was thrilled to attend Coming Home but also to share the stage with the group, as a member of the backing choir.

“Music connected me to the Church throughout my childhood, and it was, unbeknownst to me then, the songs of the St. Louis Jesuits that pulled me in and kept me close,” Schiltz said. “The concert was a surreal, beautiful afternoon of singing for praise and for gratitude — for these five men, and for the music they were inspired to write and share.”

Of course, the idea of gratitude came up again and again during Coming Home. Before starting, “This Alone,” the first of five of his songs played at the concert, Manion spoke to the audience.

“I’m here, we’re — all of us — here for one reason only: to say thank you,” he said, his voice thick with emotion.

“We’ll take some of it, but the St. Louis Jesuits isn’t it; it’s the phenomenon of these last 40 years. And you’ve been as much a part of it as we are. In the end, we just serve the music.”

SUBMITTED PHOTO

PHOTO BY STEVE DOLAN

Alumni in 1979 (from left): Manion, Schutte, Foley, O’Connor and Dufford.

The group in 2019 (from left): Schutte, Foley, O’Connor, Manion and Dufford.

The group in 2019 (from left): Schutte, Foley, O’Connor, Manion and Dufford.

The group in 2019 (from left): Schutte, Foley, O’Connor, Manion and Dufford.

The group in 2019 (from left): Schutte, Foley, O’Connor, Manion and Dufford.

The group in 2019 (from left): Schutte, Foley, O’Connor, Manion and Dufford.
Law professor Joel K. Goldstein is the No. 1 expert on the second-in-command.

— By Jessica Ciccone
Professor Joel K. Goldstein is the nation’s foremost expert on the vice presidency. Yes, you read that right. With two books and countless articles on the office of the vice president of the United States, Goldstein has certainly earned the title.

Since the 1990s, every four years, and rarely almost daily, Goldstein is a popular man. He has been profiled in The New York Times, had dinner with Vice President Joe Biden, appeared on national news and been quoted in at least four different languages.

“He’s definitely holding the record for the most quotes in the media probably by any expert,” said Roger L. Goldman, the Callis Family Professor of Law Emeritus and longtime colleague of Goldstein. “As a constitutional law scholar at Saint Louis University School of Law, Goldstein has earned the reputation as a revered professor and colleague.”

“He’s a triple threat,” Goldman said. “Scholar, great human being, legacy of his writings and books and articles. They’re going to make a lasting contribution to literature, not just here but nationally. He’s been building his national reputation. And for all the students that he’s taught, he’s a great role model. And part of his personality is his modesty.”

THE RHODES SCHOLAR
The story of how Goldstein found his niche is as unique as the expertise for which he is recognized. After growing up in University City, Missouri, he left home for Princeton University where he studied at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. During his junior year, he happened upon the Modern American Vice Presidency: The Transformation of a Political Institution — one of the first books to focus on the office of the vice president and how it changed over time.

THE PROFESSOR
In 1994, just as Vice President Al Gore was gearing up for a historic midterm election, Goldstein was facing a challenge of his own — the classroom. He joined the faculty at Saint Louis University School of Law, where he put his expertise on the constitution and the vice presidency to practice.

“The idea of teaching was something I thought of before I went into law practice, he said. “Law was my father’s profession. My father was also something I wanted to do,” Goldstein said. “I was fortunate that I got to do both. I enjoyed the teaching.”

Goldstein was appointed as a professor at Saint Louis University School of Law in 1997. He encouraged the board’s decisions, even during contentious times, and was never flustered. His “calm, professional and deep understanding of the role,” continued. “He was probably the most influential professor or teacher I’ve had,” Brusati said. “And it wasn’t only his research, but how he taught those opinions how judges think about legal issues.”

After receiving his doctorate in political science, Goldstein followed in his father’s footsteps to become a lawyer. He attended Harvard Law School, where he served as a note editor of the Harvard Law Review.

“My father loved the law and the practice of law,” Goldstein said. “He and Elmer Price formed Goldman and Price in 1957, and it became a leading maritime firm in St. Louis. I grew up thinking I wanted to be a lawyer and wanted to practice with my father, which I did for 12 years before joining SLU’s faculty in 1984.”

