

New Heights

Winter 2026 ● The Magazine of Le Moyne College

POWER SKILLS

Reflecting the College's Jesuit mission and identity, and helping to promote creative, nimble and sharp thinkers.



Campus Vibrancy

It's a fact: Dolphins need room to discover, recharge, and connect and engage with their friends. Fortunately, Le Moyne recently unveiled four new and refurbished spaces on campus created to do just that: ❶ the DiLaura Inspiration and Design Lab, ❷ McNeil Firehouse, ❸ Curtis Quad and Terrace, and ❹ McGill Gateway and Terrace. These beautiful additions to campus were made possible thanks to Le Moyne supporters Pete DiLaura '78 and his late wife, Tara (Lee) DiLaura '78; Daniel III '77 and Danielle McNeil; Christopher '79 and Karin Curtis; and Joseph '84 and Suzanne Savage. Students, alumni and friends toured the new spaces during the Passport to Campus Vibrancy celebration this fall. Participants were given a "passport," and were awarded a specially designed button at each locale they visited. Along the way they had the opportunity to hear from the benefactors whose generosity made the upgrades possible and from community leaders.



Jackie Boulter, Pete DiLaura '78, Mike D'Eredita and James Shomar





McNEIL FIREHOUSE



Danielle McNeil, Dan McNeill III '77, Barb Karper and State Sen. Rachel May



Karin and Chris Curtis '79



President Linda LeMura, Faithkeeper of the Turtle Clan of the Onondaga Nation Oren Lyons, Trustee Joe Savage '84 and Suzanne Savage, and Freida Jacques.

(right) Vice President of Advancement and Innovation and Executive Dean of the Madden College of Business and Economics Jim Joseph '83, Ed.D. '23; Barb Karper and former Director of Theater Bill Morris; Syracuse Fire Chief Michael Mohds and Mayor Ben Walsh speaking at the McNeil Firehouse.

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Connection Through Care: How Le Moyne's Center for Aging Resources and Enrichment has Increased Senior Support in CNY

by Liz McCaffery '06, M.S. '12



He Gives Us Grace

by Molly K. McCarthy



Milestones of Dr. LeMura's Presidency

FEATURES



Power Skills

by Molly K. McCarthy

Cover: Creating mandalas, or circular, symbolic designs, for display on the quad has become a Le Moyne tradition. This team effort was led by Visiting Professor Kim Waale of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts. The mandalas were crafted by students in Waale's COR100: Art and Wellness course using materials found in nature. Among those who also worked with the students was Professor Jason Lusier, Ph.D., of the Department of Biology and Environmental Sciences. The Grace Center for Faith and Community supported this initiative by providing the students with hot beverages and snacks. Featured on the cover are Lusier with Marissa McCloud '29 and Iris Horowitz '29.

Learn more here >



A Legacy of Leadership

by Molly K. McCarthy



lemoyne.edu/alumni

Sharing your story can make a big difference in other people's lives. Le Moyne graduates have compelling, thought-provoking and entertaining stories to share. To share your story, contact our editor at mccartmk@lemoyne.edu. To submit a class note, go to lemoyne.edu/alumni. Click the + sign next to Connect on the right column, then click Submit Class Notes.

The magazine submission deadline for the next issue is **March 1, 2026. Thank you for sharing your story!**

Le Moyne College is a diverse learning community that strives for academic excellence in the Catholic and Jesuit tradition through its comprehensive programs rooted in the liberal arts and sciences. Its emphasis is on education of the whole person and on the search for meaning and value as integral parts of the intellectual life. Le Moyne College seeks to prepare its members for leadership and service in their personal and professional lives to promote a more just society.

LE MOYNE

New Heights is published twice a year by the Office of Marketing and Communications. Opinions expressed in the magazine do not necessarily reflect those of Le Moyne College.

We welcome your opinions, suggestions and feedback on everything in our magazine. You may email them to mccartmk@lemoyne.edu or mail to:

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BEING FIRST IS RARELY EASY, BUT IT IS DEEPLY REWARDING

When I began my career as a scholar, researcher and teacher nearly 40 years ago, I set out to do something I truly love – guiding young people. That set me on the professional course that eventually led me to Le Moyne, and to a job that continues to fill me with joy and purpose every single day.



That is not to say it has always been easy – the most worthwhile things rarely are. When I assumed this role in the spring of 2014, I knew that others would be watching me carefully. I felt an acute pressure to succeed not only for the students who are the heart and soul of this institution, but for any other woman who may one day want to follow in my footsteps. Along the way, I have been bolstered by this community and its many servant leaders as we strive to live out the College's mission to "prepare its members for lives of leadership and service." They have made the complex work of leading an academic institution with more than 600 employees and 3,500 students the challenge and privilege of a professional lifetime.

My colleagues and I are dedicated to and charged with nurturing our students' capacity to communicate effectively, work as part of a team, express empathy for others and adapt quickly to changing circumstances. This is the most important work we do.

As you will read in this issue of *New Heights*, we consider those skills to be "essential." I believe that no amount of training in any field, however necessary, is sufficient if a person does not also possess these characteristics. What's more, these skills are growing increasingly important in a world in which artificial intelligence is radically changing the way we live and work.

Today's Dolphins will be the first generation to be fully immersed in this technological revolution. It will be critical for them to use this new tool wisely and recognize its strength, but also to be aware of its pitfalls and stay focused on the greater good. That too will not be easy. However, I believe in the members of this generation. I have witnessed their capacity to do hard things. And so let me be the first to say that I am confident that they are up to this challenge – and any other one that may come their way.

President Linda M. LeMura, Ph.D.



LEARN TO BE CURIOUS | Jordan Johnson '26 believes in continually learning, challenging himself and making the most of every opportunity. Case in point: Johnson spent the summer working as a cybersecurity risk intern for Amazon at the Fortune 100 company's headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. Looking back, he says that it was one of the most "unique and transformative experiences" of his Le Moyne career to date.



"I'm grateful for the incredible opportunity to have worked alongside many industry leaders in cloud security and compliance."

—Jordan Johnson '26

Jordan Johnson '26 at Amazon's headquarters in Arlington, Virginia.

A New Jersey native, Johnson was part of the Amazon Web Services team charged with ensuring that its cloud services are secure and in compliance with the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program, otherwise known as FedRAMP. The cybersecurity major and risk management and insurance minor contributed to risk analysis and security control assessments, assisted in real-time monitoring and compliance automation initiatives, and enhanced his understanding of FedRAMP, continuous authorization, and large-scale cloud security. Beyond that, he also learned about Amazon's leadership

principles, which include "customer obsession," "learn to be curious" and "deliver results."

Johnson says that he could not imagine a better time to immerse himself in the cybersecurity field, as AI and machine learning are changing the way business is done across industries. His work at Amazon reinforced for him how critical it is to innovate and grow. As he expanded his network and put many of the lessons he learned in the classroom into practice, Johnson grew more confident in himself and in his capacity to manage uncertainty and ambiguity.

"It was an amazing experience," he says. "I'm grateful for the incredible opportunity to have worked alongside many industry leaders in cloud security and compliance."

Looking forward, Johnson hopes to serve as a bridge between the technical and nontechnical sides of cybersecurity, so that the business stakeholders have a clear understanding of how it is impacting their work. He offers this advice to other Dolphins:

"Continue to be curious, and when you find something that captures your attention, don't be afraid to pursue it." @

by Molly K. McCarthy

Jordan Johnson is a resident adviser, member of the men's track and cross country team, and president of the Cybersecurity Club. Johnson is also a 2025 Ignite Fellow. The Ignite Fellowship was established to allow students to engage in transformative, hands-on experiences, such as internships and research opportunities, without having to worry about the financial costs that sometimes come along with them. Le Moyne is grateful to the generous alumni whose support makes the fellowship possible.

When you think about the future, what fills you with optimism?
We asked three faculty members this question, and here is what they had to say:

Faculty Angle

KRISTINE CERVANTES, PT, DPT, GCS

Professor of Practice for Occupational Therapy (OT)

When I think about the future, I am filled with optimism because of the generation of occupational therapy students I have the privilege of teaching. They bring a unique combination of resilience and creativity to their work, and they possess a strong sense of social responsibility, all of which fill me with confidence. This generation values and prioritizes inclusivity, equity and mental health. Its members are unafraid to speak up about systemic issues and are motivated to use their skills to make meaningful change, both in health care and in the broader community. I am inspired by their ability to blend evidence-based practice with empathy, creating client-centered care that is both effective and compassionate. Their willingness to collaborate, support one another, and think beyond traditional boundaries of practice signals a future where OT will continue to grow and evolve in exciting directions. Knowing that these students will carry the profession forward gives me great hope for a more inclusive, adaptive and compassionate future in health care.

JUSTO PLANAS, PH.D.

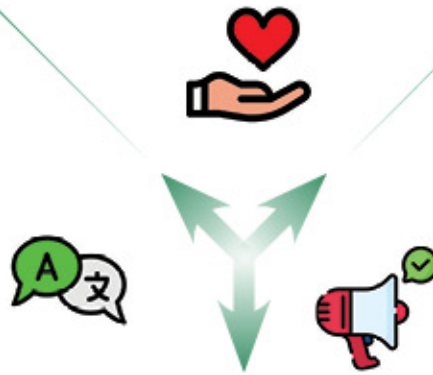
Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages

Sometimes I find it difficult to think about the future with optimism. I am aware that optimism can be used as a tool to hold people back, which is what [American scholar] Lauren Berlant called cruel optimism. For example, the idea that simply working hard will guarantee success can actually prevent people from moving forward within an unfair system. That said, my students at Le Moyne do make me feel hopeful about the future. I am genuinely enjoying the journey with this new generation. One of the most uplifting things is how eager its members are to connect with people from all around the world. They are not just fluent in world languages and cultures; they are genuinely excited to learn from diverse perspectives. That kind of curiosity gives me a lot of hope.

MARGIE IERLAN, PH.D.

Professor of Marketing

When I think about the future, I am filled with optimism because of the incredible potential I see in our students and in the power of marketing to drive meaningful change. I witness every day how students use creativity, data and empathy to solve real-world problems. Their curiosity and sense of purpose give me confidence that the next generation of marketers will be not only skilled professionals, but also ethical leaders who understand the human impact behind every decision. I'm also encouraged by how technology and analytics continue to evolve, giving us new tools to understand consumers, connect communities and build authentic brands. The lines between business, social good and innovation are blurring in exciting ways, and watching our students embrace collaboration, diversity and sustainability makes me believe that marketing's future will be defined less by persuasion and more by purpose. Imagining where insight and integrity intersect keeps me hopeful and energized about what lies ahead for our students, our College and our world.



How Micron Is Working toward a Sustainable Future for All

Micron's leaders recognize that the company's business, operations and sourcing practices affect its team members, customers, communities and the planet. With that in mind, they continuously strengthen the organization's sustainability strategy to support its corporate mission as a global leader in memory and storage solutions and maintain a competitive edge. Learn more about Micron's commitment to community and sustainability. ▼



Environmental Stewardship Rooted in Civic Engagement

As faculty members in the Department of Environmental Sciences, we felt a professional and ethical responsibility to analyze and summarize Micron's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The company's impending project represents one of the largest proposed developments in Central New York in decades, with far-reaching consequences for wetlands, wildlife, air and water quality, and human health. Our motivation stemmed from our expertise in ecology, conservation biology and environmental systems, and from our long-standing commitment to educating students and the wider community about the importance of science-based decision-making.

We recognized that the DEIS is a complex technical document, written in a style that can be difficult for non-specialists to parse. In collaboration with the community and other experts from SUNY ESF, we reviewed

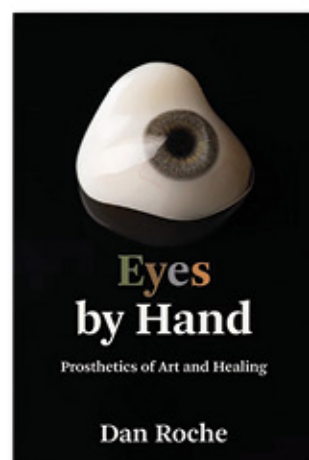
and distilled the report, making its contents more accessible to citizens, students and policymakers. Our goal was to highlight both the scientific evidence and the gaps in analysis, especially regarding climate impacts, biodiversity loss, and the limitations of proposed mitigation measures. At its core, our work reflects the Jesuit mission of fostering informed civic engagement, critical inquiry, and stewardship of the environment for the benefit of both present and future generations.

Hilary McManus, Ph.D., and Jason Lusier, Ph.D., are faculty members in the Department of Environmental Sciences.

Story Map of Micron's Impacts >



Eyes By Hand



I got a prosthetic eye in 2009. I'd wanted it for years, after five decades with a natural eye that had never worked and was slipping rapidly into even more disfigurement and pain. The new eye was — at the risk of sounding hyperbolic — life-changing.

As much as I loved (and continue to love) the new eye, I also loved discovering that there are people who make eyes. I hadn't known. I mean, I'd known abstractly, because I'd seen them in the movies. But I'd never known anything in particular about those folks.

So I did some interviews and some research, and I wrote an article. The subject appealed to me not only because I had a personal stake in it, but because I'm drawn to places where art and technology and science intersect. I was trained in college as a mechanical engineer, but I soon admitted to myself that I enjoyed working with words more than with numbers. In the years after I published that article on eye-making, I knew there was a book to be written on the subject.

So I did a lot more research, scouring libraries and the internet for historical articles on ocular prosthetics. I conducted more interviews. I visited ocularists across the U.S., attended conferences and traveled to Germany to see how glass eyes are made.

The result of those efforts is a book that I hope will tell a story not told in this way before. I wrote it for my fellow wearers of prosthetic eyes, and for their families and friends. I wrote it for anyone curious about a craftwork that is disappearing in an increasingly digital and bureaucratic world. And I wrote it in gratitude for those people who make eyes.

Dan Roche, Ph.D., is a professor in Le Moyne's Department of English and Communication, where he teaches creative writing, literature and journalism. His most recent book is Eyes by Hand: Prosthetics of Art and Healing. The ocularist who created Roche's prosthetic eye is Le Moyne alumnus Michael Strauss '99.

A Baby Boomer and a member of Gen Z reflect on the most important skill they cultivated at Le Moyne.

Face to Face



LEGENDE MCGRATH '26

Listen First, Lead Second

One of the most meaningful skills I have gained during my time at Le Moyne is the ability to be a servant leader. Through both academics and involvement across campus, I have learned that true leadership is not about holding a title but about uplifting others. Le Moyne's Jesuit values – *cura personalis* (care for the whole person) and *magis* (more) have deeply shaped the way I approach leadership. They remind me to pause, step outside myself, and view each interaction with empathy and understanding.

