

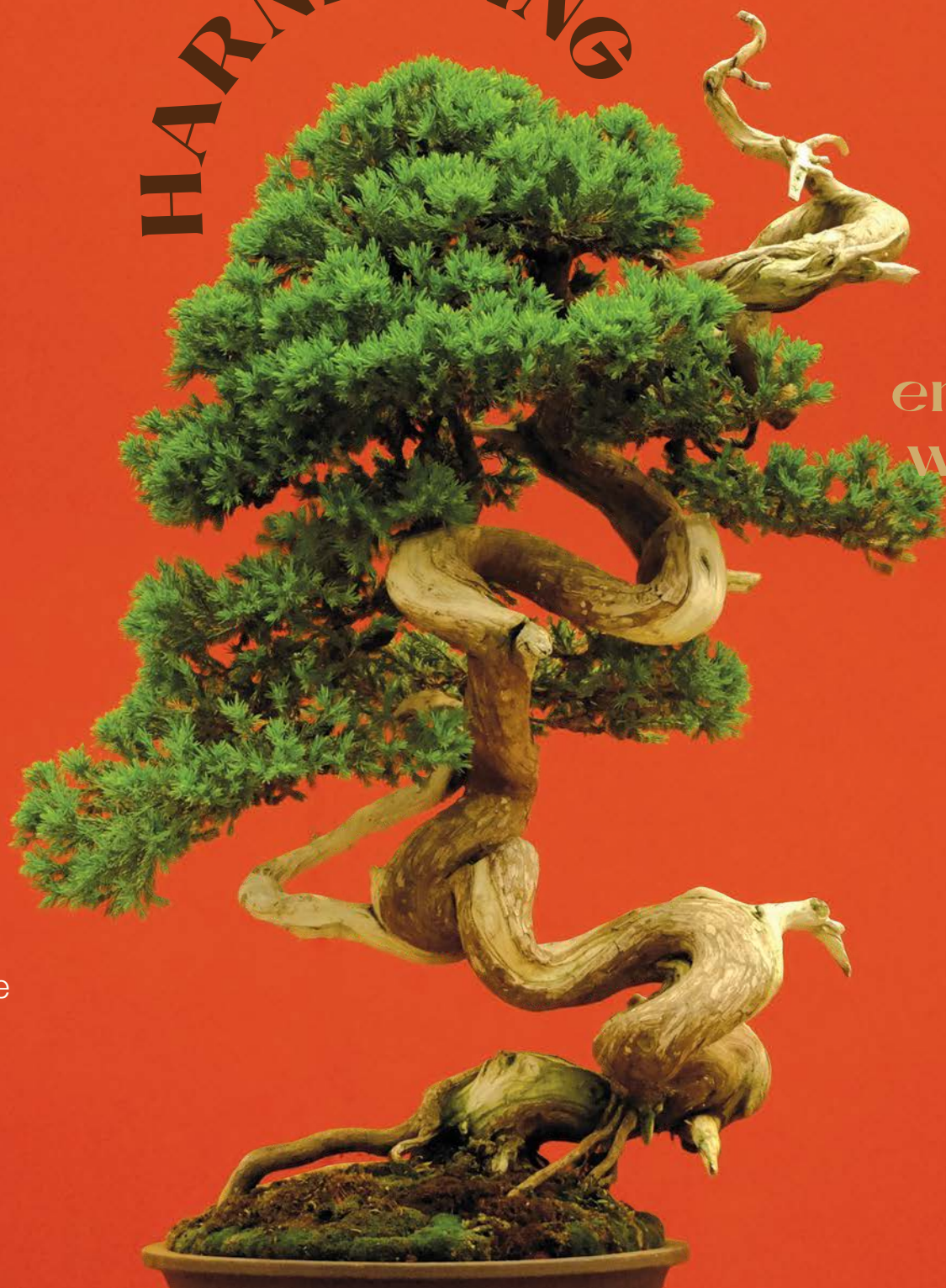
# GETTYSBURG

College Magazine

Winter 2024  
Vol. 114 - No. 2

## HARNESSING

the  
energy  
within



### ALSO INSIDE

**Enduring**  
the test of time

**OUR**  
**BRIGHTEST**  
**FUTURE**



16

Lincoln Ave.



## UPFRONT

On Nov. 14, 2023, the Gettysburg College community came together for its annual Servo Thanksgiving. During this beloved tradition, students gather with teammates, roommates, and classmates at Servo, the College's dining center, and enjoy roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and pumpkin pie, all served by their professors and College staff.

This annual celebration stands out for generations of Gettysburgians from their time at Gettysburg. For **Sam Schwarz '14**, **Chandra Kirkland '13**, and **Melanie Meisenheimer '14**, Servo Thanksgiving allowed them to build connections over good food and good company. Since then, the impact of food and community have inspired their career paths, where they now apply the knowledge and enduring skills gained at Gettysburg to serve others.

"Servo Thanksgiving was a time when we were encouraged to pause, get all our friends together, and appreciate the amazing feast that Servo put together," Meisenheimer said. "I think that's a great way for students to feel like part of a community even if they may be far from home."

**READ MORE ABOUT THESE ALUMNI ON**  
[WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU](http://WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU).

*Photo by Jason Minick of  
Minick Photography*

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# 28

## Our Brightest Future

Go inside the Summit on the Future, a transformative weekend during which the Gettysburg community shared enthusiasm for the College's bold and ambitious vision.

*by Corey Jewart*



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## Enduring The Test of Time

Gettysburg College is “ahead of the curve” with our AI-forward approach to teaching and learning.

*by Molly Pavlovich*

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## Harnessing The Energy Within

Finding one's focus enables wellness to permeate every dimension of being.

*by Michael Vyskocil*



*Image generated using Adobe Firefly from the prompt: 1800s soldier, ostrich.*

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ON THE COVER A bonsai tree is a work of art that offers wisdom on wellness, harmoniously bringing plant and pot together.

# “OUR COLLEGE CAN ACHIEVE BIG THINGS WHEN WE EACH BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF US.”

These inspiring words were delivered by our new Chair of the Board of Trustees, **Lauren Wise Bright '90**, at our Summit on the Future (pg. 28) this past September.

The Summit brought together more than 200 stakeholders from across the generations for two days of presentations, panel discussions, and exploratory sessions, all with a special focus on our vision for the future. Specifically, how we will bring our Gettysburg Approach and new Strategic Direction to life, and how every Gettysburgian can support these ambitious endeavors by getting involved.

The Summit culminated with a historic announcement—one that reflects an emphatic endorsement of the College's vision. Gathered in a transformed Bream Gym, I was honored to announce a commitment by **Daria Lo Presti Wallach '76** of \$10 million to Gettysburg College. This is the largest commitment by any living donor in the institution's 191-year history. I'd invite you to read more about her generous commitment (pg. 10) and to please join me in expressing our deepest thanks to Daria!

While our Strategic Direction will be fully implemented over the next several years, our community is already hard at work bringing it to fruition through a series of new initiatives, including the establishment of the Donna Jean Brogan Center for Quantitative Learning, the development of the Center for Student Success, the creation of our Guided Pathways and Personal Advising Teams, and so much more.

Turn to page 34 and visit the College's website to learn about 20 new initiatives we've undertaken in recent months in support of our vision ([www.gettysburg.edu/20-initiatives](http://www.gettysburg.edu/20-initiatives)) or, better yet, visit campus and see for yourself the incredible progress we've made as a community. Your alma mater is truly on the move! Our latest work is a powerful statement of what we can achieve when we commit to living our mission to the fullest.

Together, we promise every student A Consequential Education—and it will require the best of all of us to deliver on this promise. I believe in *the power of us*, and I look forward to partnering with you in the coming years to ensure every Gettysburg student graduates prepared to lead their own consequential life.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement as we usher Gettysburg College into a remarkable third century!

Sincerely,



Bob Iuliano  
President



A transformed Bream Gym, during our Summit on the Future

# GETTYSBURG

College Magazine

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## COMMITTING TO OUR FUTURE, *TOGETHER*

by Megan Miller

To those gathered at the Summit on the Future on Sept. 22-23, 2023, **President Bob Iuliano** shared four requests:

1. Express interest in being an Alumni Mentor.
2. Offer a career experience, such as an internship or job shadowing opportunity.
3. Galvanize your Gettysburg Network by getting involved and inspiring your friends to join you.
4. Support a Guided Pathways experience by making a gift.

Alumni responded with enthusiasm for the College's future, including **Ben Pontz '20**, current Harvard Law School student:

"What I heard this weekend was a plan that bets on ourselves and our core strengths as an institution—our

faculty, our co-curricular programs, and especially our students. It's authentically Gettysburg, it's quite ambitious, and it is going to require an all-hands-on-deck effort from friends of the College to make it happen," wrote Pontz on LinkedIn. "We may not all have the capacity to give huge sums [of money] to the College, but the on-the-ground experiences young alumni have in early career maneuvering, graduate school admissions, and remembering what it was like to be a Gettysburg student are exactly what the College needs from us."

*Read more about this historic event on page 28.*

*To learn more about the Gettysburg Approach, get involved, or make a gift today, please visit [www.gettysburg.edu/strategicdirection](http://www.gettysburg.edu/strategicdirection).*

# LETTER TO THE COLLEGE



When **Mary Gatterdam Folkemer '68** was named a digital engagement winner in the last issue of *GETTYSBURG College Magazine*, she penned this letter of appreciation to Assistant Director of Alumni Relations Amanda Wittle. With permission from both parties, the Communications & Marketing staff at Gettysburg College would like to share her words to help ensure they reach our alumni.

Dear Amanda,

With joy I received and accept the wonderful Gettysburg College picnic blanket. I could not imagine what was in the package or figure out why the package had been sent to me. I did cry after reading your note. Thank you very much for your kind words and this thoughtful gift.

With the rainy weather, I waited for a better time to stage a photo. Today provided a sunny moment outside in our backyard, sitting near the hydrangeas to complement the scene.

You asked me to share a photo with social media (Facebook) with hashtag #GettysburgAlumni. I did share on my Facebook feed with the hashtag, but without any guarantee that the photo with my words will reach our alumni. Thus, I attach my photo to you and the "POD" address (pod@gettysburg.edu) as you advised.

I appreciate being a graduate of Gettysburg College and a resident of its town.

Sincerely,

**Mary Gatterdam Folkemer '68**

# SOCIAL MEDIA

THE STRENGTH OF THE GETTYSBURG COLLEGE COMMUNITY CONTINUED TO SHINE ON SOCIAL MEDIA, AS ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND STAFF SHARED THEIR SUPPORT OF COLLEGE OFFERINGS, GENEROUS EFFORTS OF FELLOW ALUMNI, AND DISTINCTIVE STUDENT EXPERIENCES.

## LASTING IMPACT

In the Summer 2023 issue of *GETTYSBURG College Magazine*, Connections featured **Brian Pumphrey '98**, who established the Brian '98 & Noel Pumphrey Endowed Scholarship and Kermit H. Finstad Award in honor of Music **Prof. Emeritus Kermit Finstad**. Upon reading about it on Facebook, members of the Gettysburg College community chimed in with their gratitude and memories:

*"What a wonderful and well-deserved tribute to Kermit! He had such a positive influence on so many even before becoming the director of the Gettysburg College Choir."*

**Pam Sweeting Kuczawa '82**

*"Thank you, Brian and Noel, for your commitment to the education of future 'Burgians!"*

**Deb Kime Hydock, Dining Services director**

*"Forever grateful for all of the people who contributed to the Finstad Award. A terrific group effort!"*

**Brian Pumphrey '98**

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your comments about what you read in this issue to [alumnimagazine@gettysburg.edu](mailto:alumnimagazine@gettysburg.edu), and we may print them in an upcoming issue.