After law school, and prior to joining the firm, Goldstein served as a law clerk for Judge W. Arthur Garrity Jr. of the Federal District Court in Massachusetts, who was notable for issuing the 1974 order in Morgan v. Hargrave that mandated that Boston schools be desegregated by means of busing.

In 1982 Goldstein completed his first book, The Modern American Vice Presidency: The Transformation of a Political Institution — one of the first books to focus on the office of the vice president and how it changed over time.

After his tenure he has written countless law journal articles and op-eds, and in 2016 completed his second book: Constitutional Law: Cases and Materials.

THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL HIGHS AND LOWS
As a professor, Goldstein was able to dedicate time to his scholarship on the office of the vice president. During his tenure he has written countless law journal articles and op-eds, and in 2016 completed his second book on the office: The White House Vice Presidency: The Path to Significance, Mondale to Biden. He changed the nature of the conversation about the vice president, said William P. Johnson, dean of the School of Law. “He brings a historical, keen legal mind and deep understanding of the role.”

“Vice-presidential scholars form a tiny club,” wrote Mark Leibovich in a 2012 New York Times profile of Goldstein. “And Joel K. Goldstein is their George Washington — or, better yet, their (Vice President) John Adams.”

Goldstein is widely respected not only in academia but also among vice presidents themselves. He maintains a relationship with Walter Mondale, appeared on a panel with Gerald Ford, spoke with Dan Quayle and dined with Joe Biden.

“In 2009, right after he became vice president, I got a call from [Biden’s] office to set up a meeting of some VIP scholars to meet with him and just talk about the vice presidency,” Goldstein said. “We met at the Naval Observatory, the vice president’s official residence, and had dinner.”

And although Goldstein has rubbed elbows with men who were once headstrong away from the presidency, what has left the biggest impression on others is not his expertise necessarily but his compassion and intellect.

“A key lesson I learned from Professor Goldstein is to take criticism in stride, calmly and professionally, trusting one’s own abilities while making adjustments based upon others’ input judiciously,” Trigurd Hay (Law ’01) said. “When he served as the adviser to the law journal, he encouraged the board’s decisions, even during contentious times, and was never flustered. His calm, professional and decent demeanor was an excellent example I have thought about — and tried to follow in my entire career.”

“Essentially, Hay said, Professor Goldstein is a sincere person first and a really smart lawyer second.”

Goldstein retired from the full-time faculty in July 2018. He plans to return to the School of Law to teach Constitutional Law on occasion and will continue to share his expertise about U.S. vice presidents. UTAS
1949
Dr. Mario Martini (MEd) is a retired pediatrician with six children, 15 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. He lives in Palisades, California.

1958
Dr. James O’Grady (CSB ’61, GRAD ’64) received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Gateway Chapter of the Labor & Employment Relations Association. O’Grady was honored for his service as a professor, mediator, arbitrator and fact-finder in the fields of human resources and labor arbitration. He retired from St. Louis Community College as a professor in 2004. He lives in St. Louis.

1959
Dr. Jerome E. Schulte (MED) released his book Wisdom For Life through Inkwell Books. He lives in Scottsdale, Arizona.

1961
Russ Byly (IT) is celebrating his 10th year volunteering at St. Cecilia Academy through the Ignatian Volunteer Corps. He lives in St. Louis.

1968
Michael J. Scheer, S.J. (A&S ’63, GRAD ’66) ’77 announced that he will retire from his position as president of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) in June 2020. He has been president since April 2013. He also serves on the boards of trustees of two AJCU institutions: Saint Louis University and John Carroll University.

1964
Mary (Peterson) Reinhold (MED) received the Founders Award from the Plattsburgh (New York) Community Foundation Fund. She was recognized for her work helping develop funding for community involvement and historic preservation by establishing the Plattsburgh Conservancy and a Main Street Program.

1965
Theodore Biondo (IT) worked for McDonnell Aircraft in St. Louis and at Cape Kennedy, Florida, on Launch Pad 39 for the Gemini Project and later for the moon launch of Apollo 11. He also worked on the Space Shuttle in California at Rockwell International and at Sundstrand in Rockford, Illinois, where he lives with his wife, Patricia.