Being a servant leader means listening first, leading second, and ensuring that every voice is valued. Whether mentoring first-year students, collaborating with peers in student government, or supporting residents as a resident adviser, I've learned to prioritize other people's needs above my own. This perspective has taught me patience, humility and the importance of genuine care in community building. Le Moyne has shown me that leadership rooted in service creates lasting impact. By embodying these Jesuit ideals, I strive to lead not through authority but through compassion, encouraging others to recognize their own potential while working together toward the greater good. That, to me, is what it truly means to be a servant leader.

Legende McGrath '26 is a dual major in English and communication from Syracuse, New York. He serves as the president of Le Moyne's Student Government Association (SGA). Use this link to read a story about SGA receiving national recognition. ▶ tinyurl.com/49b9zkak.



DEBBIE MONACO '76

Empathy Is a Skill to Be Nutured

The most important skill that Le Moyne College taught me was empathy.

I think empathy was an inevitable result of our core curriculum, which included classes in the humanities. The Jesuit tenet of *cura personalis* encourages care for the entire person. Social justice was also a big component of our Le Moyne education. The inherent dignity of every person and service to the poor and marginalized were recurring themes in our classes, as well as in clubs and organizations.

I believe I was predisposed to Le Moyne's emphasis on empathy because I grew up in a family with Le Moyne-educated parents, and they reflected often on how Le Moyne had impacted their lives. One of their greatest influences was Andrew Brady, S.J., who, coincidentally, returned to the College in time for me to take a class from him, and to be the next member of my family to be shaped by him.

I follow Le Moyne on social media now, and am amazed at the number and variety of ways that the students reach out to and impact the community around them. I'm sure many of these students will, in time, feel that empathy was the most important skill they learned at Le Moyne.

Debbie (Schoeneck) Monaco '76 is part of a three-generation Dolphin family and has served on the College's Alumni Board. She resides in Marietta, New York.

Overheard on campus ...

🏠 Describe Le Moyne in one word? That's easy: home. 🙏🏻 Our strong Catholic faith calls for us to treat all of God's children with compassion and care. 🦊 Change starts with persistence and determination. Even the most successful individuals began their journeys as ordinary people who faced obstacles and challenges. 🦊 You must have confidence. That's what we build here. 👁️ I'm afraid that our generation is too infatuated with instant gratification ... All of us need to work on formulating and maintaining a greater sense of purpose, a vision that will direct our actions and shape our work ethic. ☔ The tough times won't last, but you will. 🤔 Solving a problem is multidisciplinary, and Le Moyne students learn how to think that way. 🌍 I have to say I'm feeling really ready to take on the world. 🤔 Sometimes plans take a little longer than you expected, but in the process dreams come true. 🌅 A better tomorrow is where everyone feels safe. 🤝 Find your people ... They will become your forever friends. 🐛 Be good.

Your Perspective



Le Moyne nursing students working in a local health clinic in Peru. (below) Nursing students caring for a child in a family's home.

A Sacred Family

I recently returned from Peru, where I accompanied students from Le Moyne's undergraduate nursing program and Family Nurse Practitioner program as they volunteered with *Sagrada Familia*, an organization that cares for children who have been orphaned, abandoned or rescued from abusive or dangerous environments. *Sagrada Familia* means "sacred family," and that beautifully encapsulates our experience. I had never been to South America before embarking on this trip; it opened a whole new world to me with regard to climate, geography and topography. But most important, the people my colleagues and I encountered there were wonderful, loving and welcoming. We were able to spend our time in a local clinic, where our students were busy triaging patients, doing wellness checks, drawing blood, and even removing stitches and overseeing IV therapies. We also had the opportunity to visit people in their



homes, doing basic assessments and simply connecting with them. It was wonderful to watch our students adjust, tweak and change things as needed – all on the fly. I believe that this will be a life-changing experience for them. I know that it was for me. I will continue to see the world a little differently in the best of ways.

Catherine Brownell, RN, Ph.D., is a professor and chair of the Department of Nursing at Le Moyne.



INGREDIENTS FOR HEALTH | Samantha Sassone, DNP, knows that good nutrition is critical to physical and mental health and that not everyone can easily obtain the ingredients needed to make a nutrient-dense meal. An assistant professor in Le Moyne's Department of Nursing, Sassone grew up in a rural part of Ontario County known as Manchester-Shortsville. Many of its residents struggle with food insecurity and access to nutrition education. That, in turn, can exacerbate chronic illnesses like hypertension, diabetes and heart disease. The people facing these challenges are not strangers or abstractions for Sassone. They are her neighbors, and she has the capacity to help them. That is exactly what she has done.

Mary Springston, M.S. Ed., PA-C, leading a cooking demonstration for community members during the health and wellness event.



Prior to hosting the wellness event, Sassone, along with her grandmother, Jeri "G.G." Gysel, and Kathy Leach-Hanley, assistant to the dean of the Purcell School of Professional Studies, sewed reusable grocery bags to be used by students in the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District. It is estimated that 10 percent of the school district's children live below the poverty line. Many of them receive food to bring home with them, primarily to stave off hunger over the weekend.

With the support of civic leaders and her colleagues in the Purcell School of Professional Studies, Sassone recently hosted a health-and-wellness event for the community centered around what she calls "culinary medicine." It featured blood pressure screenings, a cooking demonstration, and a lesson in how to read nutrition labels. The session was, in Sassone's words, "small but impactful." Participants had the opportunity to ask questions of Sassone and her colleagues, including about the medicines many of them were taking to manage their hypertension, and to share a meal with one another.

When the event was over, one attendee was moved to write a message to Sassone and her colleagues saying that she "better understood her disease process" and thanking them for their time and expertise.

Sassone is gratified by that feedback. In fact, she hopes to expand this program to other high-need communities in Central New York, so that they too can benefit from blood pressure screenings, cooking demonstrations and information sessions. She is already receiving calls from people who would like to participate. In the future, though, she would like to draw more

students from Le Moyne's nursing program into the fold and to invite them to take the lead, with her and her colleagues in supporting roles. That would provide the students with the opportunity to practice their clinical skills while living Le Moyne's mission of service to others.

"Through this project, I hope that our students will learn to listen to people, to understand them and to meet them where they are so that they can receive the care they need," Sassone says. 📍

by Molly K. McCarthy

Sassone was joined at the health-and-wellness event by several of her colleagues from the Purcell School of Professional Studies: Meega Wells, Ph.D., R.N., APN-BC, dean of the Purcell School of Professional Studies; Marisa Davis, OTD, of the Department of Occupational Therapy; Jody Coppola, DNP (top photo), and Dorothy Haag, Ed.D., R.N., of the Department of Nursing; and Mary Springston, M.S. Ed., PA-C, of the Department of Physician Assistant Studies. The event was supported by a grant from the Manchester-Shortsville Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club.



A PUBLIC VOICE | Matthew Stevens '27 began his foray into public service early. As a senior in high school, Stevens was appointed to the Central Square (New York) Board of Education, offering a student's perspective as the board's elected members crafted policy impacting the lives of the district's approximately 3,600 students. When his term ended, he was appointed to the Central Square Planning Board. Now, at 19 years old, he is putting those lessons to work as the youngest-ever member of the Central Square Board of Trustees.

A political science major, Stevens is learning about municipal government by doing something that few other college students have the opportunity to do: by immersing himself in it. It is not unusual for him to spend breaks between classes addressing a constituent's concern or preparing for an upcoming board meeting. As a lifelong resident of Central Square, Stevens is passionate about its sustainability, development and growth and, as a member of Gen Z, he has a vested interest in its future. He maintains that this is a critical time for young people to become involved in local government, as technology company Micron plans to make a historic investment in Central New York that has the potential to reshape the area for decades to come.

"The decisions made today are going to impact tomorrow," he says. "Young people are our future, and we have to make sure that they have a seat at the table."

When Stevens campaigned for office last spring, he met over a hundred local residents who shared their concerns with him. They included drainage issues, property and road maintenance, and "general dissatisfaction with how the government was run." Their input continues to fuel Stevens in his work today. He is particularly committed to accountability and transparency. To that end, he created a Facebook page dedicated to the work he and his colleagues are doing. The most exciting thing about his job, he says, is "being part of solving real problems." Some of those issues are relatively small, such as illegal signage, while others are more significant and can only be addressed by passing new laws.

In addition to his work as a village trustee, Stevens is the co-deputy executive director of the Log Off Movement, an organization dedicated to empowering young people to tackle the complexities of social media and its impact on younger generations. He has also been involved in advocating for state and federal legislation to ensure that technology is not exploitative and recognizes human dignity through an organization known as Design It For Us. He encourages people his age and younger to engage in conversations about social media's impact on their lives, particularly their mental health. Stevens began his advocacy journey by organizing efforts to combat youth substance abuse in his hometown and establishing a youth advisory council to expand student leadership opportunities in the Central Square Central School District.

As he looks to the future, Stevens is optimistic. He is not limiting himself to one particular path, but is considering a career in either government or advocacy. He knows one thing for sure, though.

"Whatever I do," he says, "I will make sure that it is aligned with the issues that are most important to me." 📍

by Molly K. McCarthy

(Top) Mayor Randy House swears Matt Stevens '27 on to the Central Square Board of Trustees.

(Left) Stevens speaks at a village event.



"Young people are our future, and we have to make sure that they have a seat at the table."

—Matthew Stevens '27



Black Cohosh



Christmas Fern



Amethyst Astilbe



Eastern Red Cedar



Cully Heritage River Birch



Shadblow Serviceberry



Ligularia – Rocket



Red Oak



Green Velvet Boxwood

MCGILL TERRACE PLANTS

The McGill Gateway and Terrace is the home to a garden featuring plants that were selected to honor both the Haudenosaunee people and Le Moyne's aesthetic and ecological priorities. The species pictured are native to Onondaga County and were a vital part of the daily life for the Haudenosaunee, such as being a source of food and medicine, or used for tanning leather.



Japanese Pachysandra



Gro-Low Fragrant Sumac



Phil Brown addresses the campus after signing on as athletic director in January 2025. Photos for this story by James McGlynn.

AD Phil Brown Loves a Good Challenge

Following nine months of service as Le Moyne's athletic director, Phil Brown reflects on his role and what it is like to lead the Dolphins.

What interested you in coming to Le Moyne?

Le Moyne's Catholic, Jesuit mission played a large role in my decision-making process. We are rooted in nearly 500 years of Jesuit tradition. That is the north star that guides the College's leadership team and that is something I felt I needed in the next step in my career.

Also playing a role was the DI reclassification. I love a good challenge, and leading through a time of change is something that excites me and really called to my personal needs in a new role.

How has the transition been from Vanderbilt, a larger DI school, to a small institution like Le Moyne?

I feel prepared for this role because of my time at Vandy. Resource allocation is the only real difference; yes, they have more resources than we do, but we are still answering the same questions on how to best use them. We are faced with the same challenges seen at any size institution, so it's important to understand what differentiates you from others and face those challenges based on what you have available. I have a great leadership team both at the campus and departmental level, so we are able to take on what the day brings our way and find what works for us to make sure our athletes have the best DI experience we can offer, both at the campus and departmental level.

What have your priorities been during your first nine months as AD?

Mostly a singular focus these first months – reclassification leads a lot of the day. From there what is the best way to improve the student-athlete experience and ensure we are meeting the DI core guarantees.

How has your background in business been beneficial, particularly at this time in collegiate athletics?

I have an accounting degree and, as my Intermediate Accounting One professor told me, accounting is the backbone of business and if you can do accounting, you can do anything in business. So yes, it is very beneficial and I am able to use some of those skills I picked up along the way to approach how I lead a bit differently. For example, I use audit skills on our programs to see things in a different way than others can, my time in budgets and forecasting helps me to see the big picture better and be more critical about how we approach some situations and how they are campus wide and not just departmental in scope.



Student-athletes greet each other at the start of an awards ceremony on campus.

What is your vision/goals for Le Moyne athletics over the next five years?

Le Moyne College will provide the premier student-athlete experience among New York's Catholic and Jesuit NCAA Division I athletic programs, competing for championships while preparing for life the Le Moyne way.

As we finalize our reclassification, we want to be the first choice for students looking for a college experience in New York at an NCAA DI school with Catholic values. As these are attributes that young people have to decide on in the recruitment process. Our goal is to show that we provide all of them and we are the best at it among our competitors.

What are the biggest challenges facing Le Moyne as it finalizes its move to DI?

Our challenges are and will be no different than every school around the country – resources. Like all of our peers we rely on the generous support of our alumni, fans and friends to provide their time, talent and treasure. I encourage all alumni to get back to campus a few times a year to watch our athletes compete at the highest level or consider other ways to support the campus community.

From a cultural standpoint, what are the strengths of Le Moyne, our athletic coaches/administrators and our student-athletes?

I am in awe of the "Inside the L" shared culture of Le Moyne athletics. From the inspiration of the Sunday Playbook emails and this year's theme of "Gratitude Attitude" we are able to [weave] the College's Jesuit values into the everyday life of our athletes and staff.

What motivates you?

I am blessed to work in an environment where young people are pushing themselves every day toward their athletic goals and their academic goals. What could be more motivating than that? When you are allowed to be around all of this greatness you can't help but push yourself to be the best you can for these young people and the rest of the College community.

What do you enjoy doing when you're not working?

If it were up to me I would spend all of my free time in the outdoors hiking or camping, but right now I get to do my other favorite thing most often and that is watch my three kids compete in their favorite sports. I spend a lot of time at the ballpark or walking the golf course.

You are a native southerner. How has the transition to a colder climate been for you and your family?

I have personally taken to the climate really well. I moved in January so I already got to experience a lot of what winter could throw at me. My family joined me in June so as the cool fall mornings have come there is a little debate about when the furnace should come on versus just needing cozy slippers. I ultimately think once the opportunities for winter sports and family time around the fire place come, we will all settle in just fine.



Phil Brown with his wife, Alison, and children (left to right) Emmett, Charlotte and Owen.

by Joe Della Posta

The Great Ones Have an Attitude of Gratitude



Wayne Gretzky, widely known as "The Great One," was the leading goal scorer in the NHL for 11 seasons. However, that is the least impressive statistic of his illustrious career. Gretzky's total assists stand at 1,963. That is almost 200 more than the number of goals he and Alex Ovechkin scored, combined. How does that relate to our 'Gratitude Attitude'?

Gratitude is not just about being thankful. It is also about being able to repay kindness and generosity. How did Gretzky do that? It's simple: He put more effort into making sure that his teammates' succeeded than he did. Put another way, Gretzky embodied an attitude of gratitude. That way of moving through the world does more than create a feeling of goodwill. It creates a positive feedback loop wherein relationships are strengthened and trust in teammates is reinforced.

As hard as we student-athletes work in the weight room and the field, pitch, track and pool, it is for naught if we are unable to rely on one another, physically, emotionally and spiritually. It is especially important for athletes, upon whom so much attention is focused, to be beacons of selflessness and gratitude. Long seasons and hard practices certainly wear down the body and mind, but the spirit is a bulwark against that. Cultivating a culture of gratitude for your teammates, trainers, professors and anyone else who champions your cause will increase the resiliency of your spirit. It will lead to exponential growth.