## ANTIQUE ARTIFACTS

The land between Musselman Library and Pennsylvania Hall once again last fall became the site of an archaeological dig, co-directed by Anthropology **Prof. Ben Luley** and **Prof. Kirby Farab**. Students excavated a few feet deep to recover artifacts, such as animal bones, fabric, glass, and a spoon, as well as architectural remains of an 1800s house, which served as the residence for then-College custodian John “Jack” Hopkins, a pillar of Gettysburg’s Black community. Through this experience, students learned about the College’s past, seeking to better understand the diverse social lives and histories of people who lived on campus.

*“This is such a great experience. I sure wish this had been happening in the early 1990s when I was a student! I would have jumped on this opportunity. ❤️💙”*

**f Jennifer Haase '93**

*“Our College is so rich in history and culture! I love Gettysburg!”*

**f Alyssa Kaewwilai '20**

*“This is a wonderful experience! Have fun and appreciate this moment in time!!”*

**f Grace Genduso Dattolo P'15**

## GAME-CHANGING SUPPORT

As an integral part of the Gettysburg Approach, Gettysburg College introduced the Guided Pathways, which helps students maximize their time on campus, practicing and deepening their knowledge and enduring skills with the support of their Personal Advising Teams. The Guided Pathways connect the skills they hope to strengthen with their experiences in an intentional way.

*“This initiative, when fully executed, will be a game changer in higher education. Students who elect to participate will be surrounded by a support system designed to nearly guarantee a successful life as a citizen of the world. I graduated there nearly 60 years ago; I want to go back and do it all again.”*

**f Dave Radin '65**

Gettysburg College also welcomed co-curricular advisors **Cara Smith** and **Emma Stubbe** to help first-year students participating in the Guided Pathways understand how their co-curricular activities complement their coursework. Smith and Stubbe join the Personal Advising Teams alongside a faculty advisor and a career advisor, as well an alumni mentor after a student’s sophomore year.

*“I am impressed with the Guided Pathways and look forward to seeing how this all evolves. #gettysburggreat”*

**in W. Kent Barnds '92**

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MOST RECENT ALUMNI DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT WINNERS!

Over the past six months, these alumni have demonstrated a deep connection to Gettysburg College by engaging with College communities on social media. Please join us in thanking them for their support and advocacy.

**Susan Keyser Capps '72 William Schiff '73  
William Mauroff '89 Emma Fee '23 Mary James '23**

TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE ONLINE CONVERSATIONS, FIND AND FOLLOW GETTYSBURG COLLEGE ON YOUR FAVORITE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube

**f Gburg.College** **📷 gettysburgcollege** **in gettysburg-college** **🐦 gettysburg** **📺 GettysburgCollege**

# IN THE MEDIA

THE REV. DR. **STEPHEN CHAPIN GARNER '92**, SENIOR MINISTER OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT, RECENTLY APPEARED ON MSNBC'S "MORNING JOE" TO DISCUSS HIS LATEST BOOK, "PRACTICING WHAT JESUS PREACHED: A MONTH-LONG JOURNEY OF REFLECTION, PRACTICE, AND PRAYER." DURING THE INTERVIEW, GARNER DELVED INTO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF YOM KIPPUR AND THE PRACTICE OF FORGIVENESS, HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-AWARENESS TO BUILD HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITIES.

*The American Council of Education highlighted the Gettysburg Approach, which "preserves the inquiry and exploration at the heart of a liberal arts education while preparing students for success in a competitive world," the article read. As the College's response to the preparedness gap, the Guided Pathways and Personal Advising Teams will help students gain the knowledge and enduring skills required for success after graduation.*

*"The Guided Pathways will provide students with an intentional, holistic college experience, allowing them to articulate the values of their degree to potential graduate schools, employers, and other postgraduate experiences," said Associate Dean of Co-Curricular Education **Jim Duffy**.*

Inside Higher Ed spotlighted Gettysburg College's Guided Pathways as part of the Gettysburg Approach, equipping students with the knowledge and enduring skills they need for personal and career success. With 76% of Gettysburg's first-year class opting into the Guided Pathways, **Anne Ehrlich**, vice president for College Life and dean of students, described its creation.

"Supporting students more intentionally in their co-curricular endeavors has always been a needed area of growth in higher education, and the COVID-19 pandemic has certainly exacerbated that need and instilled in us a sense of urgency," said Ehrlich. "With the support of their Personal Advising Teams and through the Guided Pathways, students now have an intentional way of selecting the out-of-class experiences that will equip them with the enduring skills that align with their passions and the expectations of tomorrow's employers."

NPR's Academic Minute podcast featured five faculty during "Gettysburg College Week" from Aug. 28 through Sept. 1, 2023, then followed up with a special feature in November with Political Science **Prof. Alauna Safarpour**. The episodes covered the breadth and depth of Gettysburg's liberal arts and sciences education:

- Health Sciences **Prof. Megan Benka-Coker '09** illuminated an innovative heating method that mitigates risks in hard-to-reach areas at home, enhancing sustainability and safety.
- Africana Studies **Prof. Jennifer Bloomquist** underscored the influence of diverse representation in animated movies, delving into its impact on children's education.
- English **Prof. Christopher Fee** demonstrated the value of retracing history to gain fresh insights into today's world and develop a deeper understanding of the past and present.
- Environmental Studies **Prof. Salma Monani** explored strategies to reduce the ecological footprint of our digital entertainment choices.



Environmental Studies  
Prof. Salma Monani

- The Gilder Lehrman-National Endowment for the Humanities Chair of Civil War Era Studies and History **Prof. Jim Downs** discussed the history of epidemiology and how early physicians developed a network to share information and new theories on infectious diseases.
- Political Science **Prof. Alauna Safarpour** dove into her theory for reducing prejudice and the positive impact on society that takes shape as a result.

# NEWS

## CAREER CREDENTIALS

When Maryland Gov. Wes Moore spoke at the 22nd Annual Blavatt Lecture, Maryland native *Alyssa Gruneberg '24* left feeling inspired to rise to the “unfinished work” of our time.

P. 11

## DEDICATED SERVICE

Jeffrey Gabel retires after leading the Majestic Theater for 20 years.

P. 10

## INSPIRING SUPPORT

*Daria Lo Presti Wallach '76;*  
*Donna Jean Brogan '60;*  
*Donald W. Harward P'86, P'92;* and  
*Sidney Ehrhart '50* stepped forward to give back to Gettysburg College in support of today's students.

P. 10

## FACULTY HONORS

As teachers and scholars, Gettysburg College faculty receive recognition for teaching excellence in their respective fields.

P. 11

## ALUMNI

## SUPPORTING STUDENTS

This past fall, several members of the Gettysburg community stepped forward to give back in support of today's students:

- A distinguished alumna and Benefactors Circle member, **Daria Lo Presti Wallach '76** made the largest commitment by any living Gettysburg College donor in the 191-year history of the institution, pledging \$10 million to her alma mater. This record commitment, which will help provide today's students with a liberal arts and sciences education that is relevant, meaningful, and amplifies the most transformational aspects of Gettysburg's undergraduate experience, was announced at the Summit on the Future (turn to page 28 to read more).
- Dedicated on Oct. 2, 2023, the Donna Jean Brogan Center for Quantitative Learning, which was funded by a grant from the George I. Alden Trust and a generous donation from **Donna Jean Brogan '60**, provides students with a spacious and accessible 24-hour hub for quantitative learning, including mathematics, chemistry, data science, physics, and many other academic programs offered at Gettysburg. This continuing education will help students gain the quantitative skills they need to be successful in a data-driven world.
- The Ann McIlhenny Harward Interdisciplinary Fund for Culture and Music at Gettysburg College, established by the Endeavor Foundation and envisioned by **Donald W. Harward P'86, P'92** in honor of his late wife, Ann, is a \$1.5 million endowed fund dedicated to the humanities and humanistic sciences. It will leverage the interplay of music and culture for the College and community. With this fund and an additional \$75,000 grant from the Endeavor Foundation, an annual series of interdisciplinary programs and events launches this spring to showcase music as the vehicle for exploring and understanding culture. Africana Studies **Chair Scott Hancock** will serve as the program's inaugural director.
- In honor of his late wife, Sally Warehime Yelland-Ehrhart, **Sidney Ehrhart '50** made a gift of \$3 million to establish The Ehrhart Family Scholarship Fund and support renovations and improvements to Paul Recital Hall in the Sunderman Conservatory of Music in Schmucker Hall. The scholarship funding will provide financial assistance to multiple students each year, including music majors and those who demonstrate financial need. Among the upgrades will be a large convex reflector over the stage and additional diffusive panels and angled reflectors to help musicians and singers refine their performances and improve both teaching and learning.

READ MORE ABOUT EACH OF THESE INSPIRING COMMITMENTS ON [WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU](http://WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU).



## STAFF

## BRAVO, MR. MAJESTIC!

After 20 years leading the Majestic Theater, **Jeffrey Gabel**, its founding executive director, has retired.

"It has been a privilege and pleasure to build 'the grandest small-town theater in America,' which has been so generously supported by the College and the community," said Gabel.

"My time at the Majestic has been the most gratifying period of my career."

In 2003, Gabel joined Gettysburg College to drive the theater's \$16.5 million renovation. He's programmed more than 300 concerts, raised \$21.7 million in community support, established a \$5.9 million endowment for programming support, and produced last year's "Who Are We? A Festival Celebrating the Films of Ken Burns." A highlight of Gabel's retirement celebration was the announcement of The Jeffrey W. Gabel Endowed Fund for the Majestic Theater, established in his honor with commitments to date of more than \$350,000.

"Jeffrey represents the very best of our community," said Gettysburg College **President Bob Iuliano**. "His collaboration, his charisma, and his deep commitment to the arts have helped to build the Majestic Theater into all that it is today."

## FACULTY

## HIGHEST HONOR

History **Prof. Timothy Shannon** received the Gettysburg College Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest honor Gettysburg's faculty can bestow on a colleague. With a focus on early American, Native American, and British history, Shannon's work has received fellowship support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the John Carter Brown Library, and the Huntington Library. In 2023, he edited a critical edition of "French and Indian Cruelty," Peter Williamson's 18th-century captivity narrative, published by Edinburgh University Press.

FACULTY

## TEACHING EXCELLENCE

During Fall Honors Day, Africana Studies **Prof. Jennifer Collins Bloomquist** and Psychology **Prof. Erin Clark '99** were recognized for teaching excellence.

Bloomquist received the **Bruce S. Gordon '68** Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Teaching Excellence Prize, which was established to recognize the faculty member who stands out as having advanced a campus climate that is supportive of differences in the classroom or beyond. Joining Gettysburg in 2002, first in the English Department with advanced degrees in linguistics from the University at Buffalo and then the Africana Studies program as the first Derrick K. Gondwe Fellow, Bloomquist researches African American Englishes in the regional context. She recently worked with Oxford University Press to publish "From Dumbo to Donkey: Linguistic Minstrelsy in Children's Animated Films."

Clark received the Dr. Ralph Cavaliere Endowed Teaching Award, which is selected by Student Senate and is presented to a faculty member who exhibits excellence in teaching.