1967
Paul Hendrickson (A&S) wrote Plagued by Fire: The Dreams and Furies of Frank Lloyd Wright, which was published by Knopf in October. Hendrickson’s previous books have been finalists for the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award. He lives in Havertown, Pennsylvania.

1973
Dr. Stephen Levey (A&S ’73, GRAD ’76) retired after working more than 43 years in higher education. He held positions at the University of Arizona, University of Texas at El Paso, Washington University at St. Louis and most recently as associate vice chancellor of academic instruction at Houston Community College, where he continues to teach.

1974
Charles E. Malone (A&S) retired from Western Illinois University after 21 years as a librarian and professor. He and his wife, Rose Marie, have moved back to South St. Louis to enjoy their retirement.

Francis X. O’Connor (Law) received the St. Thomas More Award, which is given annually to a Catholic lawyer in the Diocese of Scranton. He lives in Great Bend, Pennsylvania, and continues to practice law.

1975
Sister Mary Cross (GRAD A&S) celebrated her 60th anniversary as a Franciscan sister. She lives at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet, Illinois.

Maureen Nolan (MED) is a licensed therapist in Decatur, Georgia. She specializes in workshops called “Sainthood School for Parents” in relation to attention deficit hyperactivity disorder as well as character and executive function disorders.

1978
Dr. Patricia Conley (VSN ’78, GRAD ’79) was invited to speak at the International Conference on Nursing in Rome to present her research findings: “COPD Discharge Instruction and Evaluation of Quality of Life: A Feasibility Study.” She lives in Raytown, Missouri.

Dr. Richard Lazruff (MED) is on the board of directors of the St. Louis Bridge Center, a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving the bridge-playing community in St. Louis.

ALUMNI REFERRAL PROGRAM
DO YOU KNOW A HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR OR SENIOR WHO WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT ADDITION TO THE SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY?
Complete the alumni referral nomination form online at alumni slu.edu/alumnireferral, and the Office of Admission will contact the prospective students you’ve referred.

ANGELA LEWIS
Ngela Lewis’ earliest memories of basketball take her back to a rec center court on the north side of St. Louis. Even then, it must have been obvious she was destined for great heights.

“I’ve been 6’1” since the 7th grade,” she said with a laugh. “It wasn’t until then to be so tall, but it definitely worked to my advantage.”

Lewis (A&S ’94, GRAD A&S ’97) grew up the youngest of three. Her brothers played a lot of basketball around the neighborhood, and she tagged along.

“No one wanted to pick up a girl for their team,” she said. “But my brothers would get picked up anyway and then convince the rest of the guys to pick me up, too. It was always two-for-one.”

Their mentorship paid off. Lewis lived up to her potential, landing a full athletic scholarship to Saint Louis University. In four years, she scored more than 1,000 points on the basketball court and earned a bachelor’s degree, majoring in communication and minoring in African American studies. After graduation, she traveled to Germany to play professionally — the first Bilikens women’s basketball player to do so.

She spent a year abroad, then moved back home and started coaching — a new side of the game Lewis loved. During the next decade, her coaching career took off; from an assistant position at a high school to college to a professional team, across Missouri and the across the Midwest. She helped lead the St. Louis Surge, a professional women’s basketball team, to a national championship. And actually, wherever she was, she led girls and women to be their best.

Then, suddenly, one of her friends died of an undetectable heart defect, and the news made Lewis feel the most vulnerable she’d felt in a while. She wanted to get back to St. Louis.

LEWIS
She found herself in the school district where she’d gone to high school. As part of the Department of Educational Equity and Diversity, Lewis works with students like her younger self — participants in the voluntary deparergogization program — to make sure they had the support they needed to graduate. Another kind of coaching, she thought. To inspire the high-schoolers, Lewis gave pep talks and speeches to student groups — something she’d been called on to do in previous jobs. But her mother pushed her to do more.

“You’re not going to reach everyone just by giving speeches,” her mom said. “You should write a book.”

Lewis ended up writing four. When she published her first book, The Game-Changing Aunt Six, ”a Girl’s Way to Choose Success, Lewis hosted a signing on the court at St. Louis Mathews-Dickey Boys & Girls Club, where her brothers had put her on the team all those years ago. She’d come full circle. “Basketball is deeply rooted in me. Being on the court is the catalyst for everything else in my life,” she said. “It’s the core of who I am and what I’ll always do.”