Michael Han '27

Men's Swimming and Diving
Finance and Risk Management and
Insurance Major

What Makes an Extraordinary Leader?

We posed that question to four new members of Le Moyne's board of trustees. They shared their insights, and reflected on how they have grown as leaders. Leadership is never simple, they said. It requires humility, a willingness to listen, and a capacity to learn from everyone around you.

Seth Kronenberg, M.D.



First and foremost, I believe in doing what's best for the patient and that the rest will follow. Everything we do is mission driven, and that is due to our culture. One of the most vital roles as a leader is fostering an amazing culture. Our culture is built around family and is what differentiates us and requires constant focus.

Leadership also requires strategic thinking and, especially in health care, the ability to act swiftly. As leaders, we must quickly process information and adapt to constant change. Self-awareness and authenticity are vital. Strong leaders know their strengths and weaknesses and remain open to learning. You won't always know the answer – and that's okay. Saying, "I don't know, but I'll find out," is not a sign of weakness, but of integrity and resourcefulness.

Effective leadership also means maintaining a positive outlook during challenging times, and inspiring others to do the same. It's not about striving for perfection, but for excellence. And above all, you must genuinely believe in and be passionate about the mission – because that belief is what drives teams forward, even in the toughest moments. ☐

Seth Kronenberg, M.D., is the CEO and president of Crouse Health.

Wayne L'Heureux '80



In my career I had the opportunity to work with some amazing leaders and some weak and ineffective "bosses," and the difference is glaring.

Leadership is not a position, title or status. It is the way in which knowledge, skills and behaviors are used to influence and develop others so that they can realize an organization's vision. Leaders are strong critical thinkers who ask great questions. Those questions help them to better understand the technical details of their work and their employees' capabilities and motivations, which is critical to problem solving.

The most effective leaders have a set of values that guide their decisions and priorities. They are competitive, want to win as a team, and work efficiently and effectively toward a shared purpose. Leaders inspire others to follow their lead and help them to grow their skills and opportunities. They possess courage and conviction, and draw knowledge they have accrued through experience.

Leaders inspire others by painting a clear picture of a desired outcome, and instill confidence that it can be achieved. They involve others in the process, and recognize publicly the worth each person brings to a shared effort. Above all else, leaders value people. ☐

Wayne L'Heureux '80 is an executive coach and talent adviser at Searchworks LLC. He has held senior leadership roles at numerous organizations, including Ulta Beauty, Auto Nation, Volvo Cars, OfficeDepot and PepsiCo-Taco Bell.

Giaavonni Lucas '95



I believe it's important for leaders to model the behavior they want to see in others. I strive to demonstrate the capabilities I expect from my team.

As a leader, it's also essential to be a continuous learner – actively seeking opportunities to learn beyond your own experiences. Said another way, leaning into differences with curiosity. You won't grow unless you're uncomfortable. Operating in spaces that are uncomfortable to you will broaden your own perspective and strengthen the skillsets that you model.

The last component of leadership is preparing the next person to carry the work forward. Truly exceptional leaders leave a legacy that continues to inspire, even after they've moved on from the role. ☐

Giaavonni Lucas '95 is the senior vice president, culture and talent acquisition for Nationwide.

Armin Ibrahimovic '13

Leadership is about creating clarity, cultivating growth and building bridges between people. A great leader smooths the gaps between different cultures and perspectives, ensuring that everyone feels heard and valued. Leadership starts with self-awareness – knowing your strengths, understanding your limitations, and being willing to grow. I believe in accessing my core values and using sound judgment, not emotion or instinct alone, to make conscious, ethical decisions.

Generous leaders deliver on promises, create meaning for others, and encourage curiosity. They don't avoid hard truths. They confront reality with calm, patience and a steady hand. In difficult moments, it's not just what leaders say but how they behave that defines them. Measured responses, patience and humility go a long way.

Inspiring leaders are clear about where they want to go, but they also know how to bring others along. They organize goals to maximize engagement and foster a shared sense of purpose. Ultimately, leadership is about empowering people through meaningful work and thoughtful choices.

By cultivating insight, creating space for innovation, and leading with intention, I strive to be the kind of leader who lifts others while moving forward with integrity. @

Armin Ibrahimovic '13 is a national accounts executive officer at Travelers.



Marilla Hayman, Ph.D., looks on as student groups do presentations (montage).

Teaching Success

What are people's perceptions of female leaders who exhibit traits that are traditionally considered to be masculine, such as being assertive, confident or stoic?

That question served as the foundation of the thesis Marilla Hayman, Ph.D., wrote as an undergraduate at Northeastern State University. It was also a catalyst for the work she would eventually do as a scholar, researcher and teacher. Hayman is an assistant professor in the Department of Management and Leadership and Department of Human Resource Management. She continues to study the ways in which social identities such as gender, socio-economic status and religion impact people's experiences in the professional world.

Hayman recently partnered with faculty members from Iowa State University, the University of Arkansas and Old Dominion University to examine how people's socio-economic status during childhood influences their work, particularly whether or not they choose to become entrepreneurs. The researchers spent five years investigating the topic, collecting data, analyzing their findings, writing a manuscript, and gathering feedback on it. The team discovered that even if people's socio-economic statuses change as they age, their experiences during childhood remain imprinted on them. Their scholarship culminated in an article titled *Founders' Social Class Origin, Risk-Taking, and Venture Performance: A Bourdieusian Lens*, which was published in *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, a *Financial Times* Top 50 business journal.

As artificial intelligence, remote and hybrid roles, and a rise in the number of "gig" jobs change workplaces around the world, Hayman believes that the most important skill she can impart on her students is the ability to think broadly and critically.

"I want my students to have a better understanding of what it is like to be part of an organization," she says. "If they leave my classroom knowing how to work in groups and navigate conflict, and how to motivate themselves and others, I will consider that to be a teaching success."

Connection Through **CARE**



After a recent spirituality book club meeting hosted by Le Moyne's Center for Aging Resources and Enrichment (CARE), a woman approached CARE's lead adviser of spirituality, Mary Anne Corasaniti '65, to express her gratitude. Although the woman had been retired for seven years, she had devoted much time to caring for her grandson and had never been part of something like it. The experience, she said, had been wonderful.



"Even though the group was already friends, this woman fit right in, and they welcomed her," says Corasaniti. "These types of interactions are most notable in these groups – the ones with people who might have been isolated in their own space."

For five years, CARE has provided seniors in Central New York with opportunities like the Spirituality of Aging Book Club and resources to socialize, learn, and engage with peers and experts. The idea for the Center formed years ago when Lynn Madden, then Le Moyne's associate vice president for human resources, noticed an emerging trend among retiring faculty and staff.

"There wasn't a lot of health care planning or consideration about how to socialize post-retirement," says Madden.

"So we surveyed alumni and retirees to see what the challenges were."

The survey revealed that seniors worried about isolation, staying in good health, challenging their minds, and their financial well-being. With the help of Professor Norb Henry, Ed.D., of the Department of Education, Madden initially ran some informal workshops at Le Moyne, but soon wanted to establish something more formal.

In 2018, she formed CARE in partnership with her husband, Michael Madden '71. They began by offering the Spirituality of Aging Series, an initiative designed to bring seniors out of their homes to talk, to learn about issues important to them, and to explore deeper questions of faith.

How Le Moyne's Center for Aging Resources and Enrichment has Increased Senior Support in CNY

by Liz McCaffery '06, M.S. '12



Today, the Center is run by a team of almost 10 people, including three full-time occupational therapists who oversee the program's successful fall prevention program, a seven-week course that has reached 1,000 seniors and has been offered in over 30 different facilities in Onondaga County in the last two-and-a-half years.

"We have three pillars of focus: health and wellness, spirituality and education," says James Evans, CARE's director of outreach and engagement. "CARE's two major purposes are helping people age in place and isolation prevention."

Paul Musso, the coordinator of CARE's occupational therapy program, echoes those sentiments.

"We help older adults age gracefully, age independently, and age safely," he says. "We help prevent devastating injuries that can be life-altering."

CARE's fall prevention program, which aims to prevent injury and promote overall health, is made possible thanks to a partnership with the Onondaga County Office for Aging.

"The county hadn't offered anything like it for a while," says Kathryn Tovar '05, CARE's director of programming. "This partnership has allowed us to offer this program to seniors for free."

CARE's leaders soon hope to bring a safety awareness program, which was successfully piloted in Madden's community on Longboat Key, Florida, to Onondaga County as well, to educate seniors about fraud and scams.

"We are passionate about the senior community," says Tovar. "And we hope to broaden our reach to caregivers, the sandwich generation, and members of the Le Moyne community in the coming years."

In 2024, CARE's fall prevention program reached 20 facilities and about 500 seniors, reducing high fall risk by 35 percent and fear of falling from 50.3 percent to 24 percent. It improved participants' leg strength by 91.3 percent.

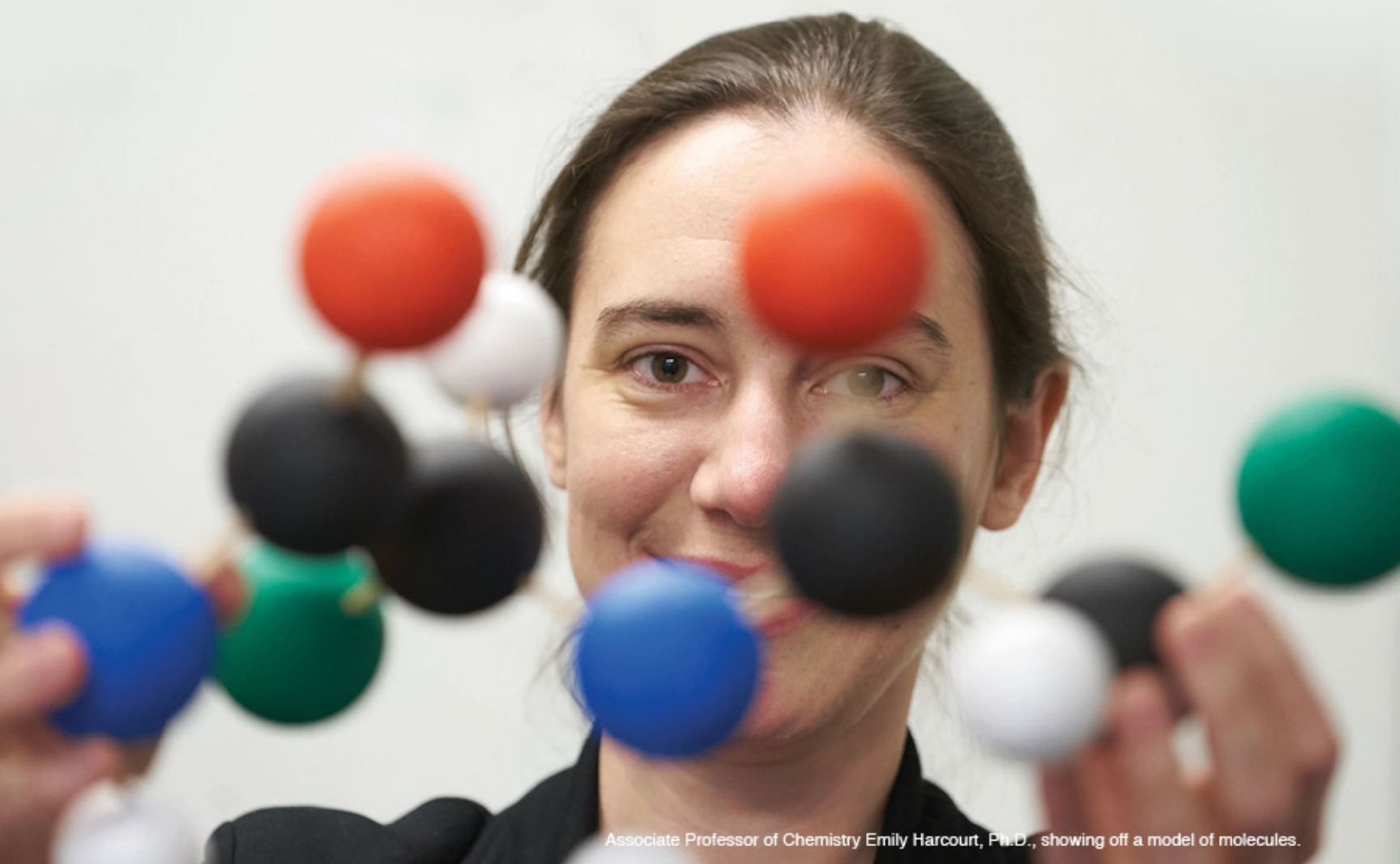
"Most of all we see improved confidence," Musso says. "A lot of people are more inclined to go out with their friends or loved ones after the seven-week program."

CARE hopes to continue its growth through new courses and resources, expansion to more counties in New York state, and a growing team. To learn more, become involved, or explore a partnership or sponsorship, visit careatlemoyne.com.



POWER SKILLS

by Molly K. McCarthy



Associate Professor of Chemistry Emily Harcourt, Ph.D., showing off a model of molecules.

At Le Moyne we think of them as “essential.” They are top of mind, and for good reason. They reflect the College’s Jesuit mission and identity, and help to promote creative, nimble and sharp thinkers.

The ability to communicate effectively. The willingness to work as part of a team. The capacity to adapt to new circumstances quickly. The wherewithal to express empathy for others. Each one of these skills is vital. It is simply not possible to innovate, create or lead effectively without having cultivated them. What’s more, in a world in which artificial intelligence (AI) is disrupting much of what human beings thought they knew about the world of work, they cannot be automated.