After serving with Teach for America, teaching in K-12 classrooms, and receiving a master's in education from Temple University, she returned to Gettysburg in 2013 to teach psychology and education. With a passion for cognitive science, Clark values building sincere relationships with her students, designing challenging and dynamic classroom instruction, and helping students become more critical writers and thinkers.

ON CAMPUS

## CONSEQUENTIAL WORK

Last September, the U.S. State Department announced it waived restrictions on frozen Iranian assets held in foreign banks in exchange for the release of five unlawfully imprisoned U.S. citizens. Work completed by last year's Fielding Fellows, as part of the Eisenhower Institute's Fielding Center for Presidential Leadership Study, touched on this topic of coercive diplomacy in authoritarian regimes. A portion of the conclusions they reported to the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs last April mirror those actions taken by the executive branch.

"The Fielding Fellows worked tirelessly over the course of the academic year, and to see conclusions from their work find traction in real-world public policy stratagems is incredibly rewarding for everyone involved," said Fielding Center Director and Political Science **Prof. Scott Boddery**. "The ability to take part in this sort of consequential work is what sets apart the Eisenhower Institute's Fielding Center and Gettysburg College from other institutions. I simply couldn't be more proud of this group of Fellows and the work they accomplished."

ON CAMPUS

## INSPIRING WORDS

On Nov. 1, 2023, Maryland Gov. Wes Moore spoke at the 22nd Annual Blavatt Lecture, hosted by Gettysburg College's Eisenhower Institute. **Alyssa Gruneberg '24**, a public policy and political science double major, reflected on his presentation titled "More Than Waving a Flag: Redefining American Identity in a Gen-Z World," during which he aimed to inspire today's students to rise as leaders and responsible global citizens:

"There could not be a better time or place for the event because, as Gettysburg College students, we are tasked with rising to the 'unfinished work' of our time, pursuant to the call of President Lincoln's famous address 160 years ago," wrote Gruneberg. "Listening to my governor speak on stage at my school, I am proud to be a Marylander and proud to be a Gettysburgian. As I prepare to enter an uncertain job market, I am confident that my Gettysburg education has given me the critical thinking, communication, and civic engagement skills to stand out from other applicants. Gov. Moore reminded us that, as graduates of Gettysburg, people will take us seriously. I will soon possess this 'potent credential,' and I intend to use it wisely."

READ HER REFLECTION ON [WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU](http://WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU).

ALUMNI

## HALL OF ATHLETIC HONOR

Seven alumni were inducted into the Hall of Athletic Honor during Homecoming Weekend: **Julika Blankenship Olliver '04** (lacrosse), **Donna Bourke '92** (basketball), **Jessica Cortese Wolverton '05** (volleyball), **Tim DeMore '95** (lacrosse), **Steve Jirgal '80** (track and field), **Jason Vishio '00** (soccer), and **Henry Schwartz '42** (wrestling, posthumous).

The living inductees met with current student-athletes from their respective programs, sharing career advice in law, coaching, sales, college administration, and professional leadership and development.



# ON THE TOPIC OF REFLECTION

HOW DOES REFLECTION LEAD TO PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH?



**Jamila Bookwala**

*Provost*

Reflection offers a powerful means for dealing with change and challenge. As Gettysburg College’s provost, I rely extensively on reflection, along with consultation and dialogue, to understand colleagues’ and students’ needs and to balance their priorities with the College’s pressing imperatives for a successful future.

For me, reflection is a process of deep thought and is defined by both acute awareness and acute detachment: awareness about the forces at play and the risk of inaction; and detachment from personal preferences and biases.

In periods of flux, reflection can be elusive because it requires taking a deep breath, thinking holistically, and quieting competing demands, which, in turn, require discipline. Yet, reflection is more critical than ever during flux because it can be the catalyst for creative solutions.

As we move forward together as a community to ensure our students have an educational experience that is outstanding, integrated, and impactful, I remain optimistic that a path steeped in reflection will serve us well and make possible a stronger future.



**Sarah Hansen '17**

*U.S. Navy nuclear surface warfare officer*

When I need a moment to decompress, I close my eyes and imagine myself in one of three places: the dock on my family’s lake house in Maine, the observation tower on Mummasburg Road overlooking Gettysburg College, or the starboard bridgewing of the USS Momsen. Each of those places I associate with memories that shaped who I am today. Whether I was preparing for a golf tournament in Maine, studying for finals at Gettysburg, or taking the deck watch on Momsen, those locations served as a place of refuge, and I still reflect there today.

Reflection is a powerful tool for solving problems. The best leaders whom I work with in the Navy or whom I studied with at Gettysburg use reflection to adapt and overcome obstacles. Taking a moment to pause provides the opportunity to analyze your next decision. Reflection also permits self-forgiveness. Rather than contemplating regrets, reflection allows you to accept and learn from your past.

People who allow themselves to pause, consciously analyze their problems, and forgive their mistakes will be poised to adapt to the ever-changing world.



**Paul Miller**

*Garthwait Leadership Center director*

Reflective practice stands at the heart of leadership development. Warren Bennis, author of “On Becoming A Leader” wrote, “Experiences aren’t truly yours until you think about them, analyze them, examine them, question them, reflect on them, and finally understand them. . . . Be the designer, not the design, so that experiences empower rather than imprison.”

Reflection is critical to learning. Jesuits call it the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm. Educational theorists call it the experiential learning cycle. Others call it soul searching. In all, reflection is a vehicle toward growth. To transform, you must have focus and flair—the focus to consider new behaviors, values, and beliefs, and the flair to consider broader perspectives and contexts. This is why leaders pay attention in challenging, novel, or unfamiliar settings. Discomfort often leads to fresh questions.

When I reflect, I dig deeper to consider if different choices would better align with important values. It is our responsibility to pause and think about our actions, inactions, values, and assumptions. This inner work will lead to greater external impact.



**Bill Stedman '91**

*President, Lockton Philadelphia*

Reflection is invaluable, yet not always simple. It requires patience, objectivity, and a willingness to remove one's ego. It's like a superpower, helping one to identify and appreciate positive life experiences, acknowledge challenges, and grow. It enables us to be more aware of our assumptions, values, and worldviews that can influence our behavior and actions. It helps us better understand the past and prepare for the future.

I reflect often on my time at Gettysburg and draw upon my experiences, both rewarding and challenging. One of the reasons I chose Gettysburg was for its cultural diversity and freedom of thought and expression.

Since then, I've had the opportunity to live in Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Spain, and the United States, and I regularly reflect on my time there. Experiencing those cultures, recalling what it felt like to be a minority, has given me an appreciation for the gifts I do have.

For me, life is about growth, challenging myself to stay curious and learn. Without reflection, it would be impossible for me to grow.



**Thanh Vo '25**

*Women, gender, and sexuality studies major; economics and French double minor*

Working at the Casa Alitas Welcome Center in Tucson, Arizona, was life-changing. I wouldn't have been able to grow so much without the reflection component of this Center for Public Service (CPS) Summer Fellowship.

Sometimes, I don't want to take the time to reflect on the past. But it works. Having that space mentally and physically to step back and look at my experiences from a critical distance allows me to dig deeper and have confidence. It allows me to turn my thoughts into words—for what I want to say deep down to stand my ground, to name and scream my feelings out loud. It takes determination to slow down and think about what we do, why we do it, and why our work is important.

To me, reflecting is radical self-care—it is truly a form of resistance and resilience to the pervasiveness of a forward-looking, productive culture. CPS helped me realize that learning from the past is central to my growth and intellectual maturity. This newly formed habit of reflection will serve me well at Gettysburg and beyond.

—

**“REFLECTION IS  
A VEHICLE  
TOWARD GROWTH.  
TO TRANSFORM,  
YOU MUST HAVE  
FOCUS AND  
FLAIR—THE FOCUS  
TO CONSIDER  
NEW BEHAVIORS,  
VALUES, AND  
BELIEFS, AND  
THE FLAIR  
TO CONSIDER  
BROADER  
PERSPECTIVES  
AND CONTEXTS.”**

—

*Paul Miller  
Garthwait Leadership  
Center director*

# IVANA LOPEZ ESPINOSA '19: THE VALUE OF SELF-EXPLORATION THROUGH A LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES EDUCATION

by Michael Vyskocil

Growing up in Gettysburg, *Ivana Lopez Espinosa '19* recalls her earliest connections with the Gettysburg College community through the Painted Turtle Farm. As a teenager digging into this community-supported agricultural endeavor on campus, she learned not only about growing and eating healthy fruits and vegetables, but also how a college or university can be a steward for cultivating cultural diversity and community engagement. These formative experiences with culture and community ultimately contributed to her professional work in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in higher education.

Today, Lopez Espinosa is a social justice advocate seeking to improve the experiences of underrepresented communities in education as a project associate for the Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration. Her areas of focus include investigating the postsecondary pipeline for undocumented and DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) students and reporting on the implications of national, state, and college and university policy on undocumented and DACA individuals.

Lopez Espinosa cultivated this passion for exploring diversity in higher education at Gettysburg College, where she found a community of support inside and outside the classroom as a sociology major and music minor.

Through her First-Year Seminar at Gettysburg, *You're Not Yelping: From the Critique of Judgment to Consumer Rating Culture*, taught by French *Chair Caroline Ferraris-Besso*, Lopez Espinosa learned about how social class, family, education, race,



*Ivana Lopez Espinosa '19 stands on the steps of Penn Hall wearing a traditional dress from Veracruz, Mexico.*

and other factors impact how we view aesthetics, tastes, and trends. While seeking work-study employment, she discovered a student position supporting Jeanne Arnold, Gettysburg's inaugural chief diversity officer, who served the College from 2014 to 2021. Thanks to Lopez Espinosa's mother, who encouraged her to apply for the position, this work-study opportunity lit the spark to fuel her educational interests and career path.

"That job led me to an opportunity to work directly with [President Emerita] *Janet Morgan Riggs '77* and meet members of the Board of Trustees. It gave me an opportunity to witness large-scale decision-making within an institution," she said.





**TOP** Ivana Lopez Espinosa '19  
**MIDDLE** Ivana Lopez Espinosa '19 helps weed the raised plot at the Painted Turtle Farm.  
**BOTTOM** Ivana Lopez Espinosa '19 joins members of the Digital Scholarship Summer Fellowship 2018 cohort for its final presentation.

With the help of Sociology **Prof. Alecea Standlee** (see Prof Path, pg. 36), Lopez Espinosa applied for and secured a Digital Scholarship Summer Fellowship at Musselman Library that allowed her to research and document the history of diversification at Gettysburg College from its founding to the present. The research, she said, was one more link in the chain connecting her further with her interests in investigating diversity in higher education, and it led her to realize her potential to advance DEI initiatives professionally.

Tapping into the Gettysburg Network, Lopez Espinosa sought guidance from **Rebecca Borovsky '16**, who helped review her graduate school application to the University of Michigan. Upon her acceptance, she deepened her understanding of her own identity, the intricacies of large-scale advocacy, and her knowledge of diversity from Gettysburg. Lopez Espinosa served as a graduate research assistant for the National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good and a student researcher for the Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning.

When she graduated with a master's degree in higher education, diversity, and social justice, Lopez Espinosa joined the university's Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum as its first DEI manager, which gave her insight into a public institution going through large-scale change.

Together, these DEI experiences fuel her work today for the Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration and continued engagement with her alma mater through Gettysburg's Alumni of Color Council. She noted she wouldn't have gotten where she is today without Gettysburg, acknowledging **Quiana Young '10**, **Amanda Bazemore '10**, and **Jaclynn Cross '10** for their mentorship while serving in her DEI role at the University of Michigan and for their career advice as she transitioned into a new field.