She’s still on the court these three to four times a week. In between private coaching and speaking engagements, she writes and strategizes her next big play. Her most recent book — The Fundamental Game Plan: Every Basketball Player’s And Athlete’s 4-Week Work Plan Teacher — came out in November. — By Any Garland
1979
Michael J. Keating (LAW) received the St. Louis Business Journal 2019 Corporate Counsel Award-Litigation Leader, and his accomplishments at Emerson Electric were featured in an article in the St. Louis Business Journal in July.

Paul Malenock (GRAD CB) served in the U.S. Air Force (ROTC) as first lieutenant and retired in 2013 as senior vice president of strategic planning at Brown Shoe Co. He lives in Fenton, Missouri.

Vicky Johnson Stringer (LAW) was elected to the board of directors of the St. Louis Bridge Center, a nonprofit that serves the bridge-playing community in St. Louis.

1980
Kate (Lownesdorp) LeVan (ASS), a business communication coach and instructor in Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management’s Executive Development Program, was a finalist in the 2019 International Book Awards. She won in the Business Communications/Public Relations category for her first book, Speaking with Strategic Impact: Four Steps to Extraordinary Presence and Persuasion.

Francis G. Slay (LAW), an attorney with the law firm Spencer Fane and formerly the mayor of St. Louis, joined the mediator and senior arbitrator panels of U.S. Arbitration and Mediation.

1981
Michael Avery (GRAD CB) retired in 2006 as president and chief investment officer of Waddell and Reed Investment Management Co. and Ivy Investment Management Co. Avery had been with Waddell and Reed since 1981. He lives in Kansas City, Missouri.

John T. Parker (LAW), a special education teacher with the Special School District of St. Louis County, is a resource teacher in the Rockwood School District. Previously, he was the chairperson of the special education department at the Mark Twain Student Support Center in the Ferguson-Florissant School District.

Sandra (Thompson) Williams (ASS) won a 2019 Christian Indi Award for her novel The Lost Three Tickets to Heaven. She lives in Florissant, Missouri.

1983
Lloyd J. “Jack” Vasquez Jr. (LAW) is district director of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s St. Louis District and was admitted to the federal Senior Executive Service. He lives in St. Louis.

1984
Joe Laurie (ASS) was promoted in July to the weekday evening meteorologist at WDAF-TV (FOX 4) in Kansas City, Missouri, after almost 25 years of being the weekend morning and evening meteorologist.

1985
Friends suggest he apply at Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc., the brewery headquartered in St. Louis. He is hired as an analyst in the entertainment division, which oversees the company’s theme parks. He works on automating operations, including front-gate ticketing and financial reporting.

“The benefits were great. We received two free passes and could ride rollercoasters for a living. It was dream job for a young man, especially an adrenaline junkie.”

1986
Dr. Paul Gore (ASS) is vice president for academic affairs and provost at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky. He left his position as dean of the College of Professional Sciences at Xavier University in Cincinnati last summer to assume his new role.

2008
Dean is corporate executive vice president of finance for Busch Entertainment Corp. He rises through the ranks and is named president of Busch Gardens Tampa Bay and Adventure Island. He leads a team of thousands and oversees the design and construction of some major attractions including Falcon’s Fury, which then was the tallest freestanding drop tower in North America.

“Watching riders having fun, listening to their screams and seeing them race to get back in line to ride again is what motivated me. We were delivering fun.”

2015
Florida Governor Rick Scott presents Dean with the Distinguished Business Ambassador Award for creating jobs and driving economic growth in the state.

2017
Dean becomes president of SeaWorld Orlando, Aquatica and Discovery Cove. It is named Best Marine Park in 2017 and 2018. Dean also receives the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Memphis.

2019
Dean becomes interim president and CEO of Visit St. Pete/Clearwater, Florida, to enhance tourism. The same year, the board of directors of the Memphis Zoo asks him to return to the hometown to revitalize the zoo he visited dozens of times as a child.

“The zoo is beloved by Memphians, and the opportunity to work with a world-class team to enhance it and further highlight its outstanding efforts through conservation, education and research here is rewarding.”
founder Terrence Dempsey, S.J., who retired last summer. Dr. Miguel Paniagua (A&S 97) is an adjunct professor of medicine in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. While continuing to serve as medical adviser in test development services at the National Board of Medical Examiners, Paniagua practices and teaches consultative palliative medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

1997

Michael P. McMillan (A&S 97) is president and CEO of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, was honored at Atlanta’s National Civil Rights Museum in December 2018. She is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In March 2019 she published her first book, Gaining Voice: A Woman’s Journey to the U.S. Senate. Dr. Burton St. John III (A&S 06), who was the 2017-2018 Rockville, Maryland, Professor of Public Relations and Media Design, received an AICPA Award and the 2018 AICPA Standing Ovation Award for Personal Financial Planning. She runs WorthyNest, a fee-only investment advisory firm.

2000

Joe Laramie, S.J. (A&S 96, GRAD BUS 00) collaborated to bring the Angelic Warfare Confraternity to the Diocese of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma in April 2019. Deborah (Dusold) Meyer (A&S 98) published her first book, Redefining Family Wealth: A Parent’s Guide to Purposeful Living. She received the Chalifetz School of Business’ 2019 Distinguished Young Alumni Award and the 2018 AICPA Standing Ovation Award for Personal Financial Planning. She runs WorthyNest, a fee-only investment advisory firm in Washington, D.C., which focuses on creating and managing wealth for parents who want to build wealth without compromising their values and lives in St. Charles, Missouri, with her husband, Brian, and three sons.

2003

Tim Hager (GRAD ED 03, 04) is chairman of the board of trustees of Three Rivers College. He currently retired as superintendent of the Iron County C-4 school district. He lives in Van Buren, Missouri.

2004

Dr. Amanda Ombrello (A&S) was published in the New England Journal of Medicine. The article documents her experience treating individuals with monogenic autoinflammatory syndrome, which causes recurrent strokes. She lives in Rockville, Maryland.

2005

Dr. Joseph M. Ede (A&S) and James Brent, O.P. (GRAD 00) are board-certified in geriatrics and teach consultative palliative care. She runs WorthyNest, a fee-only investment advisory firm in Washington, D.C., which focuses on creating and managing wealth for parents who want to build wealth without compromising their values and lives in St. Charles, Missouri, with her husband, Brian, and three sons.

2010

Dr. Christopher Clark (A&S), an associate professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, received the 2018 American Society for Quality, a health care transformation company that optimizes client health care systems’ laboratory and imaging department. In April 2019 Castree was honored by the Missouri Athletic Club as a Woman of Distinction Rising Star for her professional success, leadership in the American Society for Quality, volunteer and philanthropic efforts, and overall character. She lives in St. Louis.

2012

Katie Castree (GRAD A&S) is an operations excellence manager at Accumen, a health care transformation company that optimizes client health care systems’ laboratory and imaging department. In April 2019 Castree was honored by the Missouri Athletic Club as a Woman of Distinction Rising Star for her professional success, leadership in the American Society for Quality, volunteer and philanthropic efforts, and overall character. She lives in St. Louis.

2013

Nicole (Filippone) Hodur (GRAD A&S) studied coral reefs, manatees, and other wildlife while learning the methods communities are using to sustain them in Belize. An educator at Lincoln Park Zoo, Hodur lives in Evergreen Park, Illinois, and is a graduate student in Miami University’s Advanced Inquiry Program. Tom Goblan (CSB 13) is a chief for the New Community Policing Crisis Response Team, which partners the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

EIGHT NEW JESUITS ARE SLU ALUMNI

Last summer, the Society of Jesus announced the ordination of 22 new priests in Canada, the United States and Haiti. Nine of them have connections to Saint Louis University. D. Matthew Braun, S.J., one of the new priests, is associate pastor of St. Francis Xavier College Church. Eight others studied at SLU. They are:

Peter Golaile, S.J. (GRAD A&S 10) studies theology at the Pontifical University in Rome.
Jonathan Harmon, S.J. (P&L 18) is an associate pastor at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Denver.
Stephen Kramer, S.J. (P&L 18) is a parish vicar at Immaculate Conception Jesuit Church in New Orleans.
Andrew Lagana, S.J. (GRAD A&S 18) is serving at parishes for his first few assignments. Our Lady of Guadalupe in San Diego; Our Lady of.Lincoln Park, Los Angeles; Our Lady of Guadalupe in San Jose, Costa Rica; and Most Holy Trinity Parish in San Jose, California.

School of Law Reunions

A class reunion reception will be hosted on Friday, Sept. 25, for all School of Law graduates celebrating a class reunion this year. Additional programming will take place throughout Homecoming and Family Weekend. For more information, visit slu.edu/law/alumni/reunions.

Submit Your Class Notes

Want to share news with your fellow alum? We hope to hear from you!

How to submit:

universitas@slu.edu
www.slu.edu/universitas

Hop on over to Saint Louis University for the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4. Bring your family for this annual tradition and enjoy special hunts on campus.

alumni.slu.edu/easter20
Dr. Michel Rozbicki, a scholar of the cultural history of early America, died July 31, 2019. He was 73. Before coming to Saint Louis University, Dr. Rozbicki had a distinguished career in his home country of Poland and served as director of the American Studies Center at Warsaw University. He joined SLU’s history department in 1992 and was chair from 2007 to 2019. In 2001, he helped create the Center for Intercultural Studies, where he was director until 2018.

Dr. Marcia Bennington was on faculty in the Department of Endocrinology at the School of Medicine for 38 years, died Dec. 10, 2019, at age 66. She had been an associate professor in internal medicine in the 1980s and ’90s before retiring to Pottstown, Pa. She took a voluntary appointment as a clinical associate professor. While at SLU, Dr. Bennington oversaw the endocrinology Fellowship and directed the diabetes education program and the clinical program for diabetes and vision impairment.

Dr. William Thacker (MED ’50), professor emeritus of English and director emeritus of film studies, died Sept. 19, 2019. He was 85. Dr. Thacker joined SLU’s faculty in 1963 and taught literature, film history and criticism, media history and documentary filmmaking. He also established the University’s film studies program. In addition, he was an award-winning filmmaker involved in more than 30 documentaries, including ones about famous St. Louisians such as explorer William Clark, poet Sara Teasdale and botanist Henry Shaw.

Dr. William Teacher, professor emeritus of physics and former chair of the Department of Physics, died Sept. 28, 2019, at 64. He came to SLU in 1969 as an assistant professor of physics. Guiding students through complex courses, Dr. Teacher was recognized with the Outstanding Faculty of the Year Award in 2009 and also received numerous grants from the NASA Langley Research Center, where he was also a summer faculty fellow.

Mr. Val Pezzano, longtime SLU men’s soccer assistant coach and an SLU icon, died Sept. 27, 2019, at age 82. He was the head coach of the department when he retired, and he served in that role until 2007. During his time as head coach, Pezzano compiled an 82-65-24 record and reached the NCAA playoffs seven times.

Dr. William Fagen (MED ’70), professor emeritus of English and former chair of the Department of English, died Sept. 19, 2019, at age 82. He was a member of the English faculty of the English department, where he taught for 43 years until his retirement. In recognition of his dedication to teaching and his commitment to training and mentoring graduate student instructors, the department named its annual graduate student teaching award the Dr. William Fagen Teaching Award.

Mrs. Helen (Gregory) Walsh (DENT ’47), former associate dean and professor in the Department of Dentistry, died Sept. 13, 2019. She was 93. She was the first woman to join SLU’s faculty in 1947, and she served as associate dean of the School of Dental Hygiene until her retirement in 1992.

Dr. Christine Fournier, professor of psychological science, died Sept. 19, 2019. She was 71. Her research focused on the use of peer influence to motivate human behavior, with a particular emphasis on adolescent health and well-being. Her work was recognized with the Distinguished Scientist Award from the Association for Psychological Science in 2019.

Mr. Ted Kinnaird (A&S ’47), former editor and publisher of the Missouri Magazine of History, died Sept. 11, 2019. He was 91. Mr. Kinnaird was a long-time contributor to the Missouri Magazine of History, and he served as its editor and publisher for more than 50 years. He was also a member of the Missouri Historical Society and the Missouri State Historical Society.

Dr. Thomas “Tomi” Djordjevic, former associate professor of philosophy, died July 30, 2019. He was 66. Dr. Djordjevic was a prolific writer and educator, and he published numerous articles and books on topics such as ethics, political philosophy and the philosophy of language.

Dr. George F. headphones (MED ’70), former associate dean and professor in the Department of Dentistry, died Sept. 13, 2019. He was 93. He was the first woman to join SLU’s faculty in 1947, and he served as associate dean of the School of Dental Hygiene until her retirement in 1992.

Dr. Mark H. Fournier, professor of psychology, died Sept. 19, 2019. He was 71. His research focused on the use of peer influence to motivate human behavior, with a particular emphasis on adolescent health and well-being. His work was recognized with the Distinguished Scientist Award from the Association for Psychological Science in 2019.
Alumni Survey Results

Last May, SLU’s Office of Alumni and Donor Engagement surveyed alumni about their time at Saint Louis University and beyond. The results help the University understand what alumni value and how to build on the shared SLU experience.

Of 2,065 total respondents, more than half earned a SLU undergraduate degree; about a third earned a SLU graduate degree; and 17% had both undergraduate and graduate degrees from SLU. The majority of respondents live outside of the St. Louis metropolitan area; 41% live within 50 miles of St. Louis.

93% of survey respondents describe their experience as a SLU student as “good to excellent.”

91% rate their decision to attend Saint Louis University as a good or great decision.

85% say that “value and respect for degree” has significant or critical impact on their opinion of their alma mater.

What’s important to alumni in making a decision to give to SLU?

1. That their gift will provide financial support to SLU students
2. Knowing how their dues or gifts are used
3. That their gift will increase the quality of the academics

Alumni were asked to name one program or activity that had a special impact on their experience as a student.

Word cloud type size reflects the frequency of the answers.

THE CONCERT SCENE

Although the performer is unknown in this circa 2004 photo, the early 2000s brought big-name acts to campus, typically for two free shows per year — a Homecoming concert in the fall and a Spring Fever concert in April. For example, rapper Wyclef Jean performed on campus in fall 2000, along with hip-hop acts the Black Eyed Peas and De La Soul as part of the MTV Campus Invasion. In 2001-02, SLU welcomed St. Louis rapper Nelly and the St. Lunatics, alternative rock band Better Than Ezra and rock band Gin Blossoms. SLU’s 2002-03 musical guests included rappers Fabolous, Tablo Kwak and Toca Lev, along with alternative rock band Sister Hazel, who played an acoustic set in the Griesedieck Hall lobby due to rain. The 2003-04 school year brought rock bands O.A.R., Dashboard Confessional and punk rockers Zebrahead to campus. And the 2004-05 SLU concerts featured singer-songwriters Ben Folds and Jason Mraz.

JUST FOR LAUGHS

Many comedians in the early stages of their careers also did stand-up sets at Saint Louis University in the early 2000s, including Jimmy Fallon, Seth Meyers, Horatio Sanz and Daniel Tosh.

ON CAMPUS TALENT

Nationally known artists weren’t the only ones entertaining SLU students at the turn of the last century. In 2000, SLU’s first a cappella group, the all-male Bare Naked Statues, performed. The group gave their first concert before a small crowd at SLU’s Museum of Contemporary Religious Art, and it wasn’t long before they’d recorded a CD and began performing to sold-out crowds. A few years later, students formed SLU’s first all-female a cappella group, Beyond All Reason.

THE NEXT BIG THINGS

In the mid-2000s, the Billiken Club — a small venue on the ground floor of Busch Student Center — earned a following among indie music fans on campus and around the city. The club, which also hosted student organization events, open-mics and karaoke nights, brought a steady stream of up-and-comers and indie acts to campus, including Richard Buckner, Anais Mitchell and Wavves. Years before they won Grammy awards, Bon Iver and St. Vincent played to intimate Billiken Club audiences.
Pioneering a remarkable future for all.

ACCELERATING EXCELLENCE
The Campaign for SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

www.slu.edu/campaignforslu