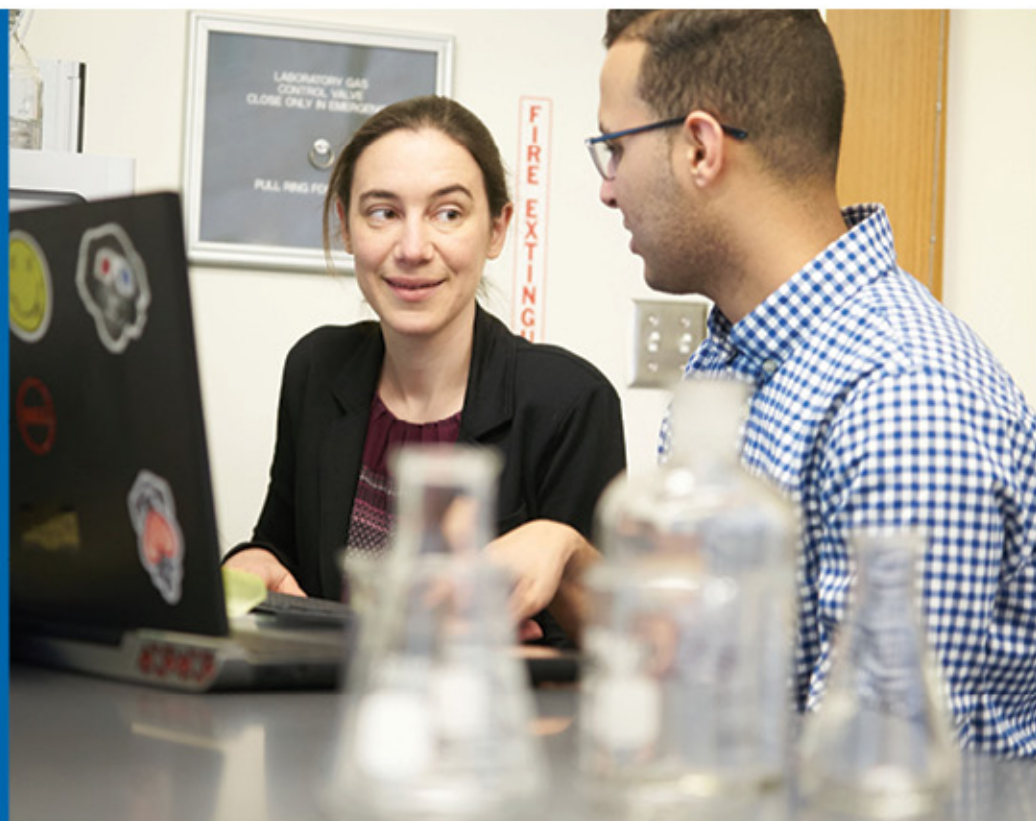
In recent years there has been a perceptible shift in the way people think, talk and write about these capacities. Some individuals refer to them as “core skills,” others “human.” At Le Moyne we think of them as “essential.” They are top of mind, and for good reason. They reflect the College’s Jesuit mission and identity, and help to promote creative, nimble and sharp thinkers. They enable human beings to look for patterns, connect ideas and open themselves to new perspectives. The cultivation of these skills will be crucial to solving some of the world’s greatest challenges, from preserving the environment to helping communities in need to curing diseases.

Giavonni Lucas '95 leverages these skills every day. Lucas is the senior vice president, culture and talent acquisition at Nationwide. Every day he makes decisions that impact people – how they do their work, where they do their work and how motivated they are at work – and he relies on skills such as creativity, critical thinking, empathy, communication, decision making and time management to make them.

“I prefer to call these ‘power skills’ because they influence and empower individuals and teams beyond what they believe their full potential and capabilities are,” Lucas says. “These skills amplify the interaction with people in the workforce and connectivity of people in the workplace.”



Giavonni Lucas '95 at his job at Nationwide.



“Collaboration and communication have always been important in scientific research, but collaboration may be getting more important as equipment and areas of expertise get ever more specialized.”

Emily Harcourt, Ph.D.

Emily Harcourt, Ph.D., working with a chemistry student in a lab class.

Associate Professor of Chemistry Emily Harcourt, Ph.D., and Professor of Biological and Environmental Sciences Devon Keeney, Ph.D., also recognize how invaluable these skills are.

A specialist in biochemistry and organic chemistry, Harcourt was part of a group of researchers led by Sarah Delaney at Brown University who collaborated with another group led by Deyu Li at the University of Rhode Island. Both teams were looking at the same type of DNA damage, but the two groups had expertise in different DNA repair pathways. By working together, they were able to show that this type of damage was probably repaired through one pathway and not the other. When the time came to publish their findings, Harcourt recalls, “Each of the researchers provided comments and input, strengthening the quality of the work overall.”

“Collaboration and communication have always been important in scientific research, but collaboration may be growing more important as equipment and areas of expertise become ever more specialized,” she says.

As a molecular ecologist, Keeney spends a great deal of time collecting samples in the field and analyzing data in the lab. Collaborations with colleagues have allowed him to investigate large river systems that he otherwise would not be able to access on his own. That, in turn, has made it possible for Keeney to diversify the types of organisms and systems he studies and the projects his students can undertake. He has found creative ways to incorporate skills such as communication, collaboration and empathy into his classroom: assigning his students to work in pairs or groups in the lab, allowing them to research topics that





(above) Evan Davis '18 sharing research results on pancreatic cancer body composition analysis done for the Moffitt Cancer Center at the American Association for Cancer Research annual meeting. (below) Le Moyne biology students in Devon Keeney's class work in groups to do their experiments and research.



are most interesting to them as long as they are relevant to the course material, and incorporating scientific readings into his lessons that offer students a window not just into scientific theories, but into the lives of the people who uncovered and popularized them.

"These skills are becoming much more essential in the sciences," Keeney says.

They are certainly critical to the work that Keeney's former student, Evan Davis '18, is now doing as an applied research scientist at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Florida. Davis focuses on the early detection and prevention of pancreatic cancer. He says that essential skills are "a huge, huge area of importance" in his work, and are vital for scientists to nurture, particularly if they want to grow in their field and take on additional responsibilities. These skills cannot be taught in the same way that the technical, specialized and specific aspects of a job can. Like Keeney, Davis cites collaboration as an area of particular importance. The Le Moyne alumnus is part of a three-person team that is strengthened by the fact that each member brings a particular area of expertise to their work, one in traditional epidemiology, another in molecular epidemiology, and still another in molecular biology and bioinformatics.

"Our distinct backgrounds allow us to collaborate with one another in a way that wouldn't be possible

if we all had the same area of expertise,” he says. “That leads to more thoughtful, innovative work and better outcomes for the patient population we aim to serve.”

The ability to bring multiple talents and perspectives to bear is also critically important to Davis’ classmate, Veronica Ung-Kono ’18. Ung-Kono serves as an attorney for the Environmental Defense Fund, where she focuses on environmental and clean energy advocacy. She says that “dependability, patience and cultural awareness” are vital components of successful public interest advocacy. That is not likely to change. In fact, Ung-Kono believes that, given how rapidly technologies and regulatory systems are evolving to meet humanity’s changing needs, it will only grow more important for people to be able to engage their various strengths, experiences and working styles.

“Our distinct backgrounds allow us to collaborate with one another in a way that wouldn’t be possible if we all had the same area of expertise.”

Evan Davis ’18

“It’s incredibly important to know the context, space and people you are about to join,” she says. “Informed decision-making comes from speaking with and being open to learning from a diverse set of advocates already in the space and then finding where you can leverage your strengths and uplift existing advocacy.”

There is another skill that Ung-Kono considers to be essential to her work, whether she is engaged in defensive litigation or proactive advocacy, and that is enthusiasm.

“Enthusiasm with passion and energy helps coalitions stay focused and producing high-quality deliverables,” she says. “Having enthusiasm involves bringing optimism, engagement, and a results-driven approach to advocacy. [It] makes the days go by faster and can create an infectious, rejuvenating energy.”

Like Ung-Kono, Marcella Christensen ’22 brings a number of “technical skills” to her work as an IT risk analyst for MetLife. Christensen is conversant in Python, Linux, Google Workspace, Windows OS, MacOS and Microsoft 365. She is working on her conversational Spanish. But perhaps most importantly, she also brings her humanity to her work. As an undergraduate, Christensen served as an EMT and a volunteer swim coach. Those experiences are helpful in a role in which she finds that “adaptability” and “a growth mindset” are among the most important skills to have as she is constantly adapting to new cyber threats around the world.

“The environment that Le Moyne created allowed me



(above) Veronica Ung-Kono '18 is an attorney for the Environmental Defense Fund.

(below) Marcella Christensen '22 (second from the left) with other members of the Le Moyne swim team.





Marcella Christensen '22 is working on her conversational Spanish. As an undergraduate, Christensen served as an EMT and a volunteer swim coach. Those experiences are helpful in a role in which she finds that “adaptability” and “a growth mindset” are among the most important skills to have.

Marcella Christensen '22 working for MetLife as a risk analyst.

to discover and grow a variety of skills that have been an essential part of my everyday life," she says. "Being a student-athlete on the swim team encouraged me to further develop my time management skills. Adaptability was an essential skill when it came to changing my major from biology to cybersecurity. The Cybersecurity program challenged me to deepen my communication, problem-solving and interpersonal skills."

The habits of mind that Christensen formed during her time at Le Moyne are the very ones that Ben Huegel, CPA, DBA works to instill in his students in the College's Department of Accounting. Huegel utilizes projects and case studies in his classes that provide his students with real-world scenarios in which they must be "technically proficient while also ensuring that they effectively communicate and collaborate within their small groups." Additionally, like his faculty colleagues across campus, he regularly partners with the Office of Career Advising and Development so that students may further develop their skills through networking events, workshops, professional development events, and internship and volunteer opportunities. He believes that as technology continues to advance, these kinds of opportunities will only grow more important.

"The world is becoming more complicated and the field of accounting is becoming more and more technical," he says.

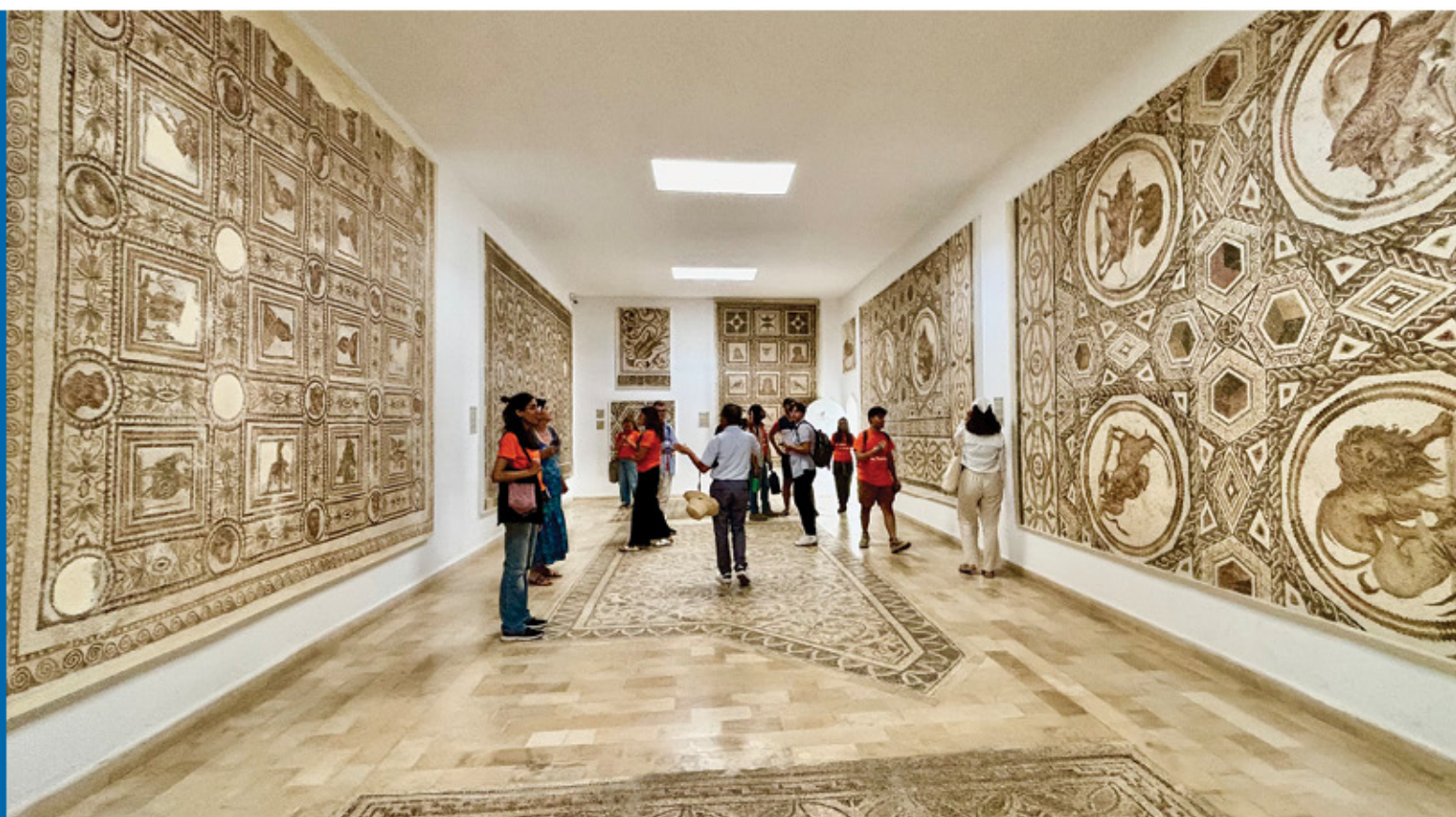
"At the same time, we are being expected to communicate effectively through multiple modalities, including many that have informal structures, like chats. Similarly, with flexible and remote work arrangements, it is uncommon for groups to be working at the same time in the same place. Given these complexities, it's essential that students are not only proficient in these skill sets, but also carry the ability to adapt quickly to the changing expectations of the workplace environment."

For his part, Giavonni Lucas believes that these power skills are going to be incredibly important as AI continues to transform how we do our work and the speed at which our work is done.

"Today, there are five generations in the workforce, and there will soon be six generations," he says. "That will change how we think about the work that we do and how we deploy our gifts and talents. There is a strong intersection between power skills and AI, and we frankly need both if we're going to succeed in the future."

The faster we identify skills that are in demand and where those skills reside in the marketplace, the better off we'll be, not just as organizations seeking out those skills, but also as colleges and universities in preparing future leaders for the global marketplace." 🌱

Students in Tunisia, learning about culture, art, language and history, all of which contribute to their broader understanding of the world.





Guiding the Grace Center for Faith and Community



Richard "Mugs" Malloy, S.J.
Special Assistant to the President
for Mission and Identity



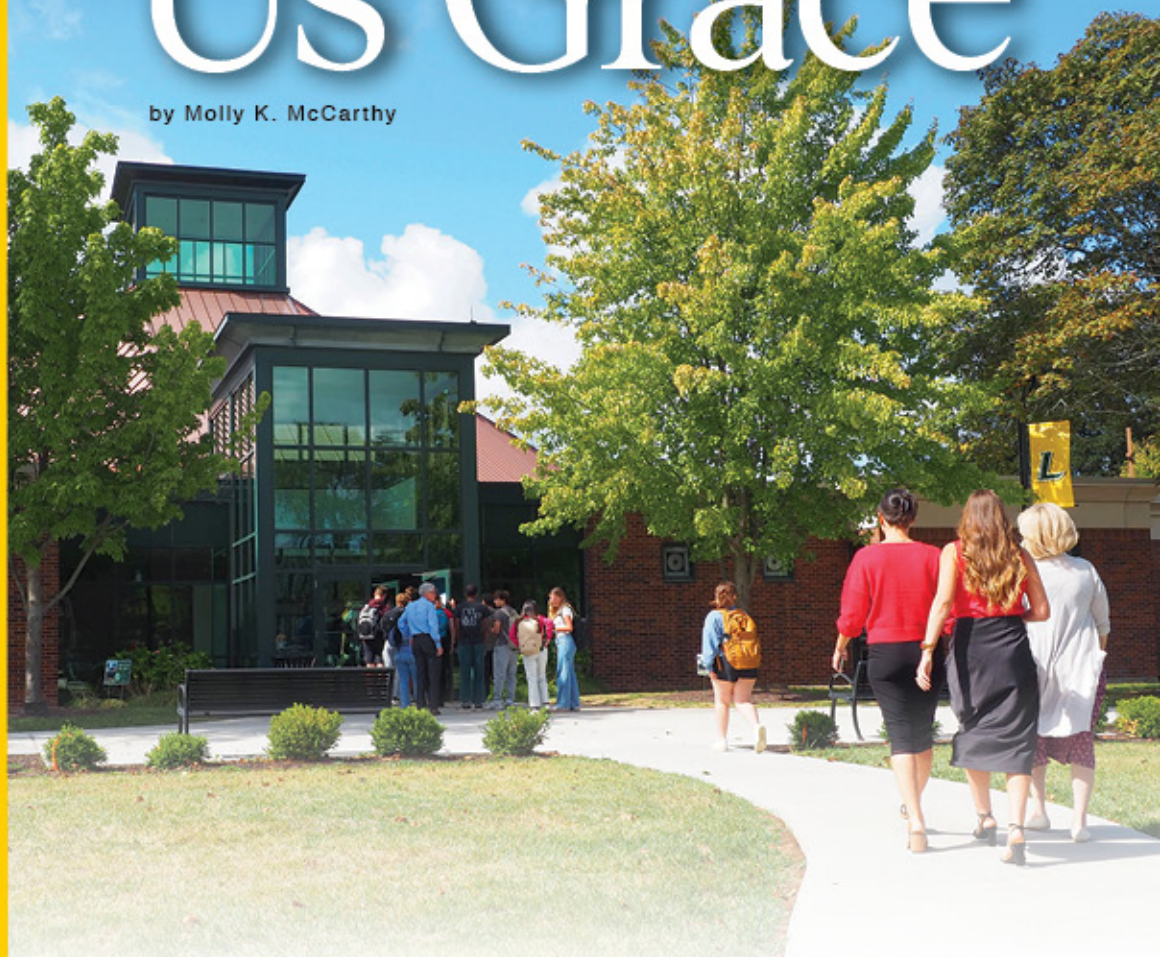
Barbara (Maylone) Karper HA '07
Assistant Vice President of the Grace
Center for Faith and Community



Kasha Godleski HA '23
Director of the Grace Center for
Faith and Community

He Gives Us Grace

by Molly K. McCarthy



Richard Malloy, S.J., Ph.D., likes to say that he and his colleagues at Le Moyne's new Grace Center for Faith and Community are the College's "designated pray-ers." That is true, but their work goes well beyond that. Their larger aim is to help Le Moyne students discover their deepest, truest selves at a time when they are forming habits of mind and heart that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. The center provides them with the opportunity to serve, worship and form community, both formally and informally. Or, as Barbara (Maylone) Karper HA '07, the center's assistant vice president puts it, "Our aim is to be all things to all people."

Inspired by the spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola, the center serves as a new anchor for spiritual life and community engagement on campus. It encompasses mission integration, campus ministry, cultural and social engagement, faith formation, and The Le Moyne Way, an offshoot of the Department of Athletics Inside the L program. Most importantly, the center reflects the College's deep commitment to its 500-year-old Jesuit heritage, and to Catholic social teaching. As Father Malloy explains, "Our faith teaches us that all



people have inherent dignity, and that we have an obligation to care for the poor and the marginalized.”

That means working together to combat forces such as racism, sexism, war and gross economic inequality. It also means modeling inclusivity in all of the center’s educational and engagement opportunities. Father Malloy recently celebrated a Mass in Spanish, a language in which he is fluent. Freida Jacques, Mother of the Turtle Clan of the Onondaga Nation, was the featured speaker at an event hosted by the center. The center welcomes the Muslim community for a weekly prayer service, and has a dedicated room in which Muslim students may pray. In addition to those initiatives, the center also hosts a series of sessions led by Father Malloy about the Mass as an act of worship – and a means of receiving grace and building community.

“Those are the key words for us: ‘faith’ and ‘community,’” says Karper. “We recognize that we have different populations on our campus, and we welcome all of them. That is our charge and our goal.”

In the future, the center’s leaders look forward to cultivating opportunities to serve the Greater Syracuse

community as a way to be for and with others. That could take a number of shapes, including making sandwiches for a local homeless shelter, cleaning up a nearby park, or tutoring younger students and sharing with them a bit of what college life is like. The staff at the center also plans to offer more opportunities for students to gather, either formally or informally, so that they can be heard. They are eager to put their own spin on beloved traditions like Mass of the Holy Spirit and Lessons and Carols.

“That idea of accompaniment and gathering together is such an important part of the work that we do,” says Kasha Godleski HA ’23, director of the center.

In addition to being welcoming, the center strives to be a place that, in Father Malloy’s words, “challenges and cherishes students, and stretches them in ways that are transformative.” His greatest hope is that students who spend time at the center come away from it having learned this lesson:

“God loves us and God wants us to
make a good world for one another.”

Want the latest news from the Grace Center for Faith and Community? Tune into its regular podcast, *The Le Moyne Way*, available on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com).



The Grace Center for Faith and Community was made possible through a generous gift to the College's Panasci Family Chapel by longtime supporters Katherine "Kathy" Grace Purcell '66 and her late husband, John Purcell '65. The center is named in honor of Kathy's parents, Thomas and Catherine Grace, who instilled in their children the importance of Catholic faith and a college education. This gift is the latest in a series of transformative contributions from the Purcells, whose connection to Le Moyne spans more than six decades. From meeting on campus in the 1960s to becoming steadfast champions of Jesuit education, the Purcells have helped to shape the College's trajectory in remarkable ways.



MILES

of Dr. LeMura's



MADDEN
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

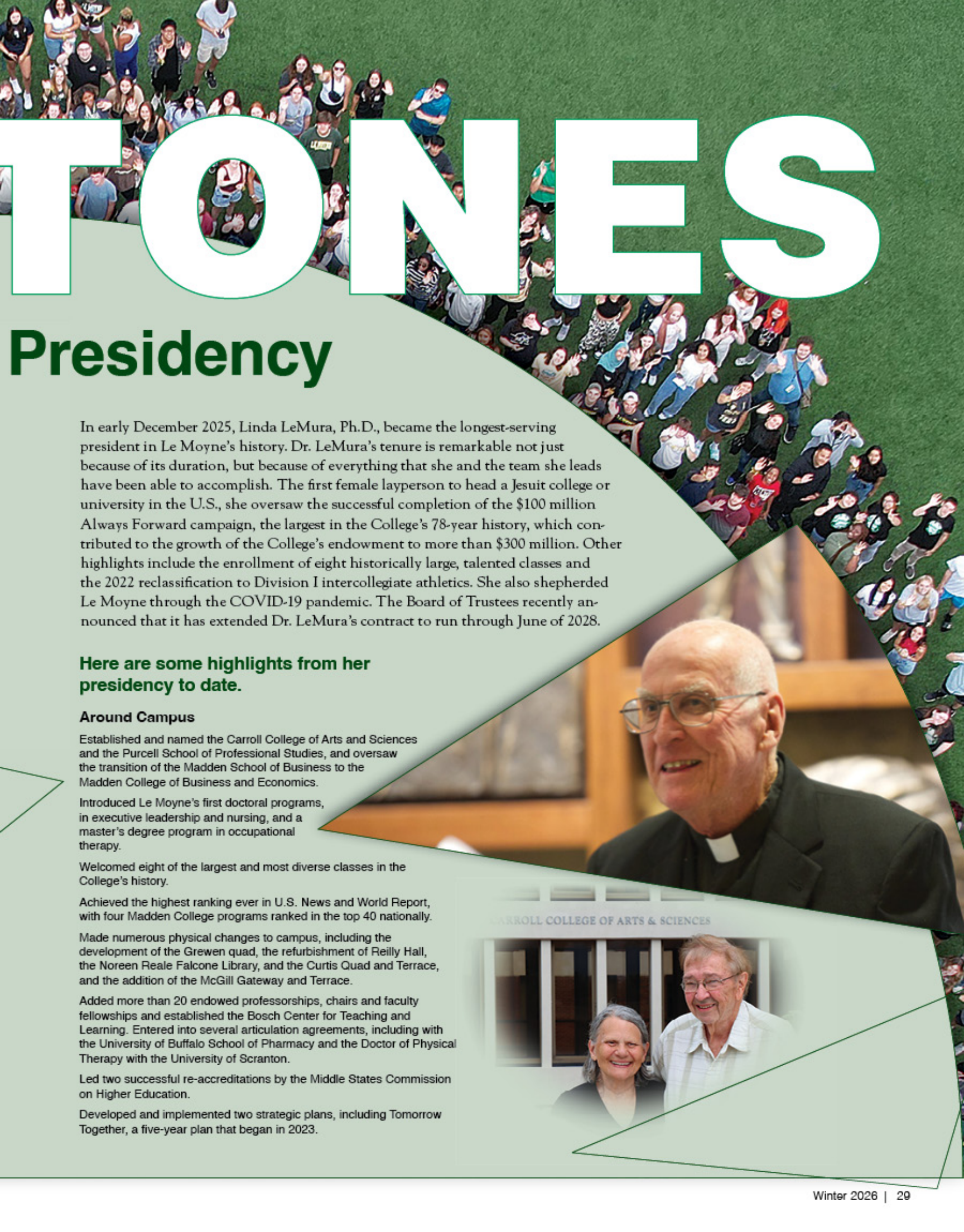


CARROLL
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



PURCELL
SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES





TONES

Presidency

In early December 2025, Linda LeMura, Ph.D., became the longest-serving president in Le Moyne's history. Dr. LeMura's tenure is remarkable not just because of its duration, but because of everything that she and the team she leads have been able to accomplish. The first female layperson to head a Jesuit college or university in the U.S., she oversaw the successful completion of the \$100 million Always Forward campaign, the largest in the College's 78-year history, which contributed to the growth of the College's endowment to more than \$300 million. Other highlights include the enrollment of eight historically large, talented classes and the 2022 reclassification to Division I intercollegiate athletics. She also shepherded Le Moyne through the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board of Trustees recently announced that it has extended Dr. LeMura's contract to run through June of 2028.

Here are some highlights from her presidency to date.

Around Campus

Established and named the Carroll College of Arts and Sciences and the Purcell School of Professional Studies, and oversaw the transition of the Madden School of Business to the Madden College of Business and Economics.

Introduced Le Moyne's first doctoral programs, in executive leadership and nursing, and a master's degree program in occupational therapy.

Welcomed eight of the largest and most diverse classes in the College's history.

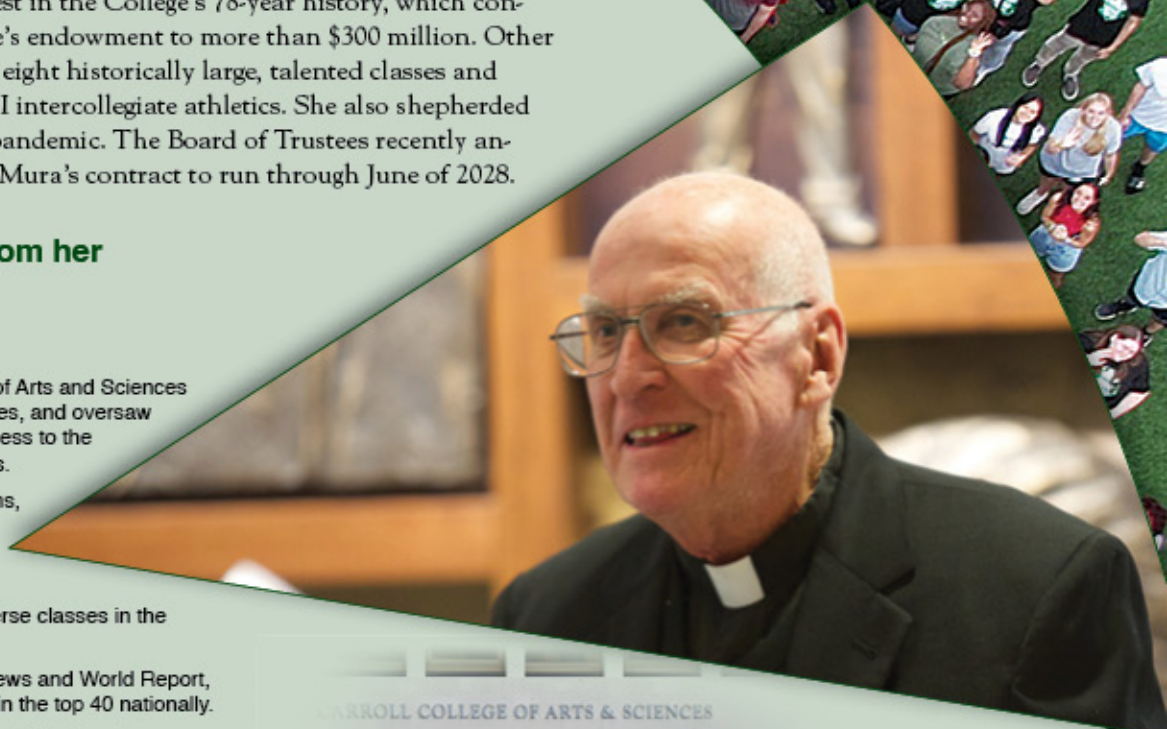
Achieved the highest ranking ever in U.S. News and World Report, with four Madden College programs ranked in the top 40 nationally.

Made numerous physical changes to campus, including the development of the Grewen quad, the refurbishment of Reilly Hall, the Noreen Reale Falcone Library, and the Curtis Quad and Terrace, and the addition of the McGill Gateway and Terrace.

Added more than 20 endowed professorships, chairs and faculty fellowships and established the Bosch Center for Teaching and Learning. Entered into several articulation agreements, including with the University of Buffalo School of Pharmacy and the Doctor of Physical Therapy with the University of Scranton.

Led two successful re-accreditations by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

Developed and implemented two strategic plans, including Tomorrow Together, a five-year plan that began in 2023.



CARROLL COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES



Completed the Always Forward Campaign in 2021, which raised more than \$100 million and brought the College's endowment to more than \$300 million. Over the past four years nearly \$90 million has been raised to support various initiatives.

Over the past decades, students have been admitted to some of the top graduate schools in the nation, including the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, Cornell University, Georgetown University School of Medicine and School of Law, Yale University, University of Pennsylvania, University of California-Berkeley, Boston College Law School, Fordham Law School and Columbia University. Others have gone on to work for a number of prestigious organizations, including NASA, Boston Ballet, Goldman Sachs, General Motors and Coca-Cola.

Advocated for the Student Government Association, which in 2025 was recognized by The Princeton Review as one of the nation's 25 most active student governments.

Took part in campus celebrations recognizing NASA astronaut Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D., during Epps' historic trip to the International Space Station.



Across the Community

Launched ERIE-21, an education and workforce development program that creates opportunities in tech and innovation for underserved individuals from sixth grade through adulthood.

Actively engaged in Central New York's ongoing efforts to build Micron's microchip manufacturing facilities in Cicero.

Since 2022, has served as co-chair of the Regional Economic Development Committee, a key component of New York state's strategy to state investment and economic development.

Service on the board of trustees for the College of the Holy Cross and Xavier High School.

Navigated the COVID-19 pandemic, establishing services to support students and their families during that challenging time.

Helped establish and served on the executive board of the International Association of Jesuit Universities.

Nationally recognized advocate for increasing Pell Grants to allow students to pursue their dreams of a college education.

Served as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at Syracuse University.

ERIE21

On the Field

A driving force behind Le Moyne's transition from Division II to Division I athletics

Earned national championships for the men's and women's lacrosse programs.

Announced plans to reimagine the \$50 million expansion and renovation of the Thomas J. Niland Jr. Athletic Complex, with work expected to start during 2026.

Endowed both the men's and women's basketball coaching positions.

Launched, with former athletic director Matt Bassett, "Inside the L," a Jesuit education-based student-athlete development program.

Opened the Palony Wellness Studio for fitness and exercise programs.



A Legacy of Leadership



Michael '71, H '25 and Lynn Madden believe deeply in Jesuit charism, and in the power of Ignatian education to shape the lives of individuals and entire communities. Whenever there has been an opportunity to support the next generation of ethical, impactful and resilient leaders by sharing their time, talent and treasure with Le Moyne, the Maddens have seized it. Mike and Lynn's generosity stems from their profound appreciation for the opportunities they have enjoyed in their lives, and a sincere desire to share those opportunities with others.

This fall the members of the campus community shared their gratitude for the Maddens.

The daylong celebration began outside of the Noreen Reale Falcone Library, where a new garden made possible thanks to Mike, Lynn and their dear friend Genevieve Saya HA '01, was dedicated in honor of Noreen Reale Falcone '58.



The festivities continued in the lobby of the Madden College of Business and Economics, where the Lynn K. Madden Professorship for Leadership and Human Resource Management was dedicated. The professorship recognizes Lynn's 30-year career at Le Moyne and her work to grow the College's Office of Human Resources into a world-class organization. It also serves as a reminder that, following her retirement from Le Moyne, Lynn continued to serve others, playing an active role at RLS Career Services and giving her time to Francis House and the Sisters of Saint Francis. Lynn is also known for her passion for helping senior citizens, especially Le Moyne's retirees, having co-founded the Center for Aging Resources and Enrichment (CARE) at Le Moyne, which now serves seniors across Onondaga County and offers programs in education, health care and spirituality.



From the Madden College, members of the campus community made their way to the Panasci Family Chapel, where Mike was presented with an honorary doctorate in humane letters. A Buffalo native, Mike enjoyed a successful career on Wall Street, working at Kidder, Peabody & Co., Lehman Brothers, Beacon Group Holdings and Questor Management, before founding his own private equity firm, BlackEagle Partners, LLC. He has a long history of giving back to his alma mater, serving as a member and chair of the board of trustees, co-chair of the Tradition With Vision campaign and founder of the Madden Institute for Business Education. In 1996, he received the College's Distinguished Alumnus Award. In 2012 his \$7 million gift established the College's first named school, the Madden School

of Business, renamed the Madden College of Business and Economics in 2023.

The celebration culminated in the chapel with the fall 2025 Madden Lecture, which featured a panel discussion titled "Empowering an Organization's Greatest Asset: People. The Art and Science of Human Resources." The panel was made up of successful alumnae who are helping to shape the field of HR – Sheri Lyons '91, Susan Vidal '95, Erica Chapman '99, Kirstie Reynoso-Miranda '10 and Kristie Spadine '14, MBA '15. It was moderated by Marilla Hayman, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the Department of Human Resources and Department of Management and Leadership. 📍

by Molly K. McCarthy



(top) President Linda LeMura and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs James P. Hannan, Ph.D., flank Michael Madden '71 after presenting him with an honorary degree from the College.

(left) The fall 2025 Madden lecture, moderated by Marilla Hayman, Ph.D., right.

(right) Barbara Karper, Lynn Madden and Linda LeMura at the dedication of the Noreen Reale Falcone Garden, a gift from Michael '71, H '25 and Lynn Madden and Genevieve Saya HA '01.

(bottom) The dedication of the Lynn K. Madden Professorship for Leadership and Human Resource Management.

Dolphin Stories

Ana Cortes '11

Bachelor's in biology and psychology: Le Moyne College

Master's in positive psychology: Life University

Master's in neuroscience: New York University

Doctorate in clinical psychology: Capella University

EMPOWERING OTHERS |

Ana Cortes '11, Ph.D., believes that leadership, at its core, is rooted in service. As a student on the Heights, Cortes was inspired to take charge of her capacity to lead and, as she puts it, "to step forward with purpose, passion and a vision for change."

She learned from faculty mentors like Christina Michaelson, Ph.D., and Michael Massingale, Ph.D., that true leadership is not merely about guiding others, but empowering them. Today she is committed to helping future generations "ignite their dreams and create a lasting impact in the world."

A New York City native, Cortes is the founder of *Beginning With You*, an organization that offers life coaching, therapy and psychological testing services for children and adults. It is deeply gratifying, she says, to help someone struggling with anxiety or depression take stock of where he is and where he wants to be. She often reminds the individuals she works with that, in a world in which time spent online is supplanting time spent offline more and more, deep reflection requires unplugging and building a trusted community.

Community building is where Cortes' passion lies. It is where she draws her energy and inspiration. As she engages in the work of



Ana Cortes '11

helping others learn to identify, grow and maintain close connections, she often finds herself drawing on her experiences at Le Moyne. She built a deep network of mentors and friends as an undergraduate, serving as a resident adviser, president of the Pre-Health Society and tutor-counselor supervisor for the Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program. She recalls that she was the person her peers would often go to for advice because she recognized the importance of simply being present for others. Now she is that person for her clients and patients.

Cortes' efforts to support others are not limited to her role at *Beginning With You*. In addition to the work she does there as a clinician and life coach, she is also the founder of *The Learning Space for Everyone* and *The Learning Space for Everyone International*, which provide academic coaching and support to students in the

United States and around the world, including in China, Germany and the United Kingdom. It is another way in which she can provide others with the tools they need to build the lives of their choosing.

Cortes credits her time at College and the relationships she forged there with helping her to be bold and to take calculated risks. When she looks back on her undergraduate years, she says they were "the foundation" of everything that has come since. Cortes has traveled to more than 10 countries, worked as a store manager for multiple corporate retailers managing teams of over 15 employees, and devoted a year to medical school before pursuing graduate work in psychology. What's more, she continues to challenge herself. Cortes works closely with inmates, providing psychological evaluations that play a key role in identifying the support and interventions they may need; she also hosts a podcast called *Beginning With You* on Spotify. Cortes is in the process of writing a novel and was recently nominated to deliver a TED Talk. It is, she acknowledges, a full life, and one for which she is grateful. She offered this advice to future Dolphins ready to carve their own paths.

"Embrace this journey not only to gain knowledge, but also to grow in compassion, purpose and courage. Let your education ignite a fire within you to serve, to lead and to transform the world with integrity and justice. Remember, true success is not just about what you achieve, but about the lives you uplift along the way."



A Crew of Two

Rowing is a big commitment. Workouts begin before dawn, regardless of the weather, and can be grueling, even bone-wearying, affairs. As it turns out, capturing the attention of someone on crew requires a similar level of dedication. Alex Zwierzynski '20, M.S. '21, learned this firsthand in the spring of 2017. Despite not having a class until 10 a.m., Alex regularly woke at 5 a.m. and made his way to Le Moyne's Recreation Center to run laps around the track with the hope that rower Rachel Fish '20, M.S. '22, who was practicing nearby, would notice him.

Those early mornings were not the only times their paths would cross. When Rachel joined Alex in the College's jazz band, he made sure to sit next to her so that they could talk. The duo began dating and remained together throughout their time on campus and as they began to build their careers, Alex as a physician assistant and Rachel as an occupational therapist. They had been a couple for a little more than six years when Alex proposed during a weekend in Lake George, New York. As Rachel recalls, she said yes "before he had even finished asking." The

pair were married this summer at the Tailwater Lodge in Altmar, New York, surrounded by family and friends, many of whom they met during their time at Le Moyne.

As they begin their new life as a married couple, Alex and Rachel look forward to continuing traditions that have become important to them, from exploring the Great New York State Fair to taking in the Lights on the Lake every Christmas and decorating their tree with an ornament from a place they have visited together. What makes their union so special to her, Rachel says, is that they are first and foremost each other's best friend. For his part, Alex maintains that they are bonded by "trust, love and a shared sense of adventure."

"A strong team thrives when both people are willing to grow together, encourage each other, and never lose that excitement for what's ahead," he says. "Adventure keeps the journey fun, while commitment and care make it lasting."

There is no doubt that those attributes will also keep them rowing in sync for decades to come.

WHERE FOREVER BEGAN



When Olivia Hansen learned that Campus Ministry was hosting a service-immersion trip to Philadelphia in the winter of 2018, she was intrigued. There was one wrinkle, though. Olivia was a first-year student at the time, and a little apprehensive about attending an information session about the excursion alone. Not wanting her daughter to miss out on the experience, Olivia's mother, Amy, asked Dan Bonsague '21, if he would mind going with her. The pair went to the meeting and, eventually, to Philadelphia.

A lot has changed in the years that have passed since then. Olivia transferred from Le Moyne to SUNY Niagara in order to study radiologic technology, and now works in health care. Dan earned a bachelor's degree from the College and a law degree from Syracuse University, and currently serves as an attorney for the New York State Public Campaign Finance Board. Through it all, one thing has stayed the same. Dan and Olivia have remained by each other's side. Together they have marked countless celebrations and milestones, the most recent and special of which was their wedding.

The pair's union in Niagara Falls, New York, last summer brought together people from every phase of their lives, including their time at Le Moyne. It was, as Dan put it, "a chance to have everyone we love in one place." The wedding was also an opportunity for them to reflect upon everything that led them to that day. That includes a meeting they each took on a chance on attending one evening at Le Moyne many years ago, so that they could travel to a city they now think of as "the place where their forever began."

Olivia Hansen and Dan Bonsague '21 were married by Joe Marina, S.J., former provost and vice president for academic affairs at Le Moyne.

Alumni Achievements



GOLD WAVE WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

The following Dolphins were enshrined in the Gold Wave Hall of Fame during a ceremony held during John "Doc" Joiner Homecoming Weekend:

Sean Beney '18 (men's cross country and track and field)

Courtney Case '17 (softball)

Chris Edmondson '10 (baseball)

Jeff Gilheney '85 (men's lacrosse, honorary)

1995-96 men's basketball team



2012 ► Patrick Nappi, PA '16

of Syracuse, N.Y., was recently named director of Le Moyne's Physician Assistant Studies Program. Nappi previously served the College as associate dean of the Purcell School of Professional Studies and professor of practice in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies. A Central New York native, he began his career in family medicine before bringing his clinical expertise to the classroom. He was featured in an article in the New York State Society of Physician Assistants newsletter, which noted: "Nappi's career is a reflection of his dedication to lifelong learning, mentorship, and the advancement of the PA profession."

1968

James Mock of Edmond, Okla., retired from his position as professor of humanities and philosophy at the University of Central Oklahoma.

1977

Jane Brown of Syracuse, N.Y., is director of the Syracuse chapter of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps.

Dale Rashford of Rome, N.Y., retired from the industrial sales and marketing field after 49 years.

1980

John Bracca of Marietta, Ga., retired as president of the excess liability division at Great American Insurance Group.

1981

Kenneth Gardiner of LaFayette, N.Y., was appointed chairman of the board of directors of the Empire State Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors.

1982

Chris Lacombe of Plattsburgh, N.Y., retired as general counsel at Salt Lake Community College.

1985

Andrew Leo of Camillus, N.Y., was appointed to the board of directors of Home Headquarters Inc.

John Steplen of Syracuse, N.Y., retired after 39 years as a senior manager of account development at American Express.

1986

Bryan Hartin of Herndon, Va., retired as executive vice president, sales and marketing at Iridium Communications Inc.

1987

Robert Buckley of

Fernandina Beach, Fla., joined the faculty team of the Risk and Insurance Education Alliance.

Daniel Phillips of Oswego, N.Y., retired as chief information officer of Pathfinder Bank.

1988

Susan (Petkewec) Collins of Apison, Tenn., was elected to the board of directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

Stephen DiNolfo of Naperville, Ill., was appointed inspector general of the City of Joliet, Ill.

1991

Francine Annese Apy of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., recently began a master's degree program in applied positive psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. Apy's intention is to use what she learns in the classroom to support her work at her company, SoulFilling, LLC, which provides tools and opportunities for connection for those in the adoption community. Apy is also in the process of launching a podcast, Carry Less, Live More, which she will use to encourage listeners to create space for growth, connection and human flourishing. To learn more go to SoulFillingAdoption.com.

Todd Corley of Delaware, Ohio, was promoted to chief people and impact officer at Carhartt, Inc.

Donna Wilson of Herndon, Va., was appointed chief financial officer of QinetiQ US CFO, which specializes in delivering comprehensive Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Mission Operations solutions. Wilson previously served as CFO at Top Aces Corp, where she developed and led a new U.S. finance organization while overseeing company integration into a unified U.S. corporate structure.

1993

Salvatore Crimi of Baldwinsville, N.Y., was selected for inclusion in Marquis Who's Who, which chronicles the lives of successful individuals in a number of fields. The company noted that Crimi has "built a distinguished career in the field of global supply chain management." He currently serves as director of international Sales for Enterprise Accounts at UPS.

1995



Ricardo Romeu of Melbourne, Fla., was recognized as the 2025 STEM Innovator of the Year by Women In Defense, Space Coast Chapter (WIDSC), for his groundbreaking work on FlyBall Energy, a mechanical battery poised to change the way energy is stored and delivered.

Joe Powers of Bethesda, Md., has been appointed head of school of Harbor Day School in Corona del Mar, Calif.

1996

Joseph Bator of Bedford, N.H., was named president and chief executive officer of Northfield Savings Bank.

1997

Chrissy Fahey of Jamesville, N.Y., was recently presented with the Central New York Career Development Association's Key Collaborator Award. Fahey was recognized for her work with the Madden College of Business and Economics, where she helped to

Where Are They Now



Where others see a challenge, David Mariano '11 sees an opportunity. Mariano studied psychology on the Heights, but away from the classroom, his passion was playing rugby for the Dolphins. Mariano loves the game, with all of the mental and physical challenges it presents. What's more, he is grateful for the relationships he has cultivated thanks to the sport. He made many of his closest friends through the team, and even went on to marry a member of the women's rugby squad, Kaitlyn (Klima) Mariano '11. Yet, when he first set foot on campus, Mariano could not have imagined that sports, and an eventual medical diagnosis, would also afford him the opportunity to serve others.

When he was an undergraduate, Marino began to notice changes in his vision that concerned him. Doctors eventually determined the cause, retinitis pigmentosa, a group of inherited eye disorders that cause progressive vision loss. Today Mariano is legally blind and uses a white cane

to navigate unfamiliar spaces, but he has not lost his passion for athletics. In addition to his full-time job at the manager of equity, access and ability for global relations and community engagement for the YMCA, Mariano is the founder of Eye Got This (EGT), a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting blind and low-vision athletes. It is rooted in a simple premise: These individuals should not have to give up the sports they love.

EGT encourages and empowers blind and low-vision athletes through its growing guide-runner assistance program and its blind/guide running vest program. To date the organization's vests have been used across 15 states, including by a participant in the Ironman in Hawaii, and in England and Australia. They are available to athletes free of charge. While Eye Got This is currently focused on the running community, Mariano is looking to expand into baseball and soccer, and is identifying ways to make those games more accessible to blind or low-vision

people through the use of adaptive technology.

In many ways, Mariano's work with EGT mirrors that with the YMCA. He is a member of the Y's Global Engagement and Community Relations team, which is responsible for ensuring that the more than 2,600 YMCA locations across the nation are accessible to 11 million people of all abilities who use them every year. Internally, he says, they use the expression "Y for All." He strives to model that message of inclusion. For Mariano, success is measured in the number of people he can help enjoy the benefits that come from playing a sport, namely a sense of community, purpose and belonging. To that end, whether he is speaking to an athlete he has met through the Y or through EGT, his message is simple.

"Don't let society and others determine what you're capable of achieving. Decide that for yourself."

by Molly K. McCarthy

Love & Marriage

Sarah Harmatuk-Walker '17 to Willie Walker

Inez Timberger '17 married Elias Cerussi

build strong, collaborative relationships with program directors, faculty members and senior administrators to better support its students.

1999

Maureen (O'Connell) Larkin of Arlington, Mass., is a managing consultant at Brown and Brown.

Jim Nee of Canton, N.Y., is the deputy superintendent of the St. Lawrence-Lewis Board of Cooperative Educational Services. Nee previously served as the superintendent of the Colton-Pierrepont Central School District. He began his career as a middle school history teacher.

2000

Brian Brown of Liverpool, N.Y., was named director of project management at Syracuse Time and Alarm.

2001

Marle (Holbrook) Zimmerman of Wyncottskill, N.Y., was appointed to the Bank of Greene County Advisory Board.

2003

Ese Moynihan-Ejalfe of Rochester, N.Y., was recognized at the inaugural Honoring Clinicians of Color and Mental Health Professionals Gala in Buffalo, N.Y.

2004

Meaghan Mahoney Hudson of Lewes, Del., joined DiPietro Law LLC as an attorney.

Jill Manuel of Penfield, N.Y., and her husband are new owners of The Adirondack Guys, a Rochester-area furniture store.

Julie Moss of Liverpool, N.Y., was promoted to associate director of safe environment for the Diocese of Syracuse. Moss previously served as program coordinator for the diocese's Safe Environment Office, where she played a key role in strengthening its commitment to protecting children, youth and vulnerable adults. She has been instrumental in the recent updates to the safe environment code of conduct, the revision and relaunch of both initial and recertification training, and the implementation of certification requirements for liturgical ministers.

2005

Michael Behan of Glen Rock, N.J., was named chief business and revenue officer for Hornets Sports and Entertainment.

2006

Katherine McNail Mittiga of Manlius, N.Y., received Assemblyman Al Stirpe's Women of Distinction award for

education. Mittiga is a chemistry teacher at East Syracuse - Minoa High School.

2007

Kristin Healt of West Leyden, N.Y., is the assistant superintendent for the Diocese of Ogdensburg.

2008

Dave Perlard of Bellevue, Wash., was promoted to principal data scientist at Workday.com.

Timothy Gearhart of Chicago, Ill., joined L3 Corporation as a real estate broker.

2009

Patrick Kinne of Syracuse, N.Y., was named executive director of Fowler Camp and Retreat Center.

2010

Zachary Kuzemka of Tampa, Fla., was named chief executive officer of National Business Brokers.

2011

Carly Colbert, MST '11 of Syracuse, N.Y., published a paper titled "Beyond Barriers: Supporting formerly incarcerated students in American Higher Education" in the *Journal of Prison Education Research*.

Kaitlyn Mariano, MBA '12 is a partner at Dannible and McKee LLP. Mariano focuses on serving clients in the construction and manufacturing sectors, as well as multistate entities and high-net-worth individuals. In addition to her professional work, she is deeply involved in her community, serving as the treasurer of both the North Country Children's Center and Eye Got This.

2012

Steven Maloney, MBA of Kirkville, N.Y., joined the Manufacturers Association of Central New York as director of training.



Alumni Bookshelf

1991 ▶ **Francine Annese Apy** of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., wrote her second children's book, *Dream, Dream, What Will You Dream?*

1962 ▶ **James Clapp, Ph.D.**, of San Diego, Calif., published his seventh Sebastian Gerard novel, *SAVANT, The Mind of Jemma*.

1974 ▶ **Linus Walton** of Skaneateles, N.Y., published his sixth book of fiction stories, *Widening Gyre Times*, a title derived from a William Butler Yeats poem, *The Second Coming*.

1970 ▶ **Paul Kocak** of Syracuse, N.Y., is the author of two recent works, *102 Haiku* and *Ciao, Paolo!: My Time in Naples and Rome*. Kocak's other works include *Baseball's Starry Night*, *Calling Mr. Ways* and *Interviews With Famous Dead People*.

2017 ▶ **Amari Pollard** of Sacramento, Calif., released a poetry collection, *Where There Are Flowers and the Moon*. This is Pollard's first book of poetry, and in it she explores the duality of love and loss. The collection is dedicated to her late mother, Xandria Sutherland-Pollard '85, D.D.S. Pollard will return to campus this spring in order to visit a poetry class and read from her work.



BE BOLD IN BUILDING COMMUNITY | When Maggie Williams '18 was a child growing up in Rome, New York, pictures of ballerinas *on pointe* lined the walls of her bedroom. Williams loves dance. A dual major in marketing and management and leadership on the Heights, she joined the Le Moyne Student Dance Company and even served as a choreographer for the troupe during her senior year.



"If something doesn't exist yet, you can create it."

Maggie Williams '18

Maggie Williams at the ballet bar with an overlay of a Boston Ballet website photo.

Williams did not envision that one day she would work off stage for one of the most prestigious dance companies in the world. Williams is the website marketing senior coordinator for Boston Ballet. It is a role that her 8-year-old self could only have dreamed of undertaking, combining her love of dance and community building in a single role.

What Williams appreciates most about this work at the intersection of art and technology is how expansive and ever-evolving it is. No two days are the same. One afternoon she may be updating the Ballet's website at the organization's headquarters on Clarendon Street, while the next she may be at a video shoot with the company's nearly 70 dancers. These days, artificial intelligence (AI) is

playing a growing role in her work. Williams is spearheading the ballet's efforts to implement an AI model that will assist the organization in creating content across its departments, from marketing to fundraising to Boston Ballet School.

The latter is a challenge that Williams is well-equipped to handle, thanks in part to the well-rounded Jesuit education she received at Le Moyne. Her classes in disciplines like philosophy and psychology taught her to "listen deeply, think critically and stay open to multiple perspectives," which is vital in artistic and nonprofit spaces. She also grew through her work in helping to found Dolphin Tank, an annual event in which student entrepreneurs compete for funding to launch or grow their

businesses. It gave her firsthand experience in creating something from the ground up – rallying people around a vision, managing logistics and pitching ideas. What's more, it taught her that "if something doesn't exist yet, you can create it."

When Williams was a child surrounded by images of dancers on the walls of her room, it's likely that she could not have imagined that the artform would shape her future. There is no doubt that it has, though. The Le Moyne alumna is grateful for that, and she offered this advice to other young professionals, particularly those in creative fields:

"Don't be afraid to experiment or be bold as you build your community." 📍

By Molly K. McCarthy

In addition to her work at Boston Ballet, Williams works as a personal chef. When she launched the endeavor in 2022, she primarily focused on cooking for women's wellness retreats. She has recently expanded into catering meals for weddings and bachelorette parties, and even catered an off-site meeting for Boston Ballet. Her goal is to create meals that are nourishing and designed to be shared with friends and family. Williams shares her recipes on theferociousfeast.com. The name is a play on a TV show she loved as a child, Maggie and the Ferocious Beast, and reminds her that creativity and imagination are to be celebrated in adulthood.

Alumni Achievements

2020 ▶ Haley Stuart of Cicero, N.Y., began work as a dance teacher at the Syracuse City School District's STEAM Regional High School, where she teaches students in 9th through 12th grades. She is also an adjunct professor of dance at Le Moyne College. She previously served as a marketing specialist for enrollment at Le Moyne.



At the young age of 3, Stuart followed in her mom Lisa's footsteps and found herself enamored with the world of dance. She quickly joined the competitive circuit at the age of 6 and traveled to regional and national conventions and competitions for well over a decade. She went on to join the Le Moyne Student Dance Company and Le Moyne College Dance Team. Stuart was a choreographer for both organizations throughout her undergraduate years and head choreographer for the latter during her senior year.

For the past six years, Stuart has taught at the Ballet and Dance Center in Syracuse, New York, where she founded and continues to sponsor a chapter of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts. For five years, she co-choreographed musicals for Cicero North Syracuse High School, putting her master's degree in arts administration to great use. She will soon lend her talents as a choreographer for STEAM musicals. Currently, Stuart can be seen on stage as a member of the Syracuse Contemporary Dance Company, which showcases professional choreographers and dancers in the Central New York area through biennial concerts.

2013

Nirvana Ahmic of Webster, N.Y., is an assistant professor for the Physician Assistant Program at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Bradley Canino of New York, N.Y., joined Guggenheim Securities as a managing director and biotechnology equity research analyst in the firm's health care equity research department. Canino joins Guggenheim with more than a decade of experience in the health care equity research industry, having most recently served as a director and biotechnology equity research analyst at Stifel Financial Corp.

Marla (Zumpano) Withrow, MBA '14 joined the corporate, taxes and trust, and estates practice groups and the tax-exempt organizations and nonprofits industry team at Harris Beach Murtha. Withrow is admitted to practice in New York and Florida, and provides a diversified perspective to business owners, guiding them through complex legal landscapes to develop strategic plans that align with both their immediate priorities and long-term vision.

2014

Colleen Oberle of Lakewood, Ohio, joined the front office of the Cleveland Cavaliers as senior manager, global partnership development.

2016

Sean Connors of Clay, N.Y., is a partner at Dannible and McKee. Connors focuses on the manufacturing and automotive industries. He began his career with the company as a tax intern in 2016 and joined full time in 2017.

2017

Christopher DiFulvio of Preble, N.Y., was named the next superintendent of the Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services. DiFulvio currently

serves as superintendent of the Cazenovia Central School District. He began his career in education as an English teacher.

2018

Ryan Bouchard of Liverpool, N.Y., was promoted to network technician at Le Moyne College.

Dan Marsella of Mullica Hill, N.J., was promoted to senior director of mid-market business sales at Verizon Business. Marsella has been with the company for 20 years.

2019

Timothy Corapi of Syracuse, N.Y., was promoted to audit senior manager at Dannible and McKee LLP.

Ryan Delao of Baldwinsville, N.Y., was promoted to audit senior manager at Dannible and McKee LLP. He was also appointed treasurer of F.O.C.U.S. Greater Syracuse Inc.

AnnaRae Martin of Waterville, N.Y., is a production assistant at Barter Theatre.

2020

Bryanna Keyes of Syracuse, N.Y., was promoted to housing coordinator at Le Moyne College.

Jarrett McDonald of Syracuse, N.Y., is an assistant controller at Young and Franklin Tactair.

Gavin Walght of Ithaca, N.Y., is a media strategist at Moon Rabbit.

Kaitlyn Wheeler of Syracuse, N.Y., was named the director of special events for Christian Brothers Academy.

2021

Hannah Huang of Liverpool, N.Y., joined Nephrology Associates of Syracuse P.C. as a physician assistant in the kidney care specialist practice.

2022

Alyssa Goudy of Pennellville, N.Y., received her master's degree in education in learning

design and technologies from Arizona State University.

Adrianna Ladd of Rockingham, Va., is a technical writer at the Spear Group.

Meghan McKeen of Syracuse, N.Y., is an acute care occupational therapist at Upstate Medical University.

David Rivers of East Syracuse, N.Y., is a senior tax accountant at Dannible and McKee LLP.

Jullanna Tanico of Harrison, N.Y., is a human resource generalist at the Leffell School.

2023

Connor Edwards of Florence, Ky., was promoted to audit and assurance senior at Deloitte.

Nolan Hillhouse of Beacon, N.Y., is a geospatial engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

2024

Timlyah Evans of Syracuse, N.Y., is a student advocate for Liberty Partnership Programs at Le Moyne College.

Muatasim Hassan of Liverpool, N.Y., is an infrastructure engineer with River Valley Foods.

Share Your Story

Do you have a story about an achievement, an interesting journey, or a cool place you visited? We would love to share your photo and short story! Submit stories to Molly McCarthy at mccartmk@lemoyne.edu. Submit class notes to lemoyne.edu/alumni. The magazine submission deadline for the next issue is **March 1, 2026**.

The editorial staff reserves the right to edit for content, accuracy and length. Publication of achievements of our alumni in the magazine does not constitute endorsement by Le Moyne College.

Alumni Events

You won't know ...
unless we know!

The only way we get the word out about great events is by mail or email, so please email alumni@lemoyne.edu with your updated contact information.

Visit lemoyne.edu/alumni to stay in touch with your Dolphin Family.



GIVING DAY

MARCH 5, 2026

Our students strive for greatness, always through the eyes of goodness. Please make a gift to support them and help carry on your legacy on March 5 as we celebrate our 12th annual Giving Day. Our goal is 2,600 donors in 24 hours. Every gift of any size is BIG on Giving Day.

Give us a call at (315) 445-4545 or email giving@lemoyne.edu.



INSIGHTS FROM THE HEIGHTS

New webinars are being planned for spring 2026. They are designed to educate, inspire and enlighten members of our Le Moyne community. Email alumni@lemoyne.edu to get on our mailing list for fall 2026 and spring 2027 webinars.

Are you interested in presenting a webinar? We are accepting proposals. Contact us at alumni@lemoyne.edu.



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2026

MAY 29 - 31, 2026

In addition to celebrating those whose class years end in 1 and 6, we will host special affinity reunions. Golden Reunion for the class of 1976 will be held May 15-17, 2026.



GOLDEN REUNION

MAY 15 - 17, 2026

Celebrating the Class of 1976, return to the Heights for a weekend of reconnecting and reminiscing.



Don't get left out.

Do we have your current mailing address? Does your mail still go to your parents' address? Even though most of the College's communication is via email, we need to know where you live to invite you to events in your area.



You've got mail ... or do you?

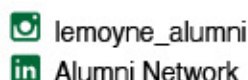
Have you received email from your alma mater? If not, we probably don't have your current address. **This is our primary means of communication**, so don't miss important announcements and invitations.



Share the joy.

Do you have a new job or promotion? Did you get married? Have a baby? Award, achievement, honor? Let us know about it. Share your accomplishment with us to be added in future editions.

Update your information with the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement
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Follow us on Instagram and join our LinkedIn group to stay aware of upcoming events and to keep in touch with fellow Dolphins.

On Being Ethical and Humane



2001 ▶ The Venerable Tenzin Priyadarshi of Boston, Mass., returned to campus to deliver a lecture titled "Being Human in the Age of AI." The Venerable Tenzin is the president and CEO of the Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The center is dedicated to inquiry, dialogue and education on the ethical and humane dimensions of life. The Venerable Tenzin is also the author of *Running Toward Mystery – The Adventure of an Unconventional Life*.



During his remarks on campus, The Venerable Tenzin noted that, just a few weeks prior, he had been at the Vatican to meet with Pope Leo XIV. He recalled sitting in a piazza in Rome reflecting on the direction his life had taken.

"At that moment, I was looking at the arc of how I got to be there," he said. "I don't think it would have been possible without passing through Le Moyne, without passing through this school."



Joseph Stillo '76 with Pope Leo XIV

To Walk Together

When news broke last spring that the College of Cardinals selected Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost as the new pontiff, it captured the attention of people around the world. That includes Joseph Stillo '76, M.D., Ph.D., M.A. For Stillo, the moment was "surreal and sobering."

Stillo was recently ordained as a deacon in the Diocese of Trenton, and now serves the parishioners of Saint Mark Parish in Sea Girt, New Jersey. Just two months before Cardinal Prevost was installed as Pope Leo XIV, Stillo met him at the kickoff to the Jubilee of Deacons in Rome. He recalled the encounter in an article he penned for *The Trenton Monitor*. Stillo noted that Cardinal Prevost read from Acts 6, recounting the formation of the diaconate, and encouraging those present to allow space in their hearts for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Then Cardinal Prevost shared his love for the diaconate and thanked Stillo and the others for the essential role they play in the life of the Church.

The Le Moyne alumnus wrote in part: "Cardinal Prevost said that Pope Francis reminded us, as an argument against clericalism, that no one can elevate themselves above the people of God but ... consistent with the citadel Church, we should walk together, to listen to one another, and to search together for what it is the Lord passed to us, i.e., a diaconal Church – a Church of service."

Stillo spent much of his career building a successful medical practice caring for the disabled. However, he eventually discerned that he has been called to the Diaconate.

"I recognized that this constituted a rather late calling, and I had to reconcile this formation with a life fraught with sinful behavior, straying from what I felt were my core beliefs, struggling with my worthiness," he said. "Well, the grace bestowed by the Holy Spirit prevailed, and the Bishop did lay his hands upon me to ordain me. I am so blessed to serve my Church in this capacity."

In Memoriam

Thomas Campbell '51
Robert Kane '51
William McCarthy '51
Anita M. DeSantis '52
Robert L. Eckert '52
Mary Kelly '53
Patricia Reschke '54
Eugene Vukelic '54
Peter Del Giorno '56
Philip Hensberry '56
Donald Paulus '56
Sheldon Kall '57
James Connors Jr. '58
Raffee Ellis '58
Edward Fruscillo '58
Peter Monteleone '58
Carol Green '59
Robert Ryan '59
M. James Burke '60
Kenneth Carpenter '61
Ann Coyer '61
Mary Czirr '61
Martha Hubert '61
Jo Ann Warner '62
Ellen McNeill '63
Norbert Mott '63
Robert Yahn '63
Robert J. Kane '64
Rick Galleher '65
Edward J. Whelan '65
John Featherly '66
Peter Misco '66
John O'Brien '68
Janet Karvwnaris '69
Mary Kuhn '70
Geraldine Grady '71
Mark Asma '72
Deborah Carey '73
David Holihan '73
Maureen Caswell '74
Paul Drescher '75
Timothy Lynch '81
Jeffrey Walczyk '83
Stephen Kozsan '84
Martin Hens '85
Mitchell Levy '90
Jennifer Scutari '92
Brian J. Favreau '94
Pamela Anastasio '95
Joseph Tarsio '98
Maurice Guest '01
James Spendley '06
Robert Waters '21



Honoring the Life of James Carroll '66, Ph.D.

Members of the Le Moyne community mourned the loss and celebrated the life of James Carroll '66, Ph.D., namesake of the James J. '66 and Mary A. Carroll College of Arts and Sciences, who passed away last spring.

A native of Binghamton, New York, Jim earned a bachelor's degree in history from Le Moyne, as well as a master's degree in social studies and a doctorate in social sciences, both from Syracuse University (SU). He went on to build a successful career in education, teaching social studies at Bishop Ludden High School, Westhill High School and SU's School of Education. He served as a research associate professor at SU's Maxwell's School of Citizenship and Public Affairs for more than 35 years.

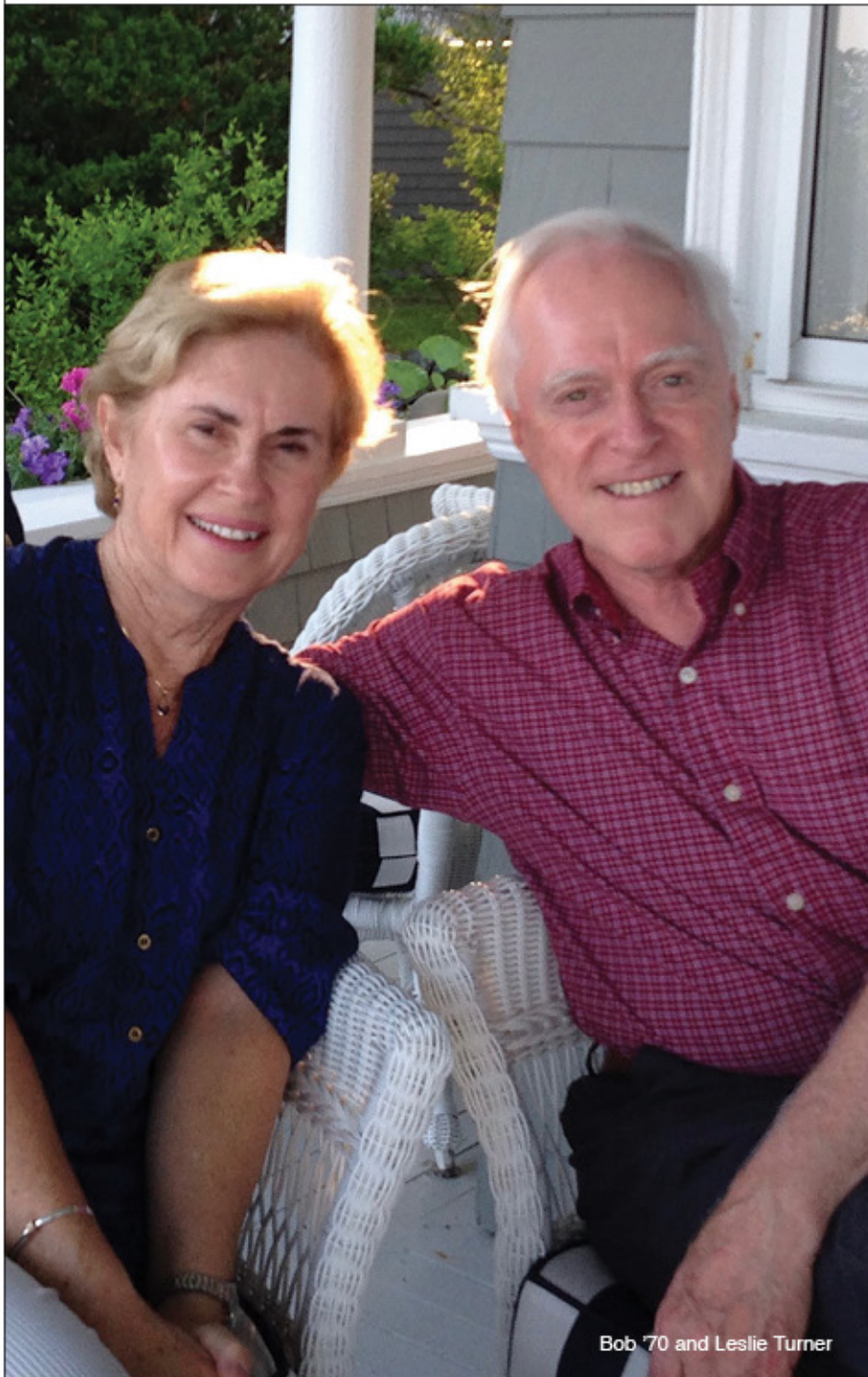
Regardless of where he was in the world or what he was doing, Jim never forgot his deep connection to Le Moyne. He fondly remembered faculty mentors like Anthony Bouscaren, Ph.D., and Joseph Curran, Ph.D., who shaped the course of his life, teaching him to think, formulate questions and shape an argument. That is not to say his journey through the College was an easy one. Jim's father passed away shortly after his graduation from high school, and he worked multiple jobs on campus and off in order to pay for his tuition and living expenses.

When Jim and his wife, Mary, were in a position to give back, they were determined to support future Le Moyne students. In 2024 they provided the College with a \$12 million gift. It is the largest alumni gift in the College's history, and today it is used to support three primary initiatives: \$6 million to endow scholarships for students who are arts and sciences majors; \$4 million to fund the Dr. James J. Carroll '66 Endowed Professor in Arts and Sciences and the Mary A. Carroll Endowed Professor in Arts and Sciences; and \$2 million to support the William J. Bosch, S.J., Teaching and Learning Center.

In addition to being a loving husband, Jim was the proud father of seven children, all of whom went on to professional success in various fields, including clinical psychology, social work, dentistry, education, law and veterinary medicine. He was a loving grandfather of eight.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE GENEROUS

Robert "Bob" Turner '70, DBA, is an associate professor emeritus of accounting at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts, having retired in May of 2025 after 50 years of teaching and administration in higher education. Bob taught financial accounting at both the undergraduate and graduate levels at Babson, as well as at Boston College, Boston University and Le Moyne. He continues to serve his undergraduate alma mater as a member of the board of trustees. Along with his wife, Leslie, he recently established the Dr. John and Mrs. Marietta Blasi Fellowship in Ethics in memory of a couple who were profoundly impactful at Le Moyne. Their gift also reflects the Turners' deep commitment to Le Moyne's Jesuit mission and their steadfast belief in the transformative power of teaching. Bob and Leslie have been among Le Moyne's most devoted advocates. They previously established the Smith Sisters Endowed Scholarship Fund in 2023 in memory of Bob's mother and aunt.



Bob '70 and Leslie Turner

What is your personal motto?

Share your time, talent and treasure.

What characteristic do you most admire in other people?

I admire individuals who are, in Jesuit parlance, "people for others," and who recognize the impact they can have on others simply by reaching out to them, offering them a word of praise, or sending them a note of encouragement. I served on the board of trustees with one of my former professors from Le Moyne, Dr. James Fralick '63, and I had the opportunity to share with him the impact that he had on my life as a first-generation college student. There were so many others who impacted my life during this time, including the Blasis, Ed Gorman, Gen Saya, Peg Dwyer and any number of professors.

Is philanthropy something that people are born with or can it be learned?

I think it's true that some people have a natural desire to meet others where they are and to serve their communities. That said, I also think that people can be motivated to give back when they are reminded of the positive impact they can have on someone else's life. I see the effect people have on the lives of Le Moyne students daily through my work on the board of trustees.

What do you treasure most?

My family and friends, particularly the friends I made during my time at Le Moyne, whom I treasure to this day. We still see each other regularly and travel nationally and internationally.

What is a characteristic that other people would say you embody?

I would hope they would say that I am someone who reaches out to others and who goes the extra mile for his family, friends and colleagues. I have been blessed in my role as a faculty member to have mentored many young people over the years and have watched as they have succeeded personally and professionally.

What is the best piece of advice that you have ever received?

Pay forward the opportunities and the support you've received from other people, whether it's by offering your time, your encouragement or your financial support.

What is something that you wish more people understood about what it means to be generous?

I would hope that people would understand the impact they can have. I have witnessed the ways in which people's generosity to Le Moyne has made student scholarships and faculty research possible. That can be life changing, especially for first-generation college students, something Le Moyne continues to foster through the Jesuit commitment to others. At Le Moyne we work hard to steward every dollar carefully in order to provide students with an education that is high touch and in which connections and opportunities go well beyond the classroom. We do all of this so that students can go on to live lives of integrity, compassion and service.

Full-Circle Moment

When Isaiah Salter, M.S. '24 reflects on his Le Moyne experience, a single word comes to mind: "blessed." Salter's gratitude for his time at Le Moyne, where he earned a master's degree in management information systems and played on the men's basketball team, is palpable. His experience on the Heights is full of moments that he describes as "full circle."

Salter recently returned to campus to take on a new role as a community engagement specialist with the Grace Center for Faith and Community. The role challenges him to use his leadership and interpersonal skills, along with his humanity, to build community on the Heights (See page 25). Since beginning the job in July, he has immersed himself in the Grace Center's programming, mission and messaging, and reflected often on the Jesuit ideals of *magis* and *cura personalis*.

The Charlotte, North Carolina, native prizes authenticity and vulnerability in all of his interactions, particularly with Le Moyne students. It was not long ago that he was an undergraduate. He is well aware of what is required to navigate this meaningful and transformational time in a person's life, and that motivates him to reach deep within himself in a decidedly outward-facing position. Looking forward, Salter is eager to embody the College's commitment to serving others as he grows as a person and a professional.

"I'm really excited and open to what this season of my life, and Le Moyne, have in store for me," he says.





Le Moyne College Fund

The Le Moyne College Fund supports every aspect of the College – students, academic programs, faculty, athletics, facilities and more.

The fund helps to advance the following key priorities to enable students to enjoy a rich, diverse educational experience:

- Student Aid
- Student Services
- Instruction and Academic Support

Every gift to the Le Moyne College Fund goes to work immediately to shape rich, intellectual experiences for all students that will prepare them to be ethical, resilient leaders.

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Thank you.

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