In particular, she credits the knowledge and enduring skills she gained at

Gettysburg—from leadership and creativity to quantitative and qualitative sociological research skills through coursework with faculty like Sociology **Prof. Cassie M. Hays**—for propelling her every day. These proficiencies help her lead conversations about undocumented communities and work with practitioners in higher education, nonprofit organizations, and for-profit companies who engage directly with undocumented students.

*“It gave me the language of power and justice.”*

“I learned from Gettysburg how to be a passionate, empathetic leader and how to listen,” she said. “There were many opportunities to tap into my creativity through class assignments and the Digital Scholarship Summer Fellowship. When I served as the vice president of the Latin American Student Association, I had to be creative about how to have conversations with different student groups and what was happening in the Student Senate. I was part of the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, so I had to be creative in figuring out how I was going to work, go to my music lessons and classes, and still graduate in three years.”

Ultimately, Lopez Espinosa believes that Gettysburg's consequential education opened the door for self-exploration.

“It gave me the language of understanding institutions. It gave me the language of power and justice,” she said. “When I was working in the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, I wanted to know how students' experiences were and how we could make them better—and I'm living that out now. I'm comfortable with who I am. I'm comfortable in my identity. Gettysburg College gave me the opportunity to see the world through a different lens, outside of myself, in a way that I didn't know was possible.” **G**

# CONNECTIONS

**BARRY '65 AND BARBARA WENGER SHAW '65** have been loyal and passionate supporters of Gettysburg College for nearly six decades, giving back to their alma mater because of the experiences they had on campus as undergraduates. Barbara, who majored in German, remembers visiting the homes of professors who helped shape her love of teaching and paved the way for a long career in secondary education. Gettysburg's liberal arts and sciences education also gave Barry the knowledge and enduring skills to adapt to the changing demands of his career.

**“MY PROFESSORS CHALLENGED ME** to think beyond what they were teaching,” said Barry, executive chairman of the board at The Wenger Group. “I majored in business and math, but I ended up formulating chicken feed. I didn't learn how to do that here, but I did learn how to analyze things and use the knowledge that I gained. After getting into the feed business, I helped develop an amino acid-balanced feed program using protein, fat, and fiber. Gettysburg taught me how to be adaptable and take what we learned and apply it to a career.”

**NEARING THEIR 60<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**, the Shaws returned to campus for the Summit on the Future on Sept. 22-23, 2023, reigniting their connections with members of the Gettysburg College community. Members of the Benefactors Circle, Barry and Barbara are longtime contributors to the Gettysburg Fund and inspire fellow alumni to do the same. Barry, an emeritus trustee who served on the Board of Trustees for 13 years (1987-2000) and held the position of Annual Fund National Chair for much of that time, was recognized with the Meritorious Service Award by the College in 2015.

**CULMINATING THEIR RETURN HOME TO GETTYSBURG**, Barry and Barbara were honored in front of family, friends, and fellow alumni as the inaugural recipients of the F. Barry '65 & Barbara Wenger Shaw '65 Award for Exceptional Philanthropic Leadership, recognizing their longtime service, leadership, and support to Gettysburg College.

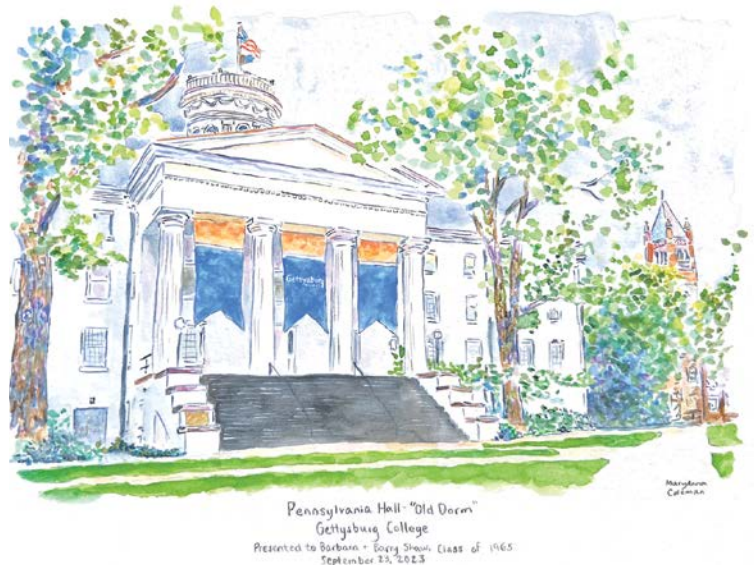
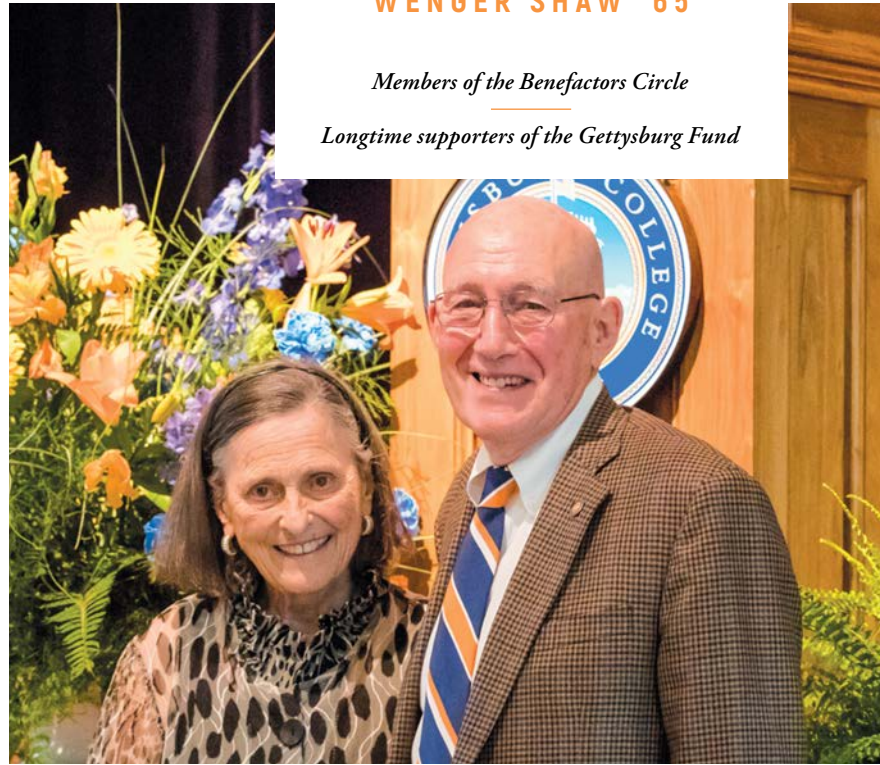
**“IN THE BIBLE, IT SAYS THE MORE YOU GIVE, THE MORE YOU RECEIVE.** We've been blessed, our company's grown, and we want to multiply those blessings and share them with as many people as possible. What better way can you do that than by giving to a great institution like Gettysburg?”

**TURN TO PAGE 28 TO READ MORE ABOUT THE SUMMIT ON THE FUTURE.**

## BARRY '65 AND BARBARA WENGER SHAW '65

*Members of the Benefactors Circle*

*Longtime supporters of the Gettysburg Fund*



**TOP** Barry '65 and Barbara Wenger Shaw '65. Photograph by Casey Martin.

**BOTTOM** MaryAnna Coleman '10 was commissioned to paint Pennsylvania Hall—where Barry resided as a student—as a gift to Barry '65 and Barbara Wenger Shaw '65 for their decades of support for Gettysburg College.



# FEATURES

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Gettysburg College is “ahead of the curve” with our AI-forward approach to teaching and learning.

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## HARNESSING THE ENERGY WITHIN

Finding one's focus enables wellness to permeate every dimension of being.

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## OUR BRIGHTEST FUTURE

Go inside the Summit on the Future, a transformative weekend during which the Gettysburg community shared enthusiasm for the College's bold and ambitious vision.

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*Image generated using Adobe Firefly from the prompt Civil War general checking smartwatch.*

By Molly Pavlovich ●

# Enduring the test of ti



Amidst an ‘intelligence revolution,’ Gettysburg College remains ahead of the curve as it navigates the rise of artificial intelligence... |

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**you ask ChatGPT about the future of artificial intelligence (AI), it will reply with some variation of this response:**

The future of AI holds great promise and potential, but it is also accompanied by challenges and ethical considerations. Society's choices and decisions will shape the direction AI takes in the coming years.

In its rapidly computed response, the chatbot will list several key trends and possibilities that determine the extent to which the simulation of human intelligence by machines will impact life as we know it—*AI in creativity, AI in research, AI in education, AI in jobs*, and others. These are all variables on the minds of educators, and in turn, students at Gettysburg College who are curious and committed to being well-equipped to learn, live, and lead in an ever-evolving world.

Since the summer of 2023, Psychology **Prof. Richard Russell** has been in the process of creating a podcast with Rajesh Kasturirangan—a mathematician and cognitive scientist who co-founded the Socratus Foundation for Collective Wisdom, which is committed to asking important questions to solve complex problems. The podcast, “HumAIinity,” is an outlet for Russell and Kasturirangan to explore, out loud, how AI is changing and impacting what it means to be human—sharing their musings with others who may be grappling with similar questions.

“That’s part of what’s unsettling about AI: It simulates some of the core aspects of what it has meant to be human—thinking and integrating ideas,” Russell said. “Artificial intelligence hasn’t reached a human level; it’s not anywhere close, but it’s doing some of the things that used to be specifically human that are not specifically human anymore.”

Though unsettling in some ways, Gettysburgians are leaning into the challenge—pivoting, evolving, and keeping an open mind. From those who graduated years before these futuristic technological advancements made their way into higher education to current students who are now navigating learning in the age of AI, there’s an unwaveringly synergistic belief that a Gettysburg College education is all enduring.

“One of the values of going to a school like Gettysburg College is that you’re encouraged to explore new experiences and areas of expertise. Professors and faculty push students to wrestle with and appreciate new identities and perspectives that we aren’t familiar with,” reflects **Kayode Balogun ’22**, who has learned to use AI in his career. “Our ability to critically think, and explore different approaches and viewpoints, makes us all more efficient and more valuable citizens in the world.”

#### **An AI-forward approach to teaching and learning**

The year 2022 brought AI into the mainstream. Health Sciences **Prof. Josef Brandauer** and English **Prof. Melissa Forbes** felt a moral obligation, as educators, to stay on top of the trends—diving into the basics of AI on the internet; exploring its potential implications on teaching, learning, and working; trying it for themselves; and dialoguing about it with one another.

“When we’ve spoken with representatives from other similar liberal arts colleges, it turns out that the work that we’re doing puts Gettysburg pretty ahead of the curve,” said Forbes, who

worked alongside Brandauer, the director of the College's Johnson Center for Creative Teaching and Learning (JCCTL), to create and compile AI resources and guidelines for their fellow educators. "We were in a lot of conversations in early August, where people were asking, 'So, what are you guys thinking of doing at Gettysburg?' And I thought to myself, 'Thinking of doing?' We were already in action."

The JCCTL, which began in 2001 after Gettysburg received a challenge grant from the Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation, is a resource and outlet for faculty to hone their pedagogical skills, explore collaborative and experiential learning techniques, and incorporate technological innovations like AI. Embracing the mission of the JCCTL, Forbes and Brandauer led several AI-focused sessions last summer, and more than 100 faculty and staff members showed up with open minds—eager to challenge their current perceptions.

"The overall tenor of all of these conversations was heartening, as everyone—whether they were starting from square one with learning about AI or looking to advance their strategies—was most focused on ensuring students learn," Brandauer said. "It was about getting our students to grapple with these important topics in the context of a new tool."

The JCCTL also created an online resource for faculty and staff to reference throughout the academic year, touching on topics including how to determine whether your classroom is open, conditional, restricted, or closed with relation to AI; develop AI-embracing and AI-resistant assignments; and handle undesired use of AI. JCCTL's proactive approach to preparing Gettysburg College faculty for AI and its emerging influence in higher education even garnered the endorsement of *The New York Times*.

"The key is helping students understand that it's not that we don't want them to take shortcuts," Forbes said. "We need them to know which shortcuts are going to be good and which shortcuts are going to be bad. You don't want to shortcut around the learning that's going to enable you to go forward into the future and fully know how to do things."

This critical concept of not shortcutting learning has stuck with **Kris Nguyen '27**, who initially learned about AI in his First-Year Seminar with Interdisciplinary Studies **Prof. Vernon Cisney**. Cisney explained to his students that a college education helps students become better thinkers. The only way to do that is to work on clarifying their ideas, expressing them clearly, and subjecting them to critique. There is no shortcut for this process.

"AI is a tool like a calculator. It helps you do more complex things," Nguyen said. "When you go to middle or high school, you start to work with complex mathematics programs, and that's when you begin to work with the calculator. It's sort of life-changing in the ways it can help you. But still, it doesn't do all the work. It's just a tool. You have to know the basics of the equation, and you have to know how to use it."

Not every professor approaches AI the same way as Cisney. Still, they're all mindful of it and its current and future impact on students, continually considering how to leverage it in the classroom. English **Prof. Joanne Myers** encourages her students to analyze the depth of thought and originality that AI-generated writing does or doesn't achieve. Computer Science **Prof. Todd Neller** has also designated a portion of his introductory programming courses to allow unrestricted use of GitHub Copilot, which auto-generates code, while maintaining the expectation of assessment without the aid of AI.

"The reason why it's working is because of the people who are leading the way—the instructors," Brandauer said. "There is this implicit trust that we're doing this together and sharing the common goal of educating the next generation—and people buy into that at Gettysburg."

"We are investing in the future of the workforce, in some ways, by helping our students learn to approach these tools thoughtfully," added Forbes.



### Human automation: A new workforce revolution

From the onset of the Industrial Revolution in the 1760s, economies based on agriculture and handicrafts were transformed into an increased need for work in mechanized manufacturing and factories. New machines, new power sources, and new ways of organizing work made existing industries more productive and efficient—all the way up to computers, the internet, and today's rise of AI.

"Our CEO says we're entering a new kind of revolution—an intelligence revolution," said **Elizabeth Hilfrank '18**, a content marketing manager for the AI-powered buyer engagement platform Drift. "Just like every other revolution, the industrial or agricultural, for example, it's all about how we leverage these new tools. If you adopt it early and get familiar with it, you will succeed."





## Preserving humanity

Balogun is especially familiar with this need to be open-minded to change. When he graduated from Gettysburg with a degree in business, organizations, and management, he wouldn't have self-identified as tech-savvy. But, he was open to trying something new when offered a job as an account executive and business development representative with TalentESO, an organization invested in upgrading the IT development process with AI-powered technology.

"In my classes at Gettysburg, I enjoyed questioning the existence of reality—the existence of truth—and always asking, 'Why?'" Balogun said. "I had no previous experience working with tech, but I approached it with critical thinking and curiosity, and I picked up on the concept of AI and its benefits relatively quickly. I was familiar enough with it and believed in its capabilities enough to talk with businesses about how they could implement automation or AI into the work they do."

He recently transitioned into a job in the hospitality industry, working more closely with people, an affinity he developed as president of the Black Student Union and a resident assistant at Gettysburg. He's already thinking about how he can leverage his newfound familiarity with AI to automate tedious work in his new role, such as improving the efficiency of database processes. With the help of AI, inputted information could be quickly scanned, resulting in time savings.

For *Carly Théodore '26*, the reality that AI could play a significant role in his future job is energizing, as he developed an interest in bionic technology following the devastating earthquakes in his home country of Haiti in 2010. The opportunity to focus on AI is one of the motivations that led Théodore to choose Gettysburg College, and he hopes to study abroad next year to take more AI-focused classes to further his knowledge and experience in the field.

"Haiti is an island where earthquakes and natural disasters are frequent. AI can contribute to advanced prosthetics for individuals who have become physically disabled due to earthquakes, as well as enhance natural disaster management. It can establish and oversee a continuous system, providing early warnings hours before a disaster strikes, and it can also help with post-disaster relief coordination," Théodore said. "The possibilities of how AI can positively impact my community back home are endless."

Commonplace through the revolutions of the past and the one still unfolding today is that while innovation undoubtedly impacted some jobs, and workers were challenged to think in new ways, new job niches became available, and the core of humanity prevailed—a concept that Drift, Hilfrank's employer, is particularly committed to.

"We're doubling down on AI to make marketers' and sellers' jobs easier, essentially getting them back to what they were hired to do," Hilfrank said. "AI can take care of the busy work."

The preservation of creativity, humanity, emotion, passion, and the parts of jobs that are most inherently "human" is something that workers across industries haven't taken lightly. When the writers' strike started in Hollywood last summer, many streaming companies said, "We'll just use AI to write all of our programming."

"America responded by saying that replacing all these artists with machines was repulsive," Forbes said. "This was a great PR coup for humans—a very public declaration that we are not OK with our humanity being outsourced."


There's no denying that AI can do many things humans can. While its future capabilities are likely more extensive than we can currently imagine, without humans working hand-in-hand, its functions are limited. People are the masterminds who created AI and continue to fuel its knowledge.

"The way large language models work is they read millions and millions of pages of things that have already been written, and then every answer they give comes out of that pool. So, all they can do is echo ideas that have already existed. That means some of the things that they're echoing are wrong, and some of the things that they're echoing are biased," Forbes said. "Qualities like attention to detail, audience awareness, empathy, and the ability to have original insights and thoughts that we're trying to cultivate in our students are things that ChatGPT can never have."

Evidenced through this reflective and forward-looking work of our educators, and the persistent curiosity that radiates at the core of Gettysburgians current, past, and future, an education that endures the test of time—the unpredictability and inevitability of change—is rooted in a desire to know, challenge, and grow. The knowledge and enduring skills gained at Gettysburg College through the Gettysburg Approach are proving more important than ever.

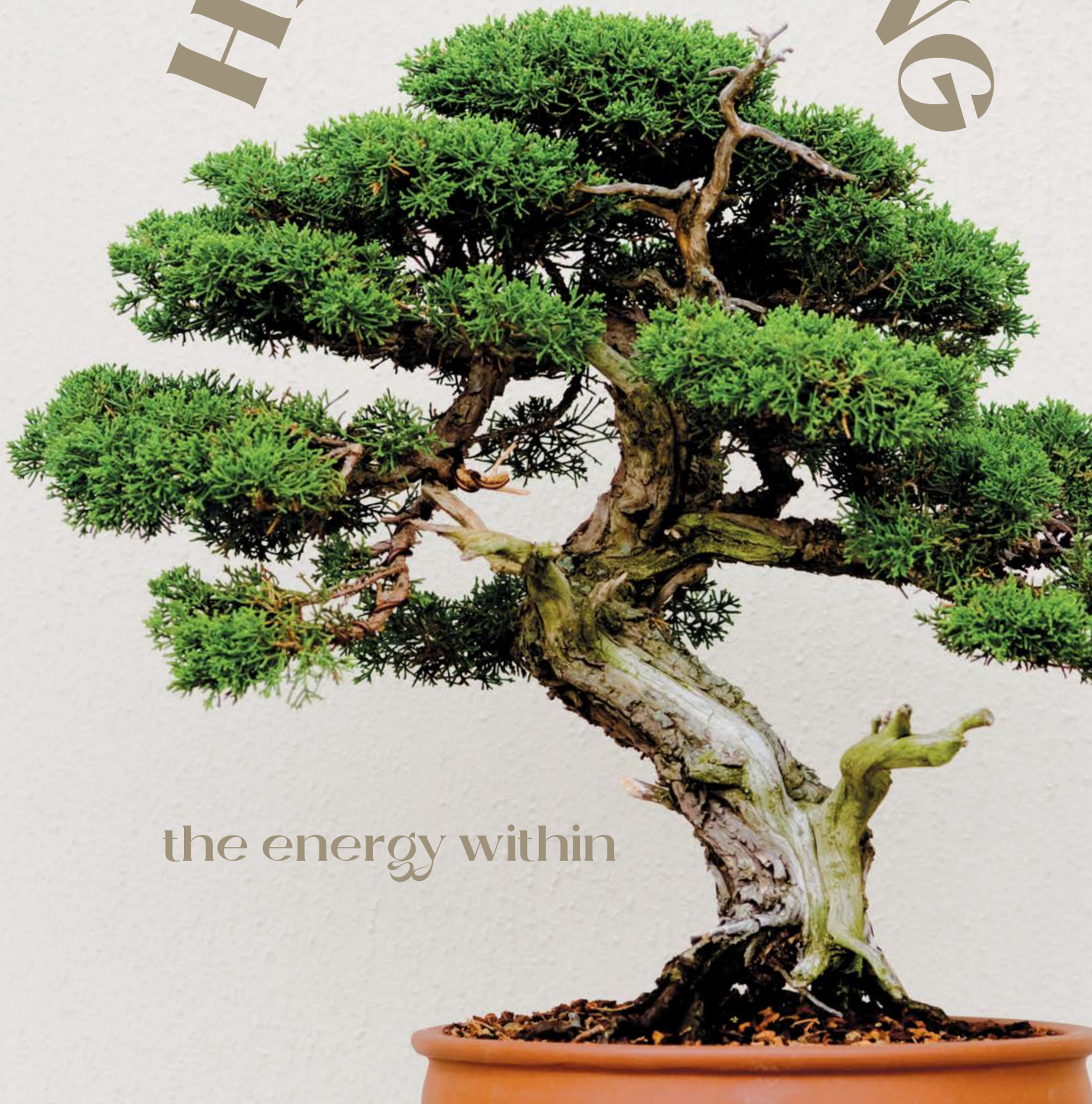
"As we think about AI, its implications, and the skills that our students will need to have in 20 or 50 years, it really does come down to something that we've focused on with our liberal arts and sciences education here at Gettysburg—having a level of flexibility, being able to integrate different ideas, and having a holistic approach," said Russell.

In many ways, the larger picture of such an education is the lifelong pursuit of understanding the world, its people, and the tools and components that comprise it to be fuller participants of and contributors to society as it ebbs, flows, and evolves—from AI to whatever creation comes next.

"If we can maintain some connection to that spark of humanity and the ability to view ourselves as multifaceted and fluid in our identities in the workplace and the world," Russell continued, "I think that could be the key to the future." 

*All images in this story generated using Adobe Firefly from various prompts.*

# HARNESsing



*the energy within*

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he bonsai is a work of art that continually grows and evolves. With its gnarled trunk and gently curving boughs, this humble specimen offers wisdom on wellness. Just as the bonsai requires nurturing to thrive, so do one's attitudes and approaches to wellness.

To live a healthy, purpose-filled life, one must allow wellness to permeate every dimension of being, harnessing energy from within to flourish in pursuit of one's goals. Truly being well, said *Krista Dhruv*, Gettysburg College's executive director of Counseling and Wellness Services, is an intentional, continually evolving process—just like cultivating a bonsai.

### SUPPORT THROUGH CHANGE

Generations ago, wellness was defined as the absence of disease and the ability to provide financial security and stability for oneself or a person's family. One's virtues outweighed personal health, according to *Prof. Jim Downs*, the Gilder Lehrman-National Endowment for the Humanities Chair of Civil War Era Studies and History.

"People seemed to be more invested in their moral character than their physical health and well-being," said Downs, who has spent more than two decades researching medicine and public health history. "Many attributed sickness to a punishment for falling out of God's light and favor."

During the late 20th century, society's contemporary interpretation of wellness developed, but what constituted wellness was narrow, Downs added. Despite divergent viewpoints, many began embracing conversations around wellness, including Gettysburg College. When the College's Health Center was built in 1959, then known as the Sieber-Fisher Infirmary, trustees *Dr. Paul R. Sieber, Class of 1907*, and *Dr. Nelson F. Fisher, Class of 1918*, led the College's Infirmary Committee at a critical point in history after an influenza outbreak five years prior. Together, they aimed to raise funds for an on-campus facility to promote health and wellness among Gettysburg's student population.


Today, as part of its efforts to develop a culture of belonging and wellness—one of the Four Areas of Focus identified in its Strategic Direction launched a year ago—the College focuses on developing the whole student through the Gettysburg Approach, which includes fostering whole-person foundational health and well-being, promoting habits to succeed on campus and throughout life. This holistic approach to wellness resonates with *Dr. Greg Natello '76*, who has passionately taken the same approach to his vocation in health care.

"Your body's biological systems work together like a symphony in perfect harmony," said Natello, a board-certified internal medicine and cardiovascular disease physician and an integrative-functional medicine certified practitioner. "When one is off-balance, the symphony is out of tune."

This concept of harmony is a familiar refrain in 21st-century approaches to wellness, which are continually being redefined in response to events affecting our global community. Members of Gen Z and Gen Alpha (those born from 2010 to the present) live in a world besieged by school shootings, hyperpolarizing politics, racial inequality, climate change, and social media's 24/7 news cycle. In 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic swept around the world, additional emotional and mental health challenges emerged, especially for students navigating virtual academic and social experiences.

"This younger generation of students recognizes that a life well-lived is multifaceted," said Dhruv. "They appreciate the impact of race, socioeconomic status, or a community in a food desert. The conversation has moved beyond simply physical health. Students are talking more about these different aspects of their lives as having an impact on their well-being."

In 2022, to address these student needs, the College established the Wellness Advisory Committee and seven dimensions of wellness to guide their work—community, cultural, emotional, financial, intellectual, physical, and



**How members of  
the Gettysburg  
College community  
cultivate wellness  
through every  
dimension of being**

*by Michael Vyskocil*

social wellness. Early feedback has indicated that actively engaging with each dimension, including during dedicated wellness weeks on campus with student-led programming, leads to positive growth.

“Using language that resonated with students—such as mental wellness, social wellness, and physical wellness—as well as reflective activities created student engagement opportunities that were well-received,” said Director of Residence Life and First-Year Programs **Danielle Phillips**, who co-leads the committee with Dhruv. “It assisted them in reflecting on their own wellness and connecting them to campus or community resources.”

Supporting Residential Education, Counseling and Wellness, Campus Safety, and additional campus offices, the Center for Student Success was also designed to focus on the whole student.

“The Center for Student Success supports student wellness in many ways, particularly by extending invitations to meet with students whom we learn may be having a tough time and then connecting them to appropriate resources across campus,” said **Keira Kant '95**, dean of the Center for Student Success. “Our goal is to help students break barriers to their ability to thrive. Getting them to the right resources is a big part of that work.”

### THE ‘SECRET SAUCE’

Throughout his career, Natello, who completed his internal medicine residency at the Cleveland Clinic, has upheld a patient-centered focus on health and well-being. Attributing his Gettysburg education to helping him attain a 30,000-foot view of medicine, he’s devoted much of his life’s work to shifting the focus of health care from superficially band-aiding tip-of-the-iceberg symptoms to addressing underlying causes and contributory factors of chronic diseases by taking a systems biology integrative approach.

“The secret sauce is those things shown to dramatically promote health, individually and, most powerfully, *together*,” said Natello.

“[Wellness connects with] the human need to feel valued by, and add value to, self and others.”

**Eloisa Gordon-Mora**  
Gettysburg College  
Chief Diversity Officer



From quality dietary patterns, joyful movement like exercise, and sleep to how one mitigates stress, cultivates relationships, builds community, approaches spirituality, and practices gratitude, one’s choices, decisions, and actions culminate in vibrant health, resilience, and well-being, Natello added. That vibrancy translates to improved productivity, reduced risk for epidemic and progressively younger age-onset chronic diseases, opportunities to better manage and reverse chronic diseases, and a longer, joy-filled life span.

In the study of subjective well-being, Psychology **Prof. Brian Meier** concurred that a solid social support system of friends, relatives, and others whom individuals can turn to in good times and in bad can sustain positive energy.

“More social support generally means more subjective well-being,” he said. “Other predictors of positive wellness include engaging in challenging activities that we are skilled at, expressing gratitude, being fully present in the moment, helping others, and being exposed to things like nature and exercise.”

With nearly 90% of all students participating each semester in Gettysburg’s extensive intramural, club sports, and campus recreation programs, which are ranked No. 1 by the Princeton Review, the College is an active campus, both physically and intellectually.

“Campus recreation participation leads to lifelong friendships, healthy behaviors, and improved well-being for life,” added Director of Campus Recreation and Wellness **Annette Hunt-Shepherd**.

For alumni throughout the Gettysburg Network, this principle of social support permeates their personal and professional lives. For **Kevin J. Smith '89**, a lost wallet personally delivered to his home within moments after discovering it was missing inspired him to “pay it forward” and create the nonprofit organization Kindness Worldwide. A broad Kindness Week commemoration last November celebrated the unifying and regenerative characteristics of kindness.

Individuals, organizations, groups, and academic institutions such as Gettysburg College stepped up to promote kindness through volunteerism, charity, and going the extra mile for others.

While Smith, founder and executive vice president/wealth management of Smith Wealth Advisory Group of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC, advises his clients in financial wellness, he also helps them understand and appreciate the true meaning of wealth—enjoying the riches of life itself.

### FINDING HEALING IN CONNECTIONS

Belonging is essential for human beings; it requires the need to reflect wellness, said Chief Diversity Officer **Eloisa Gordon-Mora**. Participating in a community—or multiple communities—affirms one’s multiple identities as expressed through race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, religious beliefs, and other qualities.

“[Wellness connects with] the human need to feel valued by, and add value to, self and others,” explained Gordon-Mora, who is currently developing the College’s first diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic plan. “Consequently, for us at Gettysburg College, this means the need to concretely create the conditions, spaces, and learning opportunities for our different communities to experience mattering and belonging—in other words, wellness.”

From physical fitness and wellness education to Musselman Library’s quiet study carrels and the newly created Donna Jean Brogan Center for Quantitative Learning, which has whiteboards for walls, students at Gettysburg can invest their energy into all dimensions of wellness thanks to these intentional spaces and opportunities across campus.

**Caden Simons ’24** discovered this sense of mattering and belonging through a volunteer opportunity at Gettysburg’s Counseling and Wellness Center. In this role, Simons leverages his prior experience as a crisis counselor for the Crisis Text Line in New York to help Gettysburg’s counselors share information about the center and its resources, as well as foster conversations on campus. This work has led to growth in his understanding of mental health and wellness.


“I’ll get messages [from people I’ve helped] that tell me, “Thanks for being a good human being,”” said Simons, a psychology and health sciences double major with a pre-med track. “I feel like that feedback helps me work through my own stuff because I’m helping them with something that hurts them but has hurt me in the past, so it’s like we’re working on it together.”



For **Corey Heyman ’13**, fostering respect and building community is at the heart of her business, Coco Market. Based in Delray Beach, Florida, this free monthly wellness market unites people across the South Florida region. Together, they support local businesses and connect with neighbors in the greater wellness community, including yoga instructors, holistic healing practitioners, and healthy food professionals.

“To get everyone back together [following the COVID-19 pandemic] has been healing for Delray Beach,” she said. “It has brought happiness, joy, and connection that is important for mental health.”

While Heyman initially struggled with her sense of identity and belonging, it was thanks to the support from her counselor and professors at Gettysburg that she learned to take care of herself. Embracing work-life harmony and identifying the areas of your life worthy of devoting your focus and energy—just as the bonsai brings plant and pot together—she believes one needs to “feed yourself properly and nurture your relationships” to foster the harmony that promotes a consistent flow of energy to all parts of life.

“Your choices today are consequential for your lifetime,” Natello said. “Health is your greatest wealth. Without it, you can’t take care of yourself or those who depend on you, nor in the tradition of Gettysburg College, ‘Do Great Work.’” 

A photograph of a carpeted floor with a large, colorful circular graphic. The graphic features a blue center, a red border, and a white outer ring. In the background, several people are walking, their legs and feet visible. The lighting is dim, creating a moody atmosphere.

*OUR BRIG*



# *HTEST* *FUTURE*

**The Summit on  
the Future inspired  
attendees to rally around  
today's Gettysburg students  
and deliver on our promise of  
A Consequential Education.**

*by Corey Jewart  
Photography by Casey Martin Photography*

ON SEPT. 22-23, 2023, HUNDREDS OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING THE COLLEGE'S GREATEST CHAMPIONS AND PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORTERS, GATHERED AT GETTYSBURG COLLEGE FOR THE SUMMIT ON THE FUTURE—A WEEKEND FULL OF INSPIRATION, INTERACTION, IMPACT, AND LEARNING ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE INSTITUTION AND ITS PROMISE OF PROVIDING A CONSEQUENTIAL EDUCATION TO EVERY STUDENT. FROM VISITING CLASSROOMS AND EXPLORING TODAY'S CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES TO HEARING FIRSHTHAND ACCOUNTS OF THE GETTYSBURG APPROACH AT WORK, ATTENDEES EXPERIENCED TOGETHERNESS AT EVERY TURN.

TOP Student musicians perform during a reception inside Bream Gym. BOTTOM Vice President for College Life Anne Ehrlich and other members of the President's Council address audience questions during a panel discussion about Gettysburg's Strategic Direction.



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*“We seek to engage your minds, hearts, and passion toward the ‘unfinished work’ of Gettysburg College. My hope is that this time sparks your curiosity, creates some connection from your experience to that of current students, and catalyzes your energy for learning this weekend.”*

**Paul Miller**  
Garthwait Leadership Center director

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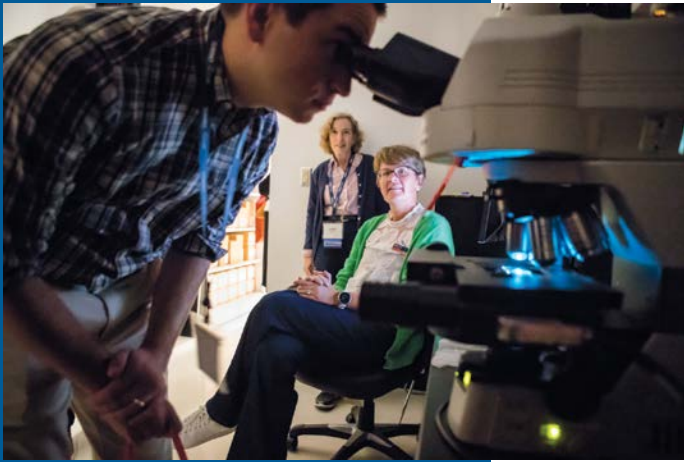
*“Being here tonight and really seeing such a diverse array of accomplishment, and talent, and really geography across generations of Gettysburgians really underscores to me the power of this place and the significance of the experiences that we’ve all had here that change the trajectory of our lives. While Gettysburg’s small, our impact in the world is outsized.”*

**Richard Kampert '10,**  
Goldman Sachs vice president in the investment banking division

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**TOP, LEFT** Alumni had the opportunity to look at Gettysburg's learning experiences through the lens of today's students. **TOP, RIGHT** Belonging and wellness are key components of the Strategic Direction. Gettysburg offers students a bevy of resources to strengthen the community. **BOTTOM** One of the Summit's opening events featured an expert panel of faculty and staff talking about the impact of Gettysburg's distinctive location on student experiences.

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*“One of higher education’s greatest pressure points is the need for colleges to innovate in ways that effectively prepare students to succeed as professionals and citizens while also being authentic to their institutional mission. The Gettysburg Approach has nailed this balance. I’m excited to share this incredible model with other schools around the country.”*

**Ashley Finley,**  
vice president of research and senior advisor to the president for the American Association of Colleges and Universities

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**THE TRANSFORMATIVE WEEKEND SHOWCASED THE GETTYSBURG APPROACH, WHICH IS ANCHORED BY CORE TRAITS DISPLAYED BY GRADUATES FOR NEARLY 200 YEARS—A BREADTH AND DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE AND SET OF ENDURING SKILLS. SUMMIT ATTENDEES WITNESSED HOW THE GETTYSBURG APPROACH CARRIES ON THAT LONG TRADITION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE WHILE OFFERING NEW EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES.**



**LEFT** Alumni, faculty, and staff gathered inside a transformed Bream Gym to learn more about the Gettysburg Approach and the unique learning experiences available for students.

**BELOW** Andy Hughes, executive director of the Garthwait Leadership Center, facilitates an open discussion with Summit attendees on Gettysburg's proactive response to societal changes.

**WHAT SETS THE GETTYSBURG APPROACH APART IS ITS INTENTIONAL FOCUS ON BUILDING A NETWORK OF SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS THROUGH PERSONAL ADVISING TEAMS AND GUIDED PATHWAYS. FACULTY, CO-CURRICULAR, CAREER ADVISORS, AND ALUMNI MENTORS GUIDE STUDENTS AS THEY TRAVERSE THEMATIC PATHWAYS DESIGNED TO DEEPEN AND PRACTICE KNOWLEDGE AND ENDURING SKILLS.**



***PRESIDENT BOB IULIANO* EMPHASIZED THAT, THROUGHOUT ITS ESTEEMED HISTORY, GETTYSBURG HAS RESPONDED TO CHANGE TOGETHER, UTILIZING ITS COMMITTED NETWORK FOR SUPPORT AND RESOURCES TO CONTINUE ITS EVOLUTION.**

***"Together, we can usher this great College into an inspiring third century. Let us commit tonight to Living Our Promise and making our vision a reality."***

**President Bob Iuliano**



THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT FOR GETTYSBURG COLLEGE. THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF ALUMNI AND FRIENDS WHO COMMIT THEIR TIME AND RESOURCES TO ENSURE THE INSTITUTION CONTINUES TO THRIVE, AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO GROW PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY ARE MADE POSSIBLE. THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND, MOMENTUM BUILT AS ENTHUSIASM FOR THE COLLEGE'S BOLD AND AMBITIOUS VISION OF THE FUTURE TOOK HOLD IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF ATTENDEES, STRENGTHENING THEIR DESIRE TO ACT AND GET INVOLVED. THE WEEKEND CULMINATED WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A HISTORIC \$10 MILLION COMMITMENT BY *DARIA LO PRESTI WALLACH '76* TO HELP TRANSFORM THIS VISION INTO A REALITY.

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*“Gettysburg College is the place for A Consequential Education—that was true when I was there in the 1990s, and it remains true today (I’m also a Class of 2024 parent). I fully support the College’s vision and the approach for ensuring students are prepared for the broader, changing world—professionally and personally.”*

Meredith Bove '97, P'24

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*“Gettysburg is the thread that binds us together. As Gettysburgians, we step forward for one another. I hope this weekend inspired just that. I hope this weekend inspires you to step forward for today’s students and those yet to come.”*

Lauren Wise Bright '90,  
Board of Trustees chair

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**TOP** Former Chair of the Board of Trustees David Brennan '75, P'00, alongside President Bob Iuliano and current Chair Lauren Wise Bright '90, was honored for his service and commitment to Gettysburg College.

**RIGHT** “I’m proud to go to a school that recognizes the importance of increasing access to higher education. None of what I mentioned would have been in my future without your support, your empowerment, and your confidence in me.” said Emily Kreider '25 (right), recipient of the Sara Harenchar Levinson '09 (left) Gettysburg Fund Named Scholarship.



# 20 NEW INITIATIVES

At Gettysburg College, we promise every student A Consequential Education—one that gives them greater insight into who they are, what they want to accomplish, and how they will define and lead their own consequential life.

We are committed to bringing this promise to life for today's students through our new Strategic Direction. Launched last February, *Living Our Promise: The Strategic Direction for*

*Gettysburg College* has Four Areas of Focus: Academic Excellence, A Transformational and Integrated Student Experience, A Culture of Belonging and Wellness, and Institutional Effectiveness.

While this ambitious vision will be implemented over the next several years, our community is already hard at work to make our Strategic Direction a reality. Explore 20 new initiatives now underway to support the student experience at Gettysburg.



Photos by Abbey Frisco, Kaitly White, Jason Minick, Amb Nguyen '22, May Lomergan '21, Miranda Harple, Sam Isherwood '00, and the Gettysburgian.



10



11



12



13



14



15



16



17



18



19



20

- 1 Passed a new core curriculum
- 2 Established the Donna Jean Brogan Center for Quantitative Learning
- 3 Developed the Center for Student Success
- 4 Launched the Guided Pathways
- 5 Created Personal Advising Teams
- 6 Increased capacity at the Center for Career Engagement
- 7 Explored genAI and its emerging influence
- 8 Expanded the scope of the Eisenhower Institute
- 9 Prioritized the health and performance of our student-athletes
- 10 Bolstered International Student Services
- 11 Created an Art History and Museum Studies Track
- 12 Introduced a pilot project to mentor and support underrepresented faculty
- 13 Invested in counseling access and care
- 14 Deepened commitment to affordable course materials
- 15 Established the Ann McIlhenny Harward Interdisciplinary Fund for Culture and Music
- 16 Supported initiatives around belonging and wellness
- 17 Reimagined student social spaces across campus
- 18 Graduated first class of MA in American History students
- 19 Opened Gettysburg Smoothie Co. in the Jaeger Center
- 20 Hosted the Summit on the Future

# ALECEA STANDLEE

by Michael Vyskocil

The chirps of birds, the gentle rustling of leaves, and the laughs and snippets of conversation from students seated in Adirondack chairs on the lawn outside Pennsylvania Hall greeted Sociology **Prof. Alecea Standlee** as she stepped onto Gettysburg College’s campus more than six years ago. This movie-like setting, she said, captivated her during her on-campus interview for a faculty position in Gettysburg’s Sociology Department, drawing her into the life of the Gettysburg community.

Today, surrounded by beauty and history in Gettysburg, Standlee appreciates the consequential work that occurs here daily. As a first-generation college student born and raised in a low-income rural community in southern Idaho, she’s proof of the impact that access to higher education can make in one’s life.

With the support of her mother, Donna, Standlee enrolled at the University of Idaho. There, she obtained an undergraduate degree in communication and cultivated her research interests related to race and gender inequalities, encouraged by Communication Prof. Emerita Martha Einerson. Upon graduating, Standlee worked for Dell for several years but longed for the opportunity to continue her education. In 2004, she left her job to attend the University of Cincinnati, where she worked toward her master’s degree in women, gender, and sexuality studies while simultaneously serving as a teaching assistant. It was then that she discovered her passion for teaching.

“I loved everything about teaching,” she said. “I wanted to do this for the rest of my life.”

Encouraged and supported by her spouse and lifelong partner, Jason, Standlee pursued her doctorate in sociology, graduating from Syracuse University in 2012. Focusing her research on the impact of social and other digital forms of media, she brought to Gettysburg College extensive knowledge of how these technologies reinforce and resist older structural inequalities, such as gender inequality, racial inequality, and stereotypes around religion and sexuality.

“Sociology allows me to engage with and understand people and look at the technologies I study from the perspective of everyday people who use them,” said Standlee, who received tenure last fall, acknowledging her appreciation for this aspect of her work.



She especially values the opportunities to continue conducting this research with her students in ways that allow her to hear their voices and welcome their perspectives. They give purpose to her work.

“The opportunity for students here at Gettysburg to engage in real intellectual exploration is unique in my experience for undergraduates. I love that element of the institution, and I love that element about teaching at Gettysburg.”

Throughout her path to pedagogy, she credits several professors and colleagues for her growth as a teacher and scholar, from her Syracuse dissertation advisor, Sociology Prof. Emerita Jackie Orr, to her current colleagues who are passionate about their work and care deeply about their students. In addition to teaching, Standlee has served on the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Task Force, worked with the Office of Multicultural Engagement, collaborated with first-generation students and students of color, and conducted interdisciplinary research with faculty colleagues from various academic programs, such as the Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.



**TOP** Taking in a view of the Manhattan skyline, Sociology Prof. Alecea Standlee enjoys a visit to New York City. **BOTTOM** Sociology Prof. Alecea Standlee (far right) celebrates at a post-graduation event with Holly White '21 (left) and Lisa Suriel '21 (center).

I love their energy, excitement, and even their frustrations, but especially the moment they overcome the challenges they thought they couldn't conquer," she said. "I had and continue to have extraordinarily gifted students who are passionate about education and exploring the world in exciting ways. They're what make it all worth it."

“All of it has allowed me to be not only a sociologist but also a global citizen of the College,” she said. “Having those opportunities allows me to not only be the teacher I want to be but also be a part of the College community and contribute to the things that I’m passionate about, like diversity and inclusion.”

When she's not teaching and conducting research with her students, Standlee and her husband enjoy exploring the town of Gettysburg and its surroundings. Her quintessential Gettysburg experience is taking evening drives through Gettysburg National Military Park to watch the sunset over the battlefield. She supports the work of a Gettysburg cat rescue organization, Forever Love Rescue at the Kitty Corner, Gettysburg Community Theatre, and the Adams County Library. Inheriting the love for reading from her mother, Standlee relishes time with a good book—she's an avid reader of science fiction and fantasy novels.

Reflecting on how many students' lives she has touched throughout her career, Standlee appreciates the little and big moments that bring them joy. These moments are made possible by access to education, the nurturing of curiosity, and the pursuit of knowledge.

“I love the way that students ask questions and push me to think in different ways.

7

years teaching at Gettysburg College

8

U.S. states she's lived in

10

independent student research projects supervised

17

scholarly publications

97

books read in 2023

# FACING THE NEEDS OF THE TIMES

HOW J-TERM CREATED TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES TO HELP STUDENTS EXCEL IN A WORLD MARKED BY CHANGE

by Corey Jewart

*“The College will continue to merit a reputation as a place that faces the needs of the times.”*

**Basil L. Crapster**


former Gettysburg College dean  
and professor of history

In 1969, Crapster concluded the spring edition of the alumni newsletter, *The Gettysburg Bulletin*, with these words. As it had done generations before and continues to do so today, Gettysburg College was implementing a new approach to learning to help students gain the requisite knowledge and enduring skills they would need to excel in a world marked by change.

During the 1969-1970 academic year, the College reimagined its curriculum into a 4-1-4 system, establishing a four-week January Term (J-Term) between the traditional fall and spring sessions. The new setup opened the door for expanded opportunities for student learning, allowing them to take courses for credit to refine academic and professional skills. J-Term also allowed increased faculty collaboration through interdisciplinary courses, which was difficult to achieve during the fall and spring due to the demands of teaching multiple classes. It was a time for transformative experiences and personal growth for students and faculty alike.

From 1970 through 1985, students chose from more than 100 J-Term offerings, covering the breadth of the academic curriculum. They ranged from Aerospace Studies—in which students could log flight time and earn a pilot’s license—to more traditional classroom experiences like Topics in the Foundation of Mathematics. Every weekday inside Bowen Auditorium in McCreary Hall, J-Term featured a popular lecture series on subjects ranging from the Constitution with Political Science **Prof. Emeritus Ken Mott** to poetry with English **Prof. Janet Gemmill**, the first J-Term director.

Of note, Gettysburg’s study abroad program was also born during this time, with students and faculty studying Shakespeare in Stratford-upon-Avon in England, snorkeling among coral reefs in Whalebone Bay in Bermuda, learning Greek history in the shadow of the Parthenon in Athens, and embarking on other adventures around the globe in Chile, France, Italy, Mexico, and Russia. Plus, with career preparation a significant aspect of J-Term, Career Services (now the Center for Career Engagement) and Counseling Services held a series of training sessions and helped students secure internships at local businesses and organizations, including the Harrisburg State Hospital, Knouse Foods, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Gettysburg Times.

After the College reinstalled a traditional two-semester schedule in 1986, J-Term returned in 2021 as the College sought new ways to combat the interruptions to learning wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic. The College also added a virtual Alumni J-Term in 2024 for Gettysburgians to continue growing as lifelong learners. While today’s version of J-Term is not for credit and primarily takes place virtually, its intent mirrors that of its predecessor as a time of exploration for students and alumni to grow the knowledge and enduring skills that will help them make the most of their liberal arts and sciences education and lead successful lives after graduation. 





**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT** Students learned how to treat and interact with patients at local medical facilities; Hot off the presses! Students get the first look at the latest edition of the Gettysburg Times in 1979; Local businesses like Knouse Foods hosted students for internship experiences during J-Term; Working at the Bermuda Biological Station, students studied tropical marine biology and snorkeled in Whale Bone Bay; Students translate ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics on a chalkboard in 1979.

## BULLETINS

### **APRIL 2-3**

*Gettysburgives 36-Hour Challenge*

### **APRIL 5-6**

*Gettysburg Film Festival*

### **APRIL 7**

*Founder's Day*

### **MAY 17-18**

*Commencement Weekend for  
the Class of 2024*

### **MAY 31**

*Final day to make a gift for the  
2024 fund year*

### **MAY 30-JUNE 2**

*Alumni College and Reunion Weekend  
(Celebrating classes ending in 4 and 9:  
1954-2009)*

### **MAY 31**

*Orange & Blue Golf Classic*

### **JULY-AUGUST**

*Welcome Gatherings for New Families*

### **AUGUST 26**

*Opening Day*

### **SEPTEMBER 20-22**

*Homecoming & BOLD  
Reunion Weekend*

### **OCTOBER 25-27**

*Family Weekend*

*Dates are subject to change. Please visit [www.gettysburg.edu](http://www.gettysburg.edu) for the latest event details.*

## CANDIDATES FOR HONORARY DEGREES

**DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2024,  
FOR 2026 COMMENCEMENT**

Honorary degrees are awarded to individuals whose achievements are well-documented, have lasted over time, and will have an inspirational impact on others, especially our students. The nomination form and guidelines are available at [gettysburg.edu/honorarydegrees](http://gettysburg.edu/honorarydegrees). If you have any questions, you may email [HonoraryDegreeNominations@gettysburg.edu](mailto:HonoraryDegreeNominations@gettysburg.edu).

## NOMINATIONS TO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**DEADLINE: MARCH 10, 2024**

Alumni Association Board of Directors share a close connection to the College and provide leadership and representation for all alumni. Send your nominations—including self nominations—to alumni director *Joe Lynch '85* at [jlynch@gettysburg.edu](mailto:jlynch@gettysburg.edu) or 717-337-6522.

# CLASS NOTES

☉ indicates photo available on page 60.

## 1952

Janet Davis '58 wrote to share a note about her brother and sister-in-law: **Fred Hoenniger** and his wife, Anne, celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary in Oct. 2023. They are both 92 and enjoying life together in Fla. His great-grandfather is Dean Philip M. Bikle, chapter founder of the Sigma Chi house at Gettysburg.

## '53

**Harry "Red" Hamer**  
689 Rice Boulevard, Apt. 208  
Exton, PA 19341  
610-733-3813  
redhamer@verizon.net

## '54

**Henry "Hank" Lush** continues in good health and keeps very active. He serves on the board of the Gale Foundation and as Clerk of Session for the First Presbyterian Church. He also is on the board and an honorary director of UPMC Cole hospital. Hank has nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. **Carolyn Hutt Hunt** sent a note that she is doing well in retirement in West Brandywine, Pa. **Glenn Pannell** and his wife have made move No. 15 in their 69 years of married life. They now have a

great view into the heart of downtown Fort Worth. Glenn keeps in touch with **Kearney Kuhlthau** and **Al Comery**. **Nancy Penniman Young** writes, "I was thrilled to be present at the College this past June when G'burg gave the Distinguished Alumni Award to my roommate, **Helen-Ann Souder Comstock**. She founded The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD), which has grown globally since its beginning." Our condolences go to the families of the following classmates: **Barbara Franke Johnson** died in Sept. 2023. She was a homemaker and active member of Grace Lutheran Church in Ocean City, N.J., and Grace Lutheran Church in Somers Point, N.J. She enjoyed playing tennis, reading, sewing, and swimming. She is survived by three children, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. **James H. Lampe** was born into one of the first families to settle from Holland in the 1600s. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. After that, he moved back to N.J., where he built his own house by reading a book on how to build houses. He retired to Parrish, Fla., where he enjoyed golfing and fishing. He is survived by his wife, daughter, son, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. **Mary Lou "Mel" Martin Robertson** retired from the U.S. government (U.S. Air Force and Army), the Department of Transportation,

and Tetra Tech, Inc. of N.J. She was a 55-year member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and a past president of the Colonial Crest Civic Association. She was a member of both the Harrisburg and Hershey Civil War roundtables. She is survived by three sons, 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. **Faye Luckenbill Whitehead** was a retired schoolteacher, artist, musician, and animal guardian. After retirement, she became a certified pharmacy technician. In addition to her professional life, Faye helped lead the summer camping programs for Camp Fire Girls of America in Reading, Waynesboro, and Arendtsville, Pa. She was a member of Delta Gamma sorority, Gettysburg Honor Society, Who's Who in American Colleges, and Phi Beta Kappa. As an alumna, she was elected to the Gettysburg College Hall of Athletic Honor for basketball and field hockey. She received her master's degree from the University of Buffalo. She is survived by two sons, two sisters, and a grandson.

**Helen-Ann (Souder) Comstock**  
604 S. Washington Square, #1111  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
215-869-5125  
helenann.comstock@gmail.com

## '55

Fall has arrived here in Bethlehem, Pa.,

and the “millions and millions” of red oak and maple leaves give ample evidence of November’s arrival. We complain about the chore of gathering them in the fall, even though we were graced with their welcome shade during the hot summer months. I was privileged to reach a 23rd year as a Habitat For Humanity Core volunteer in the Lehigh Valley. My wonderful spouse of 65 years, Elaine (Bonnett) ’58, was pleased with that accomplishment because it kept me from getting “under her feet” during HFH days. In other news, Susan Burdan, via a phone conversation, informed us that her beloved husband, **Harrie Burdan**, passed away earlier in 2023. Harrie was among those who made our last formal G’burg class reunion and was a loyal alumnus through the years. Harrie and Susan made Ocala, Fla., their home, a town noted for the equine industry—“horse country,” in other words. Harrie retired from the administration of Albright College as an educational consultant. He served in the military reserves as captain. Between them, Susan and Harrie reared four children, which have resulted in six grandchildren. **Nancy Long Stratford**, died in July 2023 in her cabin in Island Park, Idaho, surrounded by her family. Nancy was a native of Stroudsburg, Pa., and later graduated from Gettysburg College majoring in biology. Professionally, she was employed at the Cystic Fibrosis Center in Albany, N.Y. From her first marriage, Nancy had three children and appropriated three more when she married Ray Stratford. She and Ray relocated to Idaho, his home state and area. She then was involved in various community groups, where she also initiated and managed a natural food co-op for a decade. Nancy loved to travel, including camping and hiking. She got involved in the preservation and history of the region and was recognized by winning the top award of Western writers for that series. In addition to her and Ray’s children, Nancy leaves 26 grandchildren and 36 great-grandchildren. That is not a typo, incidentally. We offer our condolences to

the families of our classmates. If you get some news for this column, please refer to the address, phone, and email info below. Thank you.

**Rev. Joseph Molnar**  
**4190 Park Place**  
**Bethlehem, PA 18020**  
**610-814-2360**  
**joelaine1958@gmail.com**

'56

**Georgiana Borneman Sibert**  
**729 Hilltop Lane**  
**Hershey, PA 17033-2924**  
**717-533-5396 or 717-379-8910**  
**bandsib@verizon.net**

'57

In response to my last column, I was happy to hear from **Howard Tykot**. He retired in 2000 after more than 30 years in surgical practice and teaching at the medical school in Brooklyn. He and his wife, Joan, celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary in Aug. 2023. They spend half the year in Longboat, Fla., and the other half in Princeton, N.J. He enjoys golfing and playing tournament duplicate bridge. Howard often thinks of the four wonderful years spent at G’burg. **Stuart Carswell**, a faithful correspondent, remains active and sends greetings to all ’57 alums. Ah, but that ever-flowing stream that bears us all away has made a strong presence again. **Richard C. Christensen** died Sept. 21, 2022. After graduation, Dick served six years in the U.S. Army Reserves and worked as an accountant for Hoechst Celanese (now the Celanese Corporation) for many years. Dick was an avid clock collector and enjoyed gardening. He loved the Jersey Shore and earned the unusual title “drip sandcastle master.” Dick was predeceased by his first wife, **Mildred Herrmann**. He is survived by his wife Margery, four children, two stepchildren, 11 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. **Thomas F. Bunty**

died April 19, 2023. Tom served in the U.S. Army in Japan before attending G’burg. After graduation, he earned an MBA from Penn State U and pursued a 37-year career with PPG Industries in Pittsburgh. He was an avid golfer, gardener, runner, and sports fan. Tom is survived by Nancy, his wife of 58 years; three daughters; and five grandchildren. **Nancy Lindner Schwarz** died Aug. 21, 2023. Nancy taught school in Ohio for more than 20 years and earned four Outstanding Teacher of the Year awards. Her extensