AS WE WELCOME THE NEW YEAR, I HAVE BEEN REFLECTING ON THE VALUE OF TRADITION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF INNOVATION. These forces can appear to be at cross purposes — with “tradition” stuck insistently in the past and “innovation” dismissing time’s hard-earned wisdom. Fortunately, at a Jesuit university, we are blessed with a tradition of transformation. Saint Louis University’s deep roots in the Jesuit tradition fuel our commitment to ask new questions, to envision new possibilities and to advance new solutions to the world’s most urgent challenges.

This issue of Universitas highlights just a few of the extraordinary things that become possible when tradition and innovation meet:

— The Foundational Jesuit principle of cura personalis — care for the whole person — is motivating a transformation of SLU’s campus culture to support student well-being (page 12).

— Because of SLU’s tradition of academic excellence, an impressive number of alumni have been at the forefront of scientific and technological advancements, playing pivotal roles in decades of space exploration (page 22).

— Experiential education — for centuries, a key element of Ignatian teaching and learning — is creating a new generation of leaders in the financial professions (page 28).

— SLU’s community of Jesuits, foundational to our history, continues to shape our present and future. These dedicated men are integral to advancing the University’s mission as teachers, scholars, ministers and leaders — and they now have a new home that reflects their central role in campus life (page 32).

— And generations of SLU alumni and supporters recently contributed to the historic conclusion of our Accelerating Excellence campaign — raising $604 million that will fuel a future of new possibilities for Saint Louis University (page 19).

SLU is encountering a world of change. We responded effectively to the upheaval of a global pandemic by relying on the guidance of our experts and a firm commitment to our Jesuit values. We are navigating a challenging environment for higher education, growing our enrollment and raising our research profile despite considerable headwinds. Our exceptional faculty, staff and students do not shy away from challenge or from change. As stewards of this Jesuit institution, they adapt, they advance new initiatives, and they innovate to serve the greater good.

FLYING ON BEAR CLUBS

The new Jesuit Center welcomes the campus community. — By Maggie Rotermond

ARCHBISHOP MITCHELL ROZANSKI pours chrism to consecrate the altar in the Jesuit Center Chapel. Also pictured are Timothy McMahon, S.J., rector of the Jesuit community of Saint Louis University; David Swensky, S.J., vice president for mission and identity at SLU; and Thomas Greene, S.J., provincial superior of the Jesuits USA Central and Southern Province. For more about the Jesuit Center, see page 32.

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IN MEMORIAM

THE LAST LOOK
The 2022 season was another successful one for Billiken soccer.

The women’s team, which achieved a unanimous top-10 national ranking this season, is a five-time defending A-10 champion and returned to the NCAA Women’s Soccer Championship for the fifth straight season.

The women posted a 10-0 record in winning the A-10 regular-season crown and carried a school-record 18-game winning streak — also the longest active streak in NCAA Division I women’s soccer — into the national tournament.

SLU was awarded a No. 2 seed for the 2022 NCAA Women’s Soccer Championship but lost to former Conference USA rival Memphis in the first-round game.

The men’s team captured the Atlantic 10 Conference Championship in dramatic fashion, advancing past Loyola Chicago in penalty kicks. It was the second straight season that SLU was the A-10 regular-season and tournament champs.

The Billikens went on to their 50th appearance in the NCAA Men’s Soccer Championship, the most of all time. The team defeated Memphis in the first round and fall to Indiana in the second round. The men’s team reached the Elite Eight in 2021.
New Institute Will Advance Neuroscience Research

In November, Saint Louis University announced the launch of the Institute for Translational Neuroscience (ITN). The institute brings together experts in biochemistry, chemistry, pharmacology, social justice and community outreach to study the physiology and diseases of the brain and central nervous system, and thereby ease human suffering.

Under the direction of Dr. Daniela Salvemini, SLU’s William Beaumont professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology, and growing out of the Henry and Amelia Nasrallah Center for Neuroscience, ITN aims to improve human health through the work of pre-clinical and clinical researchers in areas that include cognition, Alzheimer’s disease, chronic neuropathic pain, opioids, metabolism and traumatic brain injury.

Comprising more than 100 members across six schools and colleges from 23 departments at SLU, the institute offers students the opportunity to develop skills in neuroscience fields, beginning at the undergraduate level.

“The integration of SLU/Care into SSM Health-St. Louis creates one of the most comprehensive, fully integrated academic and community-based physician groups in the region, with more than 1,200 providers,” SLU President Dr. Fred P. Pestello said. “This partnership bolsters our collective goal to improve the quality of life across generations and cultures while addressing the social determinants of health that prevent our neighbors from living life to the fullest. It will further serve to strengthen the academic and research missions of the School of Medicine.”

SSM Health and SLUCare Physician Group committed to a seamless transition, so patients experienced no disruption in health care providers or location of services.

“Both SSM Health and Saint Louis University School of Medicine have a rich legacy of providing hope and healing to those in need across the St. Louis community,” Laura S. Kaiser (Grad CSB ‘85, Grad PH ‘85), president and CEO of SSM Health, said. “SSM Health’s founding congregation, the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, first arrived in St. Louis 150 years ago. As stewards of the healing ministry they began in 1872, we are thrilled to be taking this next step in our shared mission to ensure every patient gets the best case possible while keeping that care affordable for the individuals and families we serve.”

The agreement also represents a significant investment in the School of Medicine.

“Saint Louis University School of Medicine has a long tradition of excellence in academic leadership, educating the doctors and scientists of the future, while advancing cutting-edge clinical research and patient care,” Dr. Christine Jacobs, dean of the School of Medicine and vice president of medical affairs, said. “This partnership will expand the scope of our primary and specialty health care, allowing greater access to clinical trials for our patients, while we educate diverse and committed future physicians for our region, and grow our research in the School of Medicine.”

Longtime VPs Kauffman, Fowler Retire

June marked the official retirements of two long-serving Saint Louis University vice presidents, Bill Kauffman and Jeff Fowler. Kauffman, who was interim president of SLU for the 2013-14 academic year, served as SLU’s vice president, general counsel and secretary of the University for more than 26 years. In the year before his retirement, he continued to serve as senior legal counsel and secretary of the University.

“We have all benefited from Bill’s selfless dedication and wise leadership,” said SLU President Dr. Fred P. Pestello. “As an attorney, Bill has served SLU with distinction. As a colleague, his generosity and mentorship will leave a lasting impact on the University and those with whom he has worked.”

In honor of his retirement, contributions can be made to the William R. Kauffman Student Higher Education Law Legal Writing Competition. Fowler, who most recently served as vice president for marketing and communications, was at SLU for more than two decades.

Following a career in broadcast journalism, he joined SLU in 2000 as director of media relations. Fowler was promoted to associate vice president for marketing and communications in 2001. After six years, he was tapped to serve as vice president for advancement. In 2004 he became vice president of the new Marketing and Communications Division.

“I have valued our collaboration, and I have deep respect for Jeff’s integrity, loyalty and love for Saint Louis University,” Pestello said. “We are a better University for his contributions.”

Gifts in honor of Fowler’s retirement are being directed to SLU’s Student Mental Health Support Fund.

SLU Celebrates Launch of Taylor Geospatial Institute

Saint Louis University President Dr. Fred P. Pestello announced the launch of the Taylor Geospatial Institute in April 2022 during an event at SLU’s Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building.

Led by Saint Louis University, the Taylor Geospatial Institute (TGI) is a first-of-its-kind institution that brings together eight leading institutions to collaborate on research into geospatial technology. The other collaborating institutions are: The Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, Harris-Stowe State University, Missouri University of Science and Technology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Missouri-Columbia, University of Missouri-St. Louis and Washington University at St. Louis.

The TGI is funded by a legacy investment by Andrew C. Taylor, executive chairman of Enterprise Holdings Inc. and founding chair of Greater St. Louis Inc., with supporting investments from each of the eight member institutions. The institute builds on St. Louis’ significant geospatial assets and positions the region as the global center of geospatial innovation, impact and excellence.

Taylor said the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency’s construction of a new campus in North St. Louis combined with a visit to their current St. Louis office led him to believe geospatial would play a big role in the city going forward. He wanted to get involved and knew a regional collaboration made the most sense.

The institute will be a hub for access to and development of technology powered by big data analytics and computing resources to support research and training.

INSTITUTE SECURES $1 MILLION GRANT

In October, the TGI received a $1 million grant from the National Science Foundation to create the Taylor Geospatial Institute Regional AI Learning System.

The three-year grant was awarded to Dr. Vasit Sagan, associate professor of geospatial science at SLU and acting director of the TGI, along with Dr. William T.C. Kramer and Dr. Shaowen Wang, both from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

The high-performance computing and data analysis system, known as TGI RAAS, will be housed at the National Petascale Computing Facility at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
New Center Focuses on Global Catholicism

Launched this fall, the Center for Research on Global Catholicism (CRGC) brings together three key components of SLU’s Jesuit history and mission: a legacy of global engagement, a commitment to rigorous academic inquiry and a focus on social justice.

The CRGC is the only research center of its kind to focus on Catholicism in a global context. “Our ambition is to make SLU a destination for research on global Catholicism,” CRGC Director Dr. Mary Dunn said. “We are building a center here at SLU that will be a hub for scholarship, connecting our own faculty and students with local archivists, national research centers and the rich network of scholars around the world.”

Class of 2022 Honored at Commencement

During the annual commencement ceremony in May, the newest members of the Billikens alumni family were praised for rising to the occasion during a uniquely challenging time. The ceremony for the Class of 2022 marked the first in-person spring commencement since 2019. The commencement speaker was Andrés Gallegos (Law ’93), the chair of the National Council on Disability, who spoke about his own history of tackling challenges. After a 1996 car accident resulted in his quadriplegia, he began fighting for disability rights as a lawyer.

“The education that I received here is the foundation for my ability to protect the rights of people with disabilities throughout the country,” he said to the graduates. “My hope for you is that you utilize the foundation of your education at Saint Louis University to achieve all of your dreams, and to enhance the communities where you are.”

HONORARY DEGREES

Gallegos and four others received honorary degrees at commencement. Other honorees are listed below.

Dr. Isaiah Crawford (A&S ’82) is president of the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington.

Patrick P. Lee (PC ’59) started the Patrick P. Lee Foundation, which provides funding to improve the lives of those affected by mental illness.

John Vatterott (A&S ’65) established Vatterott College in 1969. He and his wife Joan do charitable work through the Joan and John Vatterott Foundation.

SLU Reaches Largest Enrollment in a Decade

This fall, Saint Louis University enrolled the most students since 2012. Consistent with its mission, the University is continuing efforts—including test-optional admissions—to make a SLU education more accessible. SLU also has been reimagining ways to introduce master’s programs to international students and recruit them to join the campus community.

BY THE NUMBERS

Fall 2022 Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students total</td>
<td>13,546</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>8,437</td>
<td>24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate and professional students</td>
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<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>First-year students</td>
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<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-time, full-time freshmen</td>
<td>999</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ON CAMPUS

Tillett is Head Women’s Basketball Coach

In April, Rebecca Tillett became the eighth head coach in Billiken women’s basketball history. Tillett spent the last four years reinvigorating the women’s team at Longwood University, a tenure that culminated with a conference championship, the program’s first NCAA Tournament appearance and the Lancers first NCAA Tournament victory. Prior to Longwood, Tillett began to climb the ranks on Navy’s bench in 2014-15. In her four seasons, Navy won 81-47.

Oh’Loughlin Family Champions Center Construction Underway

In May, Saint Louis University dignitaries gathered outside Chaifetz Arena to officially break ground on a new facility that will make a positive impact on all Billiken student-athletes.

The Oh’Loughlin Family Champions Center will deliver programming related to academic advising, spiritual development, sports performance, nutrition, wellness and sports psychology. The 25,000-square-foot building will feature leading-edge technology to help deliver on the athletic department’s strategic objectives: to educate, compete and build community.

The facility is scheduled to be completed in fall 2023.

Billiken Soccer Legacy Center Opens

Another new athletic facility—this one specifically for the Billiken soccer programs—opened in spring 2022. Robert R. Hermann Stadium, home to the men’s and women’s soccer teams, received an upgrade with the construction of a new locker room and athletic training center, the Billiken Soccer Legacy Center.

The 5,000-square-foot facility houses two locker rooms; a state-of-the-art sports medicine facility; and a conference room overlooking the pitch to be used for, among other things, meetings with prospective student-athletes.
Chess Team Honored for Historic Season

Six years after its founding, the Saint Louis University chess team claimed the collegiate chess national championship. The Final Four of Collegiate Chess wrapped up in April, with SLU edging out Webster University to take home the President’s Cup.

“SLU is also the reigning FIDE World Rapid Champions and the Pan-American Intercontinental Champions,” Coach Alejandro Ramirez said. “We have won every event we can participate in — the national champion feather was the last one we were missing on our cap. Now SLU is undoubtedly the No. 1 chess university in the country.”

SLU’s team consisted of Dariush Swiercz, Nikolas Theodorou, Benjamin Bok, Akshat Chandra, Cemil Tsolakidou, Greece.

Additionally, SLU students received individual honors at the team competition: Theodorou, a student in the College for Public Health and Social Justice, who represented the Greek federation; and Gabriela Antova, a junior in the Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business, who represented Bulgaria.

The other SLU-affiliated players at the Olympiad included Bok, The Netherlands; Ali Marandi, Turkey; and Stavroula Tsolakidou, Greece.

SLU to Open New Mobile Health Clinic

A new SLU Mobile Health Clinic will soon serve St. Louisans in need. U.S. Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL) was instrumental in working to bring the clinic to the city. SLU’s mobile health clinic, which will be used to purchase and equip a mobile health clinic that will provide access to basic exams, screenings and other routine care that can help avoid more costly services.

Select SLU Students Earn National Awards

Saint Louis University attracts high-achieving students who want to make a difference. A select few go above and beyond each year, earning national competitive awards.

TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP: Rebecca Townley, an African American studies and political science major, was named a Truman Scholar — only the fourth in SLU history and the first since 2010. Truman Scholars demonstrate leadership, a commitment to a career in government or nonprofits, and academic excellence.

Fulbright U.S. Student Program: The Fulbright is the flagship international academic exchange sponsored by the American government. Seven SLU students and alumni were accepted to the program: Allie Biscupski (CSB ’22), Paige Giaramana (A&S ’21), J.P. Ideker (PH ’15), Dan O’Connell (A&S ’22), Emma Pauer (A&S ’22), Katie Rabideau (A&S ’22) and Dmitri Schmidt (A&S ’22).

Saint Louis University has once more been recognized as a Best Value in Higher Education and a Top-Ranked Catholic University.

SLU Named a Best Value, Leading Catholic University

Saint Louis University has 29 graduate and professional programs ranked in the top 100 in the 2023 edition of U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Graduate Schools” guide, released in March 2022. The Saint Louis University School of Medicine was ranked No. 2 in the nation, continuing a long tradition of holding a top spot since rankings for the discipline were first published.

The Saint Louis University School of Medicine is one of only 25 students in the nation to receive the award in 2022 — and the first SLU student ever.

The team was established in fall 2016 as a partnership between SLU and the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis, with support from University trustee and chess enthusiast Rex Sinquefield (CSB ’67) and his wife, Dr. Jeanne Sinquefield.

The 2022-23 chess team also had five members representing their home countries in the 44th World Chess Olympiad. Two
New Ignatian Minor Launched in the Fall

During the fall semester, Saint Louis University began offering a minor in Ignatian service.

The cross-discipline minor focuses on project-based service-learning that challenges students to help the community while fostering a lifelong commitment to service.

The minor includes three required courses and three electives, all involving service-learning.

The first course in the minor, SERV 1000: Ignatian Spirituality and Service, is part of SLU’s new core curriculum. Students in this course can participate in the Clavius Project, which brings robotics and STEM enrichment programs into underserved elementary and middle schools across St. Louis.

The Clavius Project was started in 2014 at St. Louis University High School. Originally, the management of the project was held by the school, but the Thomas R. Schilli Foundation transferred the management of the project to the University.

Social Work Stands on Its Own

The School of Social Work is once again an independent academic unit, with Dr. Noelle Fearn, the former director of the school, as dean.

Previously, the School of Social Work had been part of the College for Public Health and Social Justice. The financial and operational separation of the units began last spring.

“I believe that this separation will ultimately help support the growth of both college and school, improve student outcomes, and support the overall mission of Saint Louis University,” SLU Provost Dr. Mike Lewis said.

Also, on July 1, 2022, the School of Science and Engineering debuted, combining four departments from the College of Arts and Sciences — chemistry, computer science, earth and atmospheric sciences, and physics — with engineering and aviation programs.

BELONGING TO THE COMMUNITY


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SLU CELEBRATES HOMECOMING AND FAMILY WEEKEND

Saint Louis University’s Homecoming and Family Weekend brought a crowd of students, families and alumni to the St.-Louis campus.

The 2022 homecoming included the traditional fireworks, a Billiken men’s soccer game, a carnival on campus and many other events.

Homecoming and Family Weekend is three days of events celebrating SLU, held the last weekend in September. The 2023 event is scheduled for Sept. 22-24.

University Names New Leadership

TRUSTEES

Timothy McMahon, S.J.

McMahon (A&S ’80) is the rector of SLU’s Jesuit Center, as well as the canonical pastor at St. Francis Xavier College Church. Previously, he was provincial of the Jesuits of the Missouri Province and president of the Jesuit High School in Denver.

Anita Borgmeyer

Borgmeyer is a marketing executive with more than 20 years of experience. She most recently was the staff vice president for member engagement and communications at Centene Corp.

Rochelle D. Smith

Smith was the inaugural associate dean of diversity and inclusion and associate chief diversity officer at the Yale School of Medicine. Previously, she worked at Washington University in St. Louis for 22 years. Smith’s late husband, Dr. Jonathan Smith, was SLU’s first vice president for diversity and community engagement.

VICE PRESIDENTS

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Vice President, Marketing and Communications

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SLU-Madrid Expands Its Footprint

Saint Louis University’s Madrid Campus will be getting more classroom, work and student lounge space.

Dr. Paul Vita, director and academic dean, announced news of the expansion in June. “Saint Louis University has purchased an additional property for its Madrid campus, approximately 1,000 square meters of multi-use space, located on Calle Maestro Ángel Llorca,” Vita said.

The Madrid campus had been searching for additional facilities for three years. The goal is for the new space to open in fall 2024.
College is often described as the best four years of your life. A heady time to learn and grow, to experience and experiment, to “find yourself” and forge your future. But over the last decade — to say nothing of the last few years, especially — college has been anything but the best four years for a lot of people.

Campuses across the country have noticed an alarming increase in anxiety, depression and suicide among students — and that was before the COVID-19 pandemic. Between fall 2019 and spring 2020, the Healthy Minds Network and the American College Health Association found that depression in college students rose from 36% to 41%, and the percentage who said mental health affected their academic performance increased by nearly 9%, to 31%. In June 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that a quarter of 18- to 24-year-olds seriously contemplated suicide. Texas A&M University later reported that 71% of college students experienced increased stress and anxiety due to the pandemic.

Saint Louis University hasn’t been immune to any of this. After a very difficult few years, the University has responded with sustained care and support, and renewed its commitment to a campus culture of well-being.

“The challenges our students have faced, and our community has faced here at SLU, are unfortunately not unique to the greater landscape within higher education,” said Dr. Sarah Cunningham, SLU’s vice president for student development. “But we have known that this work is a priority, and we’re continuing to elevate and enhance our commitment to student well-being.”
In addition to making several strategic leadership hires over the past year, Anderson co-chaired the Student Well-being Task Force. The task force convened in the fall of 2021. Co-chaired by Dr. Ellen Barnidge (Grad PH ’05, ’08), interim dean and associate professor in the College for Public Health and Social Justice, the group comprised about 30 people across the University who spent the last academic year assessing SLU’s well-being environment and developing recommendations to improve it.

In addition to reviewing the resources SLU already had and considering data, trends and best practices, the task force conducted approximately 20 listening sessions with stakeholders across the University.

“We were able to engage the community in ways that were inclusive and also provided the opportunity to hear a lot of different perspectives,” Anderson said. After all that input, the task force released a draft set of strategic priorities and proposed actions.

“We tried to make recommendations that were not only aspirational but inspirational,” he said. “Instead of creating a specific to-do list, we challenged everyone to think about well-being as a core piece of their job in ways that they can prioritize and hopefully roll out. That will look different for different units and areas of expertise.”

The entire SLU community then had a chance to weigh in through an online survey. Anderson said that more than 80% of the responses were overwhelmingly positive. “Part of the brilliance of what Eric and Ellen did was they created a space for our expertise from campus to really be highlighted,” Cunningham said. “We don’t need to go out and buy modules and hire lots of people because we’ve got the talent here. Now, it’s just figuring out how to leverage it.”

HELP WANTED

Even before the task force released its draft report, the University prioritized campus well-being. Many of these changes were prompted by the ongoing realities of the COVID-19 pandemic. “As difficult as this past year has been, there’s been such support across the institution. There are a lot of good things going on,” Anderson said.

As difficult as this past year has been, there’s been such support across the institution. There are a lot of good things going on,” Anderson said. The University Counseling Center (UCC) has seen increased service demand. During the 2020-21 school year, the number of appointments (including virtual ones) skyrocketed to more than 5,000. Although that number dropped over the last year, the UCC still provides more counseling appointments than in pre-pandemic years.

To adjust to the student body’s needs, the UCC looked at its systems and availability. They added several counselors. They began offering a 24-7 triage line (via an outside telehealth company) so that students can access care any-time they need it. The staff also started paying more attention to the particular needs of the students they serve, including graduate, medical and law students.

“How do we make it more convenient for students to have services nearby, particularly if they spend a good portion of their time at one of our other campuses?” Anderson said.

“We also wanted to think expansively around what well-being is for different domains,” Knieba Jones-Johnson, director of the UCC, said. “Whose voices are we not paying attention to? Who are the historically excluded groups of students that, because of race, religion, identity, have been ignored and are suffering because of it?”

On its website, the UCC has specific lists of mental health resources for students of color and LGBTQIA students. Jones-Johnson is working with SLU’s Division of Diversity and Innovative Community Engagement to review how the counseling center responds to issues related to accessibility and disability.
With a Little Help from My Friends
Several student organizations revolve around well-being and mental health issues.

Active Minds, a chapter of the national nonprofit that promotes mental health for young adults, has been at SLU since 2009. BALANCE provides a safe space for dialogue around mental health experiences that acknowledges the backgrounds of diverse populations.

Make Dark Days Brighter offers workshops focused on wellness for students involved in the fine arts. The Green Bandana Project is SLU’s chapter of The Bandana Project, a national movement for suicide prevention and mental health awareness. Members tie a green bandana to their backpacks to show support for the mental health of others and to reject the stigma associated with mental illness.

STEM Wellness Initiative encourages students and professors in the sciences, technology, engineering and math to gather for yoga, running, coffee breaks and more. WE ARE SAATH-STL works to increase access to mental health resources for the South Asian student community through activism, education and storytelling.

The center started six student support groups in the spring, including around the unique needs of athletes, “adulting,” relationships, and stress reduction and anxiety management. In Wulrier Hall, where counseling sessions are held, the UCC is creating a sensory/creative arts space and possibly spaces for expressive arts therapy and horticulture therapy. Jones-Johnson said, “We’re just looking at all different ways to heal, really.” The UCC partnered with librarians from Pius XII Memorial Library to feature wellness books that students can check out. The shelf is located near the library’s Wellness Space, a comfortable relaxation area sponsored by the Student Government Association. Jones-Johnson would love to replicate similar spaces in the residence halls.

For those students who might be struggling but don’t need clinical help, the University has arranged for wellness coaching from a group called ComPsych. “That would be for somebody who’s a little overwhelmed and not quite sure the strategy on how to prepare for finals, or someone dealing with a disappointment — ‘I didn’t get elected president of my student organization’ — but who doesn’t need ongoing counseling,” Cunningham said.

The UCC must be doing something right; SLU ranked No. 21 on Princeton Review’s 2023 list of colleges and universities with the best student support and counseling services.

LETING OFF STEAM
In the spring of 2023, the academic schedule was compressed due to COVID-19 but included “mental health days” throughout the semester instead of a weeklong spring break. SLU Provost Dr. Mike Lewis explained in a message to the University community: “We need to give all students the necessary time and space to focus on their mental health during a compressed semester.”

The following fall, Lewis announced an impromptu mental health day to encourage undergraduates to take a break from classes and connect over University-sponsored activities such as yoga, an Examen walk, ice cream and more. The day was an extended version of previous pre-exam activities that featured pop-up petting zoos with therapy dogs and other animals, cookies with SLU President Dr. Fred P. Pestello and other events. There would be several more wellness days during the 2021-22 year, and similar days were added to the calendar for this academic year. Organizers continued to adapt the agenda based on student feedback.

The goal is for all faculty, staff and students to be able to take the MHFA training. To date, more than 150 faculty and staff, and close to 200 students have been trained.

“Participants join in a small group activity during Mental Health First Aid training.”
THE Long View
The strategic and programmatic work of the task force continues to progress, but there will always be the need to take the well-being pulse of campus. Becoming a JED Campus helps the University evaluate its well-being initiatives.

The Jed Foundation (JED) is a non-profit organization that works to protect emotional health and prevent suicide in adolescents and young adults. Its JED Campus program helps schools develop new programs, policies and systems that build upon existing mental health, substance misuse and suicide prevention efforts. The four-year program has attracted nearly 400 colleges and universities, including Harvard, Princeton and New York universities, and Jesuit universities such as Marquette and Xavier.

"It is a strategic relationship for an institution that says, ‘we’ve been doing all of these things, and we want to make sure there’s nothing we’ve missed,’” Cunningham said.

SLU is part of JED’s fall 2022 cohort. The first year began with the launch of the Healthy Minds Study on campus. The results will inform a strategic plan for student mental health and suicide prevention. As the University implements that plan, it has access to data from all the participating schools, as well as meetings with the rest of the cohort. In year four, SLU will complete the Healthy Minds Study again, providing a longitudinal look at campus well-being.

At this point — as students still live amid what Jones-Johnson called “a huge nexus of causation” — it’s clear that the University must implement both small and big changes to enhance well-being on campus.

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SLU is part of JED’s fall 2022 cohort. The first year began with the launch of the Healthy Minds Study on campus. The results will inform a strategic plan for student mental health and suicide prevention. As the University implements that plan, it has access to data from all the participating schools, as well as meetings with the rest of the cohort. In year four, SLU will complete the Healthy Minds Study again, providing a longitudinal look at campus well-being.

At this point — as students still live amid what Jones-Johnson called “a huge nexus of causation” — it’s clear that the University must implement both small and big changes to enhance well-being on campus. And the administration, staff and faculty agree that they will do whatever it takes.

"We all have to do the work and make sure this is a place that’s thriving," Harwood said. "And it has to be systemic change. We can’t think programming alone is going to work."

Pestello has faith.

"Even as we struggle with the most difficult circumstances, the SLU community continues to inspire with its love, resilience and grace," he said. "We will continue to care for one another, embrace our higher purpose and live our mission."

"This is a historic achievement for Saint Louis University,” said SLU President Dr. Fred P. Pestello. "The Accelerating Excellence campaign has built momentum for our mission-driven work and created new possibilities for groundbreaking initiatives in academics, medicine, research, athletics and service. The generosity of our donors will fuel an exciting, transformative future for SLU."

Accelerating Excellence was intended to propel SLU to further national prominence as a Jesuit research university through investment in five strategic priorities: scholarships, academic excellence, business education, health sciences and athletics. The campaign was designed to impact all schools and colleges across the University.

Exceeding Expectations
The Accelerating Excellence fundraising campaign shattered its goal.

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"We’re a broader community of folks that might have varying levels of awareness and understanding, but we need to create a community of care," Anderson said.

"It’s all part of building resilient Billikens," Harwood said.

Harwood’s job also involves prevention and outreach activities, which include educating students about alcohol and other drugs, stress management and self-care, and sexual assault and suicide prevention.

She partners with Billikens After Dark, which sponsors late-night, alcohol-free alternative programming; fraternities and sororities; and other student organizations.

She also leads the Health Education Action Team (HEAT), a group of students passionate about health and wellness, who plan and implement “fun programming with a side of education.”

“Students want to listen to students,” Harwood said. “They take what the HEAT supervisors tell them better than if I were to say, ‘Hey, you shouldn’t drink so much.’ It seems to come across better from someone their age who has been through the same experience.”

That sentiment is echoed in the words and work of Allison Twohig, a junior nursing major and director of The Green Bandana Project. The student organization is SLU’s chapter of the national Bandana Project, which encourages solidarity around mental health issues. By wearing a green bandana, a student identifies as an advocate, someone who could be approached for help and resources.

“I got involved because it just seemed like a very simple thing. Now we have like 700 bandanas on campus,” Twohig said. “That’s 700-plus students showing they care about mental health.”

Twohig’s leadership earned her a 2022 Billiken Rising Star Award and the ear of the administration: She was asked to be one of a select few students on the Student Well-being Task Force.
The success of this campaign will provide support for many academic, research and student-focused areas,” Provost Dr. Michael Lewis said. “I am deeply grateful for our donors’ commitment to scholarships and other support for students, and to enhancing faculty work and advancing research across all colleges and schools. There will be a significant positive impact on our entire community. The generous gifts from our alumni and donors show how much they care about SLU and the future of the institution.”

The campaign was able to exceed its target even with the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Richard A. Chaifetz (A&S ‘75) said he had faith the campaign would meet its goal because of its strong start — by the spring of 2020 the campaign had raised more than $400 million, including significant donations from Chaifetz and his fellow campaign co-chair, Rex A. Sinquefield (CSB ’67), both of whom are also SLU trustees.

“At the start of the campaign, I said that I wanted to improve Saint Louis University’s standing in the world, and I think this campaign has set SLU on that path,” Sinquefield said. “Achieving excellence benefits everyone, and that’s just what this campaign set out to do. It’s rewarding to see how many people got behind SLU’s goals and are helping make those goals a reality.”

The campaign had a number of major contributors. As co-chair, Chaifetz said part of his job was to encourage other parties to support the campaign. As a proud SLU alum, he said it wasn’t a hard task.

“I’m a big believer in the school,” he said. “I live and breathe it. I think it’s a tremendous university that is not as recognized as it should be in a lot of areas. I encourage students to go; I talk to parents and encourage them to send their kids. It’s pretty easy to be bullish on this place.

Pestello said the campaign couldn’t have reached its goal without contributions from everyone in the SLU community including alumni, faculty and staff.

“I want to thank everyone who helped make this campaign a success,” he said. “This achievement will make SLU a better university. With the resources this campaign generated, we will continue to recruit and retain exceptional faculty, staff and students. We will advance our students’ accomplishments at SLU, and our alumni’s success in their chosen careers. We will amplify our potential to serve and to produce scholarship that, in the Jesuit tradition, makes the world the way it ought to be.”

The Taylor Geospatial Institute, a collaboration of eight research institutions focused on innovation in geospatial science and technology, supported by a legacy investment from Andrew C. Taylor, was established during Accelerating Excellence, as well. (See page 5.)

Two new buildings also were made possible through campaign contributions. The Jesuit Center, a new residential facility and apostolic center on campus that supports SLU’s community of Jesuit priests, was finished this fall. (See page 12.) Still under construction is the O’Loughlin Family Champions Center, a 25,000-square-foot facility that will provide comprehensive interdisciplinary services to SLU’s student-athletes and coaching staff. (See page 7.)

“The generosity of our donors will fuel an exciting, transformative future for SLU.”

— DR. FRED P. PESTELLO

The campaign had several high-profile donations that led to some substantial developments.

As part of the campaign, SLU saw the launch of the Saint Louis University Research Institute, a focal point for growing SLU’s research capabilities and increasing research output. The institute was created through a historic gift from Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield.

Two schools saw their name change during the campaign. The naming of the Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business was made in honor of gifts from Dr. Richard and Jill Chaifetz.

The nursing school got a new name, the Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing, in recognition of philanthropic support from University trustees Trudy Busch Valentine (VSN ’80).

Funds raised during the campaign also led to the creation of a $10 million endowment for humanities education.

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The $604 million campaign was made possible by 190,402 gifts. The gifts led to four record-breaking fundraising years.

A total of 98 donors made a campaign commitment of $1 million or more. That number includes bequest intentions, pledges and cash gifts. There were 3,077 faculty and staff donors who contributed $14,706,353.

As a result of Accelerating Excellence, 416 new scholarships and awards were created. Of those, 281 were endowed.

A total of 28 of the new scholarships have diversity, equity and inclusion criteria, and 290 are need-based.

The campaign led to 36 newly endowed academic positions: 10 professorships, seven chairs, two deanships, seven lectureships and 10 fellowships. There also were 54 new funds created by donors that didn’t fit into any of the categories but offer general support to SLU.

Including scholarships, there were 535 new funds created overall.

Accelerating Excellence led to the development of 19 new centers/institutes. Some existed before the campaign but were named by a donor during the fundraising effort.

“The goal of this campaign was a bold one,” said Vice President for Development Sheila Manion. “We asked our community to reach higher with us to strengthen SLU for decades to come, and our donors stepped up to support the University like never before. We are grateful for their enthusiastic participation and excited for the remarkable future their generosity enables. Any breakthroughs made possible by research funded by this campaign, any scholarships given to outstanding students who go forth to serve others, not only elevate SLU; they elevate the community. Every donor to the campaign shares in those successes.”

Looking Forward

The Accelerating Excellence campaign may be over, but the fundraising doesn’t stop. Chaifetz coined the Accelerating Excellence name and said it was intentional — it was meant to convey growth and not a finish line.

“We didn’t say achieving excellence or anything final,” he said. “We’re accelerating. It’s a boost to getting to where we want to go. The journey is always there.”

Chaifetz wants to see more contributions to the University from his fellow alumni.

“I’m very proud of Saint Louis University,” he said. “I’m proud to be an alum. We should all be proud of our students’ achievements. The best way to continue to prosper is to give money to areas that are important to you, so the University can continue to prosper. I would encourage all alums to do that.

Without money, we can’t do all the things necessary to achieve greatness. Accelerating Excellence is just the beginning. We want to be better than excellent, we want to be perfect — you can’t get there, but you can try to get as close to perfect as you can.” 

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Funds raised during the campaign also led to the creation of a $10 million endowment for humanities education.
As NASA plans for the first crewed mission to the moon in over 50 years, few people have as privileged a view of the historic events as Dan Reczek (PC ’18). Reczek is a flight controller at NASA’s Mission Control in Houston, just a few years after his graduation from Saint Louis University with a bachelor’s degree in aerospace, aeronautical and astronautical engineering.

“I can’t believe that I’ve got the opportunity to train the astronauts, the first people who will go to the moon since 1972,” Reczek said. After working for a NASA contractor, he started in late July as a full-time NASA civil servant working on planned Artemis missions aimed at landing astronauts on the moon in 2025.

Today SLU graduates work in such diverse space endeavors as California-based SpaceX, NASA and the European Space Agency. Those space professionals said a Saint Louis University education prepared them for their challenging careers in the dynamic industry. And with the 2022 debut of the School of Science and Engineering, home to programs formerly in Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology and four STEM departments from the College of Arts and Sciences, SLU will continue to position future graduates for success in these rapidly evolving professions.
I did everything from mopping the floor to running it from landing on the moon. NASA recognized the experience as valuable.

Reczek said he never thought he'd be working in Mission Control so quickly after graduating. "It helped that I came from Parks, and NASA has hired many graduates from there," he said.

He recalls a NASA interviewer asking him what he thought he'd be doing in five years if he took the position.

"I wasn't just given a set of data and facts. I was also given the framework and tools to work in aerospace," Kranz said. "I think about the connection with Kranz a lot, Parks and SLU as being one element of a series of experiences that prepared me to work in aerospace."

The miracle of Parks in those days it was had a small factory complex that built parts and maintained the airplanes we used at Parks Airfield.

At the European Space Agency, Silvia Bayón Perez leads the Solar System Mission Section, which investigates potential new missions to explore other worlds such as Venus, Mars, and Jupiter’s and Saturn’s moons.

A fan of Mars exploration, she worked on the ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter spacecraft that launched in 2016. A key goal of that mission was to analyze methane and other trace gases in the Martian atmosphere that could be evidence of possible life on the Red Planet.

"These are clearly exciting times for space exploration," she said. "I think the paradigm has changed in the last few years in particular; there’s a lot more interest from private investors and private companies like SpaceX and Blue Origin, for example."

Bayón Perez attended college at SLU’s Madrid Campus and in St. Louis. She said her studies at SLU, while mostly focused on aeronautics, helped prepare her for a career in the space sector.

I know things have evolved, and now there’s space research lab at SLU, and there are students who are building and launching Cubesats, so I’m very jealous of that experience in a way," she said.

A CubeSat — short for cube satellite — is a small satellite that can take part in NASA’s exploration, technology, educational and scientific operations.

The Cubesat was invented in 1999 when two professors in California wanted a way to provide affordable access to space for the university science community. Today, there are Cubesat programs at all levels of education, including in elementary schools.

The satellites are developed in standardized sizes. The basic 1U Cubesat is a 10-centimeter cube with a mass of approximately 1 to 1.33 kilograms; a 3U Cubesat is about as big as a loaf of bread.

Standardized sizing makes it possible for developers to use mass-market parts, which makes the whole enterprise more affordable and accessible. It typically takes 18-24 months to design, build, test and deliver a Cubesat. When it’s ready, the satellite is attached to a launch vehicle via a dispenser, aiming to make it to orbit.

SLU's Space Systems Research Laboratory has been working with Cubesats since 2009.

COOPER, the first spacecraft developed by SLU students, entered the University Nanosat-6 Competition, which ran from 2009-11. In 2011, NASA selected COOPER for a sponsored launch under its Educational Launch of Nanosatellites Program. It launched in 2013. Another SLU Cubesat, the Argus-2, successfully launched into orbit from the International Space Station in February 2020.

What is a CubeSat?

"We talk a lot about how fast the space industry moves today, but to me it isn’t so different from the speed of progress as we raced to the moon in the 60s," Posso said. "The main difference is that, with 2000’s tech, we can now reach similar speeds with a small fraction of the payroll."
Only a few years ago, Lindsey Jasper (PC ’19) loved to collaborate on engineering homework assignments and sing on Sundays at St. Francis Xavier College Church. Now, she’s helping to build and design satellites for the U.S. military’s space surveillance network at Northrop Grumman in Virginia.

“Space is booming, and regardless of what sector you’re in, it’s such a great time to be an engineer or a scientist or a mathematician in this arena,” Jasper said.

Despite the hot job market, and great strides made toward more diversity in the field, Jasper still frequently finds herself as the only woman in a meeting or at an engineering event. She encourages women to get involved in aerospace, where she believes they have the best chance ever of getting hired in history.

“We’ve come really far, but we also have a really far way to go, and I do my best to make all the spaces that I work in welcoming and as diverse as possible,” she said.

Jasper is also grateful that she works at a time when powerful computing tools make many tasks easy that would have required days of work and lengthy calculations only decades ago.

“I have so many tools accessible to me that I use on a daily basis that are just infinitely more powerful,” she said. "With simulations, I can literally visualize my spacecraft, see where it’s going, plug in the equations, and ultimately, just tell my computer what to do in a very simple and straightforward way. I’ll even get a little video of what it’s going to look like when it does that.”

Jasper said SLU allowed her to work directly on projects even as an undergraduate, which she believes is a unique benefit.

“As a freshman I was able to participate in a lab that built and designed CubeSats, and that was an absolute highlight of my education,” she said. "Her best memories are of the "collaborative environment" she discovered.

“We would wake up on a Saturday morning and go to a classroom and do homework together, even though that might sound super boring to some people," Jasper said. “I found a group of people there that would legitimately look out for each other’s best interests and help each other, which is one of the things that really contributed to my success.”
Overseeing an institution’s collection of financial assets carries great responsibility.

For Zoe Pezold (CSB ’22), it also carries great privilege.

Pezold was among a prestigious group of undergraduate finance students given the responsibility of managing $2.5 million of Saint Louis University’s endowment as part of an experiential learning course in the Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business. The Applied Portfolio Management (APM) course allows students, in consultation with industry mentors, the opportunity to learn about the intricacies of the stock market and equity research by directly steering the University’s money.

“I did not take the responsibility lightly,” Pezold said. “I felt honored that the University trusted us with that much money and had faith that we could grow the portfolio and pass on that legacy to the next class.”
BUY, SELL, HOLD

Each APM student analyzes a sector of the economy and two or three stocks within that sector. Some of the stocks already may be in the University’s portfolio; some are under consideration for inclusion.

Working with their industry mentors, students are required to write two highly detailed, professional equity research reports. Each student must then defend their buy, sell or hold recommendations to their peers and professors in a formal presentation, followed by a 10-minute question-and-answer session. As part of their final project, the students work collaboratively to decide what, if any, changes will be made to the portfolio. The next class picks up where the previous class left off.

Jacob Dowell (CBS ’22), who took the APM course in 2021, chose the industrial sector and analyzed Honeywell (already in SLU’s portfolio), Federal Signal and the ALSAP. “I was pretty grounded in the theoretical understanding of economics and finance, but until I took the APM course I didn’t realize how it actually worked in the industry,” Dowell said. “It was interesting to see how financial analysts put together their reports and how much work goes into those reports.”

Pezold chose the communications services sector and analyzed Disney, Netflix (both already in SLU’s portfolio) and the video game company, Activision Blizzard. “The hands-on experience helped me develop skills that only a select number of students have an opportunity to build,” said Pezold, who also took the course in the fall of 2021. “Most of us wouldn’t be allowed to work with money of that magnitude until we entered the workforce, so I definitely felt ahead of the game.”

EXPERT ADVICE

The University introduced the APM course in the fall of 2002 with the initial class managing $500,000 of the University’s endowment funds. In the two decades since then, the portfolio’s value has grown to nearly $2.5 million. A 2016 distribution from the portfolio helped fund the construction of the Edward Jones Data Analytics Lab, a state-of-the-art facility in the business school that houses 12 Bloomberg terminals, a computer system that allows students to access the Bloomberg data service with real-time global financial data and news feeds.

In 2020, Dr. Thomas Doellman, associate professor of finance, enriched the experience by recruiting industry mentors to work one-on-one with the students. Each student is paired with an equity analyst from one of St. Louis’ top financial firms, including Asset Consulting Group LLC, Edward Jones, Kennedy Capital Management, Wells Fargo and NISA Investment Advisors LLC. Students and mentors meet an average of once a week for an hour.

“Many business schools have APM courses, but this mentoring program is unique to SLU,” Doellman said. “It’s powerful and exciting for students to have that connection to the industry, to see that what they’re doing in the classroom is 100% what they will be doing in the industry.”

Larry Pfeffer (CSB ’10), an equity sector analyst at Wells Fargo in St. Louis, took the APM course during his senior year while interning at a financial institution. He said the course was the single most valuable class of his undergraduate education. “With an internship, you get exposure to people who have experience,” he said. “You see what it’s like to work in a given firm, and you might be asked to assist with tasks that involve real-world work, but your level of decision-making is minimal. With the APM course, you have some guardrails around you, such as your professor and your classmates who offer opinions, but you’re making up your own mind.”

Pfeffer said he chose to volunteer as a mentor in part because his Jesuit education encouraged giving back and because he saw it as an opportunity to stay humble. “This industry can be really tough, and going back to the beginning by working with students keeps you grounded,” Pfeffer said. “It’s important to be mindful of where everybody starts, and I can’t think of a better way to do that than through an experience like this. And sometimes a student will surprise me by asking questions I hadn’t even considered.”

Since launching the mentorship program two years ago, Doellman said there are more equity analysts offering to volunteer than he has APM students. “It’s definitely a ton more work than my other courses,” he noted, “but it was proportionally more insightful and useful.”

BULL MARKET

Demand is high for the limited number of APM seats, and the application process is rigorous. Students are required to submit names of references, essays and academic transcripts. While 30 or more students typically apply for the innovative learning experience, only 15 to 18 students are accepted into the one-semester, three-credit-hour course each fall.

Dr. Naresh Bansal, chair and professor in the department of finance, said placement is coveted, but the course is not for everyone. He advises applicants in advance that it is academically demanding. “The extensive research that goes into the analysis of a company and the preparation needed for communicating insight into a room full of peers, professors and investment professionals requires tremendous preparation.”

BANSAL

Bansal said ample anecdotal evidence demonstrates the positive impact of APM on student success.

He noted that APM students have “stellar placements,” upon graduation. All 2021 APM alumni secured jobs or advanced to higher education. Pezold interviewed with multiple companies and received several offers before deciding to join Equifax. Dowell was accepted into the doctoral program in finance at Boston College, where he plans to conduct research in investment theory. Bansal said leading investment firms contact him regularly looking to hire APM alumni or students considered to be APM material.

Bansal said APM students also led the University to success in the annual Chartered Financial Analyst Institute’s global research challenge. Teams of three-to-five students from participating universities are assigned to analyze publicly traded companies, prepare a written report on their assigned company and recommend whether to buy, sell or hold the stock. Teams present their findings to a panel of industry experts, and winners are selected based on the students’ knowledge and equity analysis.

Another bonus for students that positions them for success: APM is a required course for students in the financial analysis track. And the rigorous curriculum covers 70% of the material on the Chartered Financial Analyst Level I Exam — the first of three exams needed for an A to be credited as a CP.
The Jesuit Center

The chapel

WINTER 2023

The Jesuit Center

in the Heart of Campus

— By Maggie Rotermund

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A new Jesuit facility puts mission in the middle of the SLU community.

“The Jesuits added a richness to campus life,” he said, adding that the tenets of Ignatian spirituality he learned at SLU stayed with him and have been beneficial in his everyday life.

“Without the Jesuits, and without all the wonderful gifts that they bring to this community and its students, it’s just another university,” donor Terry Mehan (A&S ’74) said. “But Saint Louis University is not just any university. Mehan explained. It is a Jesuit university, and SLU’s Jesuit community is now centered in the heart of campus.

Construction of Saint Louis University’s Jesuit residence was completed over the summer. Jesuits missioned as professors, pastors and staff members at the University moved into the facility near Spring Hall along Laclede Avenue beginning Aug. 1. “One of the things we’ve really missed (during construction) is the fact that the University Jesuit community has been scattered around town,” said David Suwalsky, S.J., vice president of mission and identity at SLU. “Being able to share meals together, to celebrate Mass together and to live in community is so important.”

Having a strong Jesuit presence on campus was also important to Marian “Bo” (Vatterott) Mehan (VSN ’74, Law ’82), the vice chair of SLU’s board of trustees. She remembers the impact that the Jesuits had on her college years. “I met as an undergraduate student over two decades ago,” she said. “I would not be a Jesuit today if it weren’t for the Jesuits I met as an undergraduate student over two decades ago,” he said. “My vocation, my very being, is grounded in those relationships.”

Rozier added that he hoped the central location of the residence on campus would allow for increased interaction between the Jesuit community, faculty members and students. Those interactions carry meaning for Terry Mehan, even 40 years after from his time at SLU.

“The Jesuits added a richness to campus life,” he said, adding that the tenets of Ignatian spirituality he learned at SLU stayed with him and have been beneficial in his everyday life.

A NEW BEGINNING

SLU Jesuits and other members of the Society of Jesus have resided in Jesuit Hall since 1973. In 2020, former Jesuit Provincial Ronald Mercier, S.J., announced a plan to create two new communities from Jesuit Hall: One designed for retired Jesuits and those who need medical support, and the second for Jesuits working at the University.

“It was really important to us on the board of trustees that we remain committed to our mission and values,” Bo Mehan said. “This new facility is a statement and a commitment to our Jesuits for years to come.”

The Saint Louis University community and members of the Jesuits Central and Southern Province broke ground on the new residence in April 2021.

University President Dr. Fred P. Pestello noted when the project was announced that the decision to locate the residence on campus followed SLU’s strategic priority to strengthen its Catholic and Jesuit mission.

“For many, many years, the Jesuits carried Saint Louis University on their backs from every perspective — from the business perspective, the educational perspective, the financial, the spiritual,” Bo Mehan said. “It’s our turn to take some of that load on our backs, and I think this building really helps do that.”

The facility was designed by HKW Architects, and BSI Constructors Inc. served as the general contractor. SLU was awarded a $5 million challenge grant from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation toward the construction of the residence.

The Mabee Foundation funds new construction, building renovations and the purchase of major medical equipment. It limits its grants to brick-and-mortar projects located in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas. It was formed in 1948 by Missouri natives and Oklahoma residents John and Lottie Mabee. The couple also wanted to encourage others to give, and so crafted the foundation grants as challenge grants that both require and inspire widespread public support.

Members of SLU’s board of trustees officially opened the facility during Homecoming 2022, and the chapel was consecrated in October.
1965
Jack Dauner (GRAD CSB ’65, ’71) was honored in June by the French Foreign Legion for his service in World War II. Dauner served in the 9th Infantry Division in 1944. After that, he earned degrees from the University of Iowa and SLU, where he later taught. He wrote more than 150 scholarly articles on marketing and sales, wrote three books and founded a consulting firm before retiring. He lives in Pineneurth, North Carolina.

1967
Dr. Lynn Beckwith Jr. (GRAD ED ’67, ’83) has been president of the board of trustees for the St. Louis County Library District since 2010. In his honor, the library’s new administrative building in Frontenac, Missouri, was named the Lynn Beckwith Jr. Administrative Building.

1972
Elizabeth (Rizer) Casso (CSB ’72) was appointed president of Mercy Ministries of Laredo, which is affiliated with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. She lives in Laredo, Texas, with her husband, Alfonso Casso (CSB ’72).

1974
Dr. Linda Murphy Marshall (GRAD A&S ’74, ’78) wrote a book, Ivy Lodge: A Memoir of Translation and Discovery. She lives in Columbia, Maryland.

1975
Donald Loeffler (GRAD CSB) worked in marketing management for multinational companies and taught business as an adjunct faculty member at schools across the country. He lives in St. Louis.

1976
David Johnson (LAW), a lawyer with Johnson Kush PC, received the Colorado Bar Association’s Award of Merit in early 2022. He lives in Colorado Springs.

1982
Gerard Mantese (LAW), a partner at Mantese Honigman law firm, obtained a preliminary injunction in early 2022 preventing the destruction of a rare, centuries-old, forested wetland in Michigan.

1983
Dr. Jerry Finkelstein (GRAD A&S ’83) wrote a book, Where Are Your (Kn)ots? Getting Untuck in Your Life. Finkelstein has been a practicing psychologist in New York City for over 25 years. He resigned as director of The New School Counseling Center but still supervises staff and trainees there.

1984
Rick Dames (A&S ’84, CSB ’84) is managing director at Avian Young and CEO at Pace Properties Inc. He lives in St. Louis.

1987
Dr. Patrick F. Foley (GRAD) is president of the American Board of Orthodontics through May 2023. Foley is an associate professor and assistant director of the Center for Advanced Dental Education at SLU. He previously had a private practice in orthodontics in Lake Zurich, Illinois, for 30 years.

1989

1992
Bob Westropp (A&S) is a senior investment advisor and principal at Bernstein Private Wealth Management. He joined the firm in 1997. He lives in Lake Forest, Illinois.

1994
Sarwar Kashmeri (GRAD A&S) wrote a book, The Telegraph: A China published ‘67, GRAD PC ‘71) Agenda for President Sarwar Kashmeri (GRAD A&S) founded a consulting firm than 150 scholarly articles taught. He wrote more the University of Iowa Primacy 34

BRYAN BEASLY
Sports fans rely on the stats, data and history that broadcasters share, but the announcers don’t cover that information off the tops of their heads. They rely on people like Bryan Beasley (CSB ’71).

Beasley is a senior researcher on SportsCenter, which won the 2020-21 Sports Emmy for Outstanding Studio Show Daily. He also works on NFL studio shows.

Beasley collaborates with producers, graphics producers, the features group and on-air talent. He uses broad and deep sports knowledge to ensure the accuracy of live news and information for studio, event and digital coverage. His responsibilities include researching original content for full-screen graphics, anchor lead-ins and original pieces.

“It’s great to work with longtime talent like Chris Berman, who I grew up watching on NFL Countdown and NFL Primetime,” he said.

Though Beasley always wanted to work in the competitive sports industry, he admits he hadn’t always wanted to be a researcher. At Saint Louis University, Beasley studied business administration with a concentration in economics and envisioned becoming an athletic director at a college or a sports agent in one of the major leagues. His analytical mindset and knack for numbers led him down a different path.

He used microeconomics and statistics to analyze sports business. He studied profit maximization, revenue sharing, competitive balance and collective bargaining—skills that would serve him later in his career.

“I was interested in Saint Louis University because of the opportunities at the business school,” he said. Those opportunities included hands-on experiences. As a member of SLU’s Delta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Kappa Psi, a professional fraternity, Beasley networked with prominent local business people. And he assisted a sports economics professor with research on a consulting project for the 2011 Super Bowl in Dallas.

He also played tennis for the Billikens, competing in Atlantic 10 conference tournaments and “scrappy” matchups against rivals such as Xavier University.

“Playing tennis has given me an incredible outlook on life and great lessons about failure, persistence, versatility, flexibility and never thinking you’re above other people,” he said.

The choice to attend SLU was the best decision I ever made. It was the foundation of my success.”
Alumni Merit Awards

These annual awards acknowledge the success of exceptional alumni. Listed are the 2020 honorees, who finally were recognized in May 2022.

William L. Carrier (PC ’81)
Carrier spent his career at The Boeing Co. developing aircraft and spacecraft, and researching designs and techniques for composite structures. He retired in 2016 as vice president and chief engineer for structures and mechanical systems for Boeing’s Defense Space and Security business. For nearly two decades, he’s been an advisor for SLU’s aerospace and mechanical engineering programs.

Dr. Isaiah Crawford (A&S ’82)
Crawford began his career on the psychology faculty at Loyola University Chicago. He eventually became dean of Loyola’s College of Arts and Sciences while keeping a private psychotherapy practice. He later became provost at Seattle University, where he spent eight years. In 2016, he became president of the University of Puget Sound. He also received an honorary degree from SLU in May.

Dennis M. Jenkner (PS ’92)
A third-generation firefighter, Jenkner has served the St. Louis Fire Department for 40 years and has been chief since 2007. He managed numerous major city events, including two World Series and the NCAA Final Four Basketball Tournament. Under his leadership, the department increased outreach and engagement initiatives, which have led to a decline in the number of fire fatalities.

Mary Kay Knight Macheca (VSN ’82, ’86)
Macheca is a nurse practitioner who educates and cares for patients with chronic disease, specifically diabetes. Her relationships with patients span years as she helps them navigate their disease from physical, spiritual, emotional and economic perspectives. Macheca also has been a member of the nursing school’s executive advisory board for a decade, currently serving as board chair.

Thomas B. Nenninger (BT ’48)
As an engineer for Texas Instruments in the 1960s, Nenninger sensed the information technology revolution. He joined Electronic Data Systems, where he spent 30 years as a systems engineer, vice president and ultimately strategic unit director in technology architecture. Retired since 1999, he continues to volunteer with Planned Living Assistance Network, a nonprofit that supports individuals with mental illness and their families.

Thomas J. Reese, S.J. (PA ’81, Grad A&S ’88)
A senior analyst for the Religion News Service, Reese is one of the most widely respected writers about the Catholic Church in the United States. His columns appear regularly in the National Catholic Reporter, and he is the former editor-in-chief of the magazine, published by the U.S. Jesuits. In 2014, President Barack Obama appointed him to the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Thomas P. Shaner (A&S ’68, Med ’77)
In nearly 40 years as a physician in St. Louis, Shaner delivered more than 8,000 babies. He also taught countless SLU medical students. Even with a demanding schedule, Shaner made medical mission trips to Haiti, Brazil and Honduras. Retired since 2014, he volunteers at Ranken Jordan Pediatric Hospital and Loyola Academy, where he is a tutor.

Jennifer L. McDaniel (DCCHS ’05)
A registered dietitian and former faculty member in the Doisy College of Health Sciences, McDaniel founded McDaniel Nutrition Therapy in 2010 to help clients with weight management, sports nutrition and nutrition genetic testing. She was one of the first board-certified specialists in sports nutrition in Missouri and consults with elite endurance athletes. She co-authored the Prevention Mediterranean Table cookbook.

Dr. Alice F. Roach (EdD ’94, ’96)
The St. Louis Public School District, Roach has been a teacher, counselor, instructional coordinator, principal and the superintendent’s chief of staff. She now is the administrative director of the Parsons Blowett Memorial Fund, which gives teachers and administrators support for educational and professional development; Roach said the fund is close to her heart because it helped pay for her graduate education.

Jerry Sax (CSB ’83)
Sax has spent more than three decades in finance and operations, most recently as chief financial officer and board member for Electrical Components International. Before that he spent 20 years with St. Louis-based Viasystems Group. Sax also has advised several education-centric, not-for-profit organizations, and has undertaken scholarships in SLU’s School of Education and the Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business.

Dr. Suthanya Srisuro (Grad Dent ’75)
Srisuro was an orthodontist and dentofacial orthopedic specialist in private practice for nearly 40 years, and a part-time faculty member in SLU’s orthodontics program. She traveled to Thailand many times to teach and provide dental services for underserved children. In 2006, she founded the “Thai Fund,” which supports orthodontic education at SLU. She co-founded the Thai Buddhist Temple of St. Louis.

Dr. Stephen M. Strum (Law ’88)
A shareholder of Sandberg, Phoenix and von Gontard, P.C., Strum defended product manufacturers in hundreds of catastrophic injury cases and handled the defense in over 500 nursing home cases. He also gives back to his community, most recently as a volunteer job coach through the Saint Louis University Transformative Workforce Academy, which helps former prisoners find and retain employment.

Phillip Edward Sowa (A&S ’69, Ph ’73)
For nearly 40 years, Sowa held leadership positions with health care facilities across the country. He oversaw disaster response at a San Francisco hospital after the 1989 earthquake, and he navigated a New Orleans medical center through Hurricane Katrina in 2005. From 2011 to 2015, he was CEO of Saint Louis University Hospital, the No. 1 hospital in the Tenet Healthcare system in 2014.

Cecilia A. Nadal (MED ’72)
Nadal founded Gitana Productions, a nonprofit that promotes global healing through music, dance and drama in St. Louis. She has also produced dozens of international music and dance shows, original plays and educational events to promote peace and connection across cultures. She also wrote two plays, Between Worlds: An American Tragedy and An Amazing Story: German Abolitionists of Missouri.
Dr. Jody Sowell
President, Missouri Historical Society

Dr. Jody Sowell, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, moved to St. Louis to pursue her master’s degree at the University of Missouri School of Journalism. She started teaching and became an educator at the Columbia Missourian, which is produced by student reporters and photography with faculty editors.

In 1996, Sowell moved to Columbia, Missouri, with her husband, St. Louis native, and their two daughters, Savannah and Shannon. They wed two years later.

In 2003, Sowell graduated from SLU with a degree in American studies because of its focus on urban and community history.

Sowell has been at SLU for 20 years, teaching at the college or school from which she graduated. Here is a key to the abbreviations:

Dr. Jody Sowell
{GRAD A&S ’11}
President, Missouri Historical Society

1998
Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith (GRAD SW ’98, GRAD PH ’99) is the first African American woman to serve as president of Harris-Stowe State University (HSSU). Smith has 20 years of leadership experience and a background in administration and program development. She has been at HSSU since 2010.

1999
Dr. Mark J. Fesler (A&S ’99, MED ’03) took a new role at Saint Luke’s Hospital Center for Cancer Care to further develop specialized hematologic oncology care with a focus on clinical research and immunotherapy in a community setting. He served Saint Louis University and SLUCare as director of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Program from 2013-21.

KEY

1999
Dr. Mark J. Fesler (A&S ’99, MED ’03) took a new role at Saint Luke’s Hospital Center for Cancer Care to further develop specialized hematologic oncology care with a focus on clinical research and immunotherapy in a community setting. He served Saint Louis University and SLUCare as director of the Blood and Marrow Transplant Program from 2013-21.

Ketye (Marcinkowski) Howes (DCHS ’99, GRAD ’01) and her award-winning picture book Be A Maker were featured in March on the first episode of a new Reading Rainbow reboot called Reading Rainbow Live. She lives in New Hope, Pennsylvania.

2000
Dr. Jack Simons (A&S) was tenured and promoted to associate professor of school counseling at Mercy College in New York.
2001
Brad Henry (A&S) is director of operations of IRP Wealth Management in Quincy, Illinois. He joined the firm after 17 years in executive roles at a local manufacturing company.

2002
Dr. Kathy Lund Dean (GRAD CSB) published Course Design and Assessment in 2002. Her first book, The Ethical Professor, is available in Chinese. A professor of leadership and ethics at Gustavus Adolphus College, she also is serving as a Fulbright specialist from 2022-2023. She lives in St. Peter, Minnesota.

Ryan Mank (CSB) achieved the rank of "master at arms" through the Sonoma State University Fencing Masters Certificate Program; he is now a fencing master in the Italian tradition of sword play. Mank began fencing with SLU's fencing club in 2000 and began teaching it in St. Louis in 2006. Since 2012, he has run Red Sun Classical Fencing, a fencing school in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Grig Szwec (CSB) was promoted to manager of preconstruction and estimating at Tarlton Corp., a St. Louis-based general contracting and construction management firm. He joined Tarlton as an estimator in 2015.

2003
Rev. David W. Loy (GRAD A&S), a Lutheran minister, was named dean of Christ College at Concordia University Irvine. He has served as a professor of philosophy, theology and ethics at Concordia since 2011.

2004
Dr. Mary Homan (A&S) is the southwest division vice president of ethics for CommonSpirit Health, which serves ministries in Arizona and Nevada. She also is an adjunct professor in the Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities, Institute for Health and Equity, at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Homan enjoys gardening and other outdoor activities, including natural horsemanship. She and her young son Blake are members of Three Holy Women Catholic parish in Milwaukee.

2005
Sean McGuire (A&S) welcomed his first child, daughter Samantha Jo McGuire, in April 2021, after a 7.5-year journey. He and his wife feel grateful and blessed to be parents.

Bobby Metzinger (A&S) is the data center product support manager for Carter Machinery, a Caterpillar dealership in Virginia. He is excited to support the Billikens when they play George Washington, Richmond, VCU and George Mason in conference play.

2006
Dr. Burton Miller (GRAD A&S), professor of public relations at the University of Colorado-Boulder, co-edited Communicating Climate Change: Making Environmental Messaging Accessible and The Global Foundations of Public Relations: Huguo, China, and the West in 2022. He also has ghostwritten two other books.

2007
Mark Garascia (ED), an educator at Hancock Place High School, was one of two St. Louis-area teachers to receive the $25,000 Milken Educator Award from Teacher magazine in 2007. He also was honored with an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award.

Dr. Addison Killeen (A&S) is a dentist, author, speaker and business coach. He published his fifth and sixth dentistry books, The Associate Dentist Manual and The Dental Marketing Manual, in 2022. He also has ghostwritten two other books.

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2023
Six SLU Alumni Become Jesuits

Seventeen new Jesuits were ordained in the United States, Canada and Haiti in 2022. Several of them earned degrees at Saint Louis University. Here they are, along with their current assignments:

BACA, Sr. Patricia Anne “Patti” Baca (GRAD PH) made her perpetual profession of vows as a Sister of Mercy in May in St. Louis. She entered the order in 1995. Raised in a Pentecostal family, Baca had a 20-year career in the Coast Guard. She converted to Catholicism in 2003.

Brian Julius (GRAD CSB) is a project manager with Tariton Corp., a general contracting and construction management firm in St. Louis. He has worked on projects with significant concrete components including proton therapy vaults, a renovation at St. Louis Children’s Hospital and the Stephen and Peter Sachs Museum at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Dr. Tim Kliethermes (GRAD A&S, MED ’05) is an associate professor of radiology and medicine at Washington University School of Medicine, so in 2021, he worked on projects with Decadence A Capella at the University Brain Tissue Repository, which is a bank

Mr. Andrew Bush (A&S) is an attorney at Goldberg Segalla in Chicago. He is in the firm’s product liability group.

2009

Shalia Luther (CSB) earned the certified financial planner designation. She is a financial consultant at Fidelity Investments.

2010

Dave Hiller (A&S) is an associate with the law firm Morrison and Foerster LLP, where he focuses on patent litigation. He and his wife, Sarah Hiller (A&S ’11), live in San Diego County with their twin sons, Tim, and two dogs.

2011

Andrew Bush (A&S) is an attorney at Goldberg Segalla in Chicago. He is in the firm’s product liability group.

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University of Saint Louis
1 N. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63103

Mr. Andrew Klietheans (GRAD ’05)

Mr. Joseph Bublis (GRAD ’10)

Dr. J. Richard Landgraf (LAW ’93)

Mr. William McCormack (LAW ’93)

Hon. Thomas O’Shea (LAW ’93)

Mr. Charles Ochsner (LAW ’93)

Mr. Edward Paepcke Sr. (CSB ’75)

Dr. William Schmidt (LAW ’83)

Mr. Virginia (Schless) Senkosky (CSB ’75)

Mr. Bernard Tobin (CSB ’75)

Mr. Kernel Armbruster (LAW ’81)

Dr. Arthur Basso (DENT ’74)

Dr. John Cashin (CSB ’74)

Mr. Daman Duggan (CSB ’74)

Mr. Leonard Garuvaglia (CSB ’74)

Dr. John Rhyli (DENT ’74)

Dr. Edward Leclercy (DENT ’74)

Capt. William Lee (DENT ’74)

Capt. Jack Magee Jr. (CSB ’74)

Mr. Richard Maskell (CSB ’74)

Mr. Louis Mossotti (CSB ’74)

Mr. Eugene Muhr Jr. (LAW ’74)

Mr. James Nangle Jr. (LAW ’74)

Dr. Lee Neub Jr. (MED ’74)

Dr. Robert O’Brien (LAW ’74)

Dr. R.A. Rauschenbach (CSB ’74)

Dr. Richard Zettler (MED ’48)

Mr. Charles Cambon (A&S ’48)

Mr. Samuel Duggan (A&S ’48)

Mr. Bernard Tobin (CSB ’48)

Mr. Richard Malecek (CSB ’48)

Mr. Kernel Armbruster (LAW ’48)

Mr. A.H. Senior (CSB ’48)

Mr. Samuel Hall (A&S ’48)

Mr. James Mirras (CSB ’48)

Mr. Harold Uthoff (LAW ’48)

Mr. Edward Paepcke Sr. (CSB ’48)

Mr. Bernard Tobin (CSB ’48)

Mr. Virtual Armstrong (LAW ’48)

Mr. John Cashin (CSB ’48)

Mr. Daman Duggan (CSB ’48)

Mr. Leonard Garuvaglia (CSB ’48)

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Mr. James Nangle Jr. (LAW ’48)

Dr. Lee Neub Jr. (MED ’48)

Dr. Robert O’Brien (LAW ’48)

Dr. R.A. Rauschenbach (CSB ’48)
Mr. Philip Fogel  {IT '68}
Ms. Jane (Wojak) Burton
Mr. James Anderson
Mr. George Flotte  {LAW '67}
Mother Mary Dolce, O.S.U.
Ms. Stephanie Baker
Dr. Daniel Horan Jr.
Dr. Chris Carstens  {DENT '67}
Rev. James Butler  {CSB '67}
Dr. William Bradley
Sr. Mary Siemer S.S.N.D.
Daley  {SW '67}
{A&S '67}

UNIVERSITAS 1969, Dr. Cheatham started
Mr. Loren Bell  {A&S '69}
Mr. Kenneth Van Buren
Mr. Donald Unterreiner
Mr. David Trower  {IT '68}
Mr. Richard Skoff  {CSB '68}
Mr. Joseph O'Donnell
Mr. William Kuehn  {CSB '68}
Mr. Michael Hastings
Ms. Patricia Bray  {ED '69}
Mr. Loren Bell  {A&S '69}
Mr. Kenneth Van Buren
Mr. Donald Unterreiner
Mr. David Trower  {IT '68}
Mr. Joseph O'Donnell
Mr. Richard Skoff  {CSB '68}
Mr. Kenneth Dulle  {PC '70}
Mr. Jerrold Chervitz  {IT '70}
Mr. David Trower  {IT '68}
Mr. James Anderson
Mr. Luke Huddl {SW '77}
Dr. Richard Kirchoffer
Mr. Peter Manion Jr.  {SW '74}
Mr. James Higgins  {A&S '89}
Mr. Richard Seader  {ED '70}
Mr. Rodney Betar  {ED '70}
Sr. Philip Burke, C.P.P.S.  {ED '70}
Mr. Gerald Cavanaugh  {CSB '70}
Mr. Jerrold Chervitz  {IT '70}
Mr. Gene Doerst  {IT '70}
Mr. Kenneth Dulla  {PC '70}
Mr. Wally Duroczak  {A&S '70}
Mr. John Hillestad  {ED '70}
Mr. Thomas Kelly Jr.  {AS '70}
Sr. Helen Martin, O.P.  {ED '70}
Mr. Paul Moschner  {CSB '70}
Mr. Richard Chaitman  {CSB '70}
Mr. David Molinar  {LAW '80}
Mr. Richard Skoff  {CSB '68}
Mr. Kenneth Van Buren  {CSB '68}
Mr. James Anderson
Mr. Robert Beckering  {CSB '84}
Mr. William Blankinship  {CSB '84}
Ms. Jane (Wojak) Burton  {CSB '81}
Mr. Joseph Coviello  {CSB '85}
Mr. Thomas Daly  {CSB '85}
Mr. Phillip Fogel  {IT '83}
Mr. John Gabel  {CSB '85}
Mr. James Goetzinger  {SW '88}
Mr. Walter Gray  {IT '81}
Dr. Neil Hart  {MED '89}

Mr. Michael Hastings  {AS '85}
Mr. Gerard Hempstead  {LAW '86}
Dr. Israa Kusman  {CSB '86}
Mr. John Littich  {CSB '86}
Dr. Gordon Lowell  {CSB '86}
Rev. James McGuiney  {SW '86}
Mr. Robert O'Brien  {CSB '86}
Mr. Joseph O'Donnell  {AS '86}
Miss E. Carol Posey  {SW '86}
Mr. John Redding  {PC '86}
Sr. Rita Reisch, S.S.N.D.
Mr. Donald Thomas  {AS '86}
Dr. Mary Siemer S.S.N.D.
Rev. Dr. Stephen Noller  {DENT '75}
Mr. Robert Brown  {LAW '76}
Mr. William Cole  {CSB '76}
Mr. John Cullinane  {LAW '76}
Dr. Stephen Noller  {MED '76}

Dr. Roy Edward Chatham (Grad Ed '99, 73), former dean of SLU's College of Arts, and Sciences. The next year, he became director of SLU's Collegiate Assistance Program and Upward Bound. Dr. Chatham later served as the director of special academic programs before becoming dean. He retired from SLU in 2006.

Mr. Victor Dillon  {DENT '65}
Mrs. Loretta (Young) Fisher  {CSB '65}
Mr. Daniel Flaherty  {MED '65}
Mr. John Griffin  {MED '65}
Mr. J. Brian Hangan  {CSB '65}
Mr. James Higgins  {A&S '65}
Mr. John Littich  {CSB '65}
Rev. Dr. Stretch was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1958 and later served in the reserves as a commissioned social work officer until 1972. He came to SLU in 1969. He directed the social work program from 1973-94. From 1976-87, he was the assistant dean for the School of Social Work.
He was an expert on welfare reform, homelessness and housing issues.

Mr. Max Duffy  {CSB '82}
Ms. Brenda (MacMurd) Farber  {AS '82}
Mr. Marc Holtzman  {CSB '82}
Mr. Donald Henke  {SW '82}
Ms. Dorothy (Don) Kleinschmit  {CSB '82}
Mr. Steve Gentemann  {AS '83}
Mr. Darrell Martin  {PS '83}
Mrs. Lorraine (Nichols) McCready  {VSN '83}
Mr. Frank Rubino  {CSB '83}
Mr. Jeffrey Schafer  {AS '83}
Ms. Sarah (Klingin) Schraf  {VSN '83}
Mr. Howard Smotkin  {LAW '83}
Mr. Thomas Cook  {CSB '83}
Mr. Donald Underreiner  {PC '77}
Dr. Oscar Allison  {AS '77}
Mr. David Bottom  {PC '77}
Mr. Kevin Dolan  {AS '77}
Ms. Nina (DeFoe) Fish  {SW '78}
Sr. Lillian hekner  {DS '78}
Miss Shaheen  {DS '78}
Mr. Kevin Duffy  {CSB '86}
Ms. Brenda (MacMurd) Farber  {AS '86}
Mr. Marc Holtzman  {CSB '86}
Ms. Lucy Krankleinschmit  {CSB '86}
Mr. Steve Gentemann  {AS '86}
Mr. Darrell Martin  {PS '87}
Mrs. Tamara (Ramsay) Nolde  {CSB '87}
Ms. Joyce Sonn  {CSB '87}
Mr. James Stein  {SW '87}
Carlos Pardo Martinez  {CSB '90}
Mr. David Baughman  {CSB '90}
Mrs. Denise Saksa  {VSN '91}
Mr. David Baughman  {CSB '91}

Mr. Morris Bond  {CSB '83}
Dr. William Bradley  {DENT '83}
Rev. James Butler  {CSB '83}
Mr. Rosario Caputo  {AS '83}
Mr. Chris Cartens  {AS '83}
Mrs. Margaret (Hernandez) Daley  {SW '83}
Mr. David Dallenney  {AS '83}
Mather Mary Dolce, O.S.O.  {CSB '84}
Mr. George Flotte  {LAW '84}
Rev. James Guyer, S.J.  {AS '84}
Mr. James Hagen  {AS '84}
Dr. Daniel Horan Jr.  {MED '84}
Mr. Jerry Huddl {SW '77}
Dr. Richard Kirchoffer
Mr. Peter Manion Jr.  {SW '74}
Mr. John Cullinane  {LAW '74}
Mr. John Farroll  {PS '74}
Mr. Patricia Parker  {CSB '75}
Mr. William Kobla  {CSB '75}
Mr. Donald Underreiner  {PC '77}
Dr. Joseph Canfield  {ED '82}
Mr. Dieter Ungerboeck  {AS '82}
Sr. Charline Sullivan, C.S.J.  {ED '79}
Dr. Richard Demko  {DS '79}
Mr. John O'Hara  {ED '79}

Dr. Stretch died, Nov. 20, 2021. He had been the assistant dean for the School of Social Work since 1977. He was a former director of special academic programs before becoming dean. He retired from SLU in 2006.

Mr. Ronald Seader  {ED '79}
Mr. Robert Brown  {LAW '79}
Mr. William Cole  {CSB '79}
Mr. John Cullinane  {LAW '79}
Dr. Stephen Noller  {MED '79}
Mr. Ronald Delicardo  {DS '79}
Mr. John Farroll  {PS '79}
Mr. Patricia Parker  {CSB '79}

Mr. Ronald Seader  {ED '79}
Mr. Robert Brown  {LAW '79}
Mr. William Cole  {CSB '79}
Mr. John Cullinane  {LAW '79}
Mr. Ronald Delicardo  {DS '79}
Mr. John Farroll  {PS '79}
Mr. Patricia Parker  {CSB '79}

Mr. Ronald Seader  {ED '79}
Mr. Robert Brown  {LAW '79}
Mr. William Cole  {CSB '79}
Mr. John Cullinane  {LAW '79}
Mr. Ronald Delicardo  {DS '79}
Mr. John Farroll  {PS '79}
Mr. Patricia Parker  {CSB '79}

Mr. Ronald Seader  {ED '79}
Mr. Robert Brown  {LAW '79}
Mr. William Cole  {CSB '79}
Mr. John Cullinane  {LAW '79}
Mr. Ronald Delicardo  {DS '79}
Mr. John Farroll  {PS '79}
Mr. Patricia Parker  {CSB '79
Mr. Mitchell Kolesar (PC ‘90)
Ms. Jeannie (Crivello) Thornberry (A&S ‘90)
Ms. Carolyn (Campbell) Townes (SW ‘90)
Ms. Anna (Prellwitz) Vilg (VSN ‘90)
Ms. Jean (Hogan) Schneider (A&S ‘90)
Ms. Lorraine (Maloney) Vigil (VSN ‘91)
Ms. Rebecca Magruder (CSB ‘98)
The “In Memoriam” section includes the names of alumni who died between 2020 and the fall of 2022.

Mr. Robert Young (PS ‘98)
Dr. Margaret North-Jones (EO ‘98)
Ms. Cora (Drew) Walker (LAW ‘99)
Mrs. Anna (Duda) Mayes (PS ‘99)
Mr. Eugene Rodemich III (A&S 10)
Ms. Spring Lake (A&S 10)
Dr. Vincent Gibbons (DCSH ‘10)
Ms. Darryl Cooper (PS ‘10)
Ms. Jireh Hill (PS ‘10)
Ms. Danielle Morago (PS ‘10)
Mr. Barry Preston (PS ‘10)

Mr. Daniel L. Blash, vice dean for diversity, equity and inclusion and chief diversity officer for the School of Medicine, died Nov. 2, 2022. He was 54. Dr. Blash joined the SLU community in 2019 and worked to develop a culture of diversity and belonging in the School of Medicine. Prior to that, he served in administrative and faculty roles at several institutions around the region. He founded Blash Counseling Associates in Old North St. Louis to provide mental health assistance to an underserved community. He also founded Fresh Anointing Apostolic Church, where he was pastor until his passing.

Mr. George Paz, a SLU trustee and former chairman and CEO of Express Scripts, died Oct. 23, 2022. He was 67. Mr. Paz helped grow Express Scripts into a $100 billion Fortune 25 industry leader and the largest pharmacy benefit management company in the nation. He retired in 2016 and joined SLU’s board in 2017. Mr. Paz was known for his philanthropy, especially toward education; he supported student scholarships as part of SLU’s Accelerating Excellence Campaign.

Mr. Frederick G. McLeod, S.J., retired professor of theology, died March 7, 2022. He was 90 years old, a Jesuit for 72 years and a priest for almost 60. Father McLeod began his active ministry at Baghdad Catholic College, where he served from 1956-59. He returned to Baghdad in 1968 to teach Arabic studies but was soon forced out of the country along with other foreign-born Jesuits. From 1969-73, he served as the rector of the Jesuit Collegian Community in Boston. He came to SLU in 1973 and taught theology until he retired in 2006.

Mr. Jared Danielson (CSB ‘04)
Ms. Rebecca Magruder (LAW ‘06)
Dr. Katherine Von Hatten (EO ‘06)
Ms. Michele Frizzell (A&S ‘08)
Ms. Angela Koester (CSB ‘00)
Ms. Danielle Morago (PS ‘10)
Mr. Barry Preston (PS ‘10)

Dr. Daniel L. Blash, associate professor of sociology and anthropology, died July 10, 2022, at age 59. Dr. Kuhn joined the SLU faculty in 1990. Her work and teaching focused on issues of gender, immigration, crime and social theory. In addition, she was involved in SLU’s Faculty Senate, where she was an advocate for shared governance. She recently was a co-editor of the book Power and Protest at an American University: No Confidence, No Fear, with other SLU faculty members.

Dr. Kathryn E. Kuhn, associate professor of sociology and anthropology, died July 10, 2022, at age 59. Dr. Kuhn joined the SLU community in 1990 and worked to develop a culture of diversity and belonging in the School of Medicine. Prior to that, he served in administrative and faculty roles at several institutions around the region. He founded Blash Counseling Associates in Old North St. Louis to provide mental health assistance to an underserved community. He also founded Fresh Anointing Apostolic Church, where he was pastor until his passing.

HAPPY 60TH
SLU broke ground on Griesedieck Hall on March 5, 1962, and welcomed its first residents for the fall 1963 semester. The landmark hall was part of the $18 million Priority Needs Campaign, the first phase of the University’s 150th Anniversary Development Program.

ROOM FOR ALL
“Gries” was conceived as a tower between Walsh and Clonard halls to house SLU’s increasing number of out-of-town students. The building would add living quarters for 456 students, giving the U-shaped complex a total capacity of 853.

FAMILY NAME
The Griesediecks immigrated from Germany to St. Louis and operated several successful breweries. Alvin Griesediek Sr., president of Falstaff Brewing Corp., was chairman of SLU’s Firms and Corporations Council before he died in 1964; a lounge on the ground level of Gries was named in his honor.

CAMPUS LANDMARK
At 16 stories with 14 residential floors, Griesedieck Hall is the tallest building on campus. During past winter holiday seasons, select indoor lights have been left on strategically to create an illuminated cross visible from nearby Interstate 64.

BLUE-LIGHT SPECIAL
Twenty-five years ago, a lighted “Saint Louis University” was affixed to the top of Griesedieck; the switch first was flipped on June 24, 1997. Each blue letter measures six feet tall, and the length of the sign is 88 feet.

BOLAND PLAZA
The outdoor area in front of Griesedieck was called Boland Plaza after Joseph Boland, S.J., who lived in SLU’s residence halls from 1946 after his Naval duty until he died in 1979. A 2004 renovation annexed the plaza space to double the size of the building’s dining hall, which now is home to the Career Lab.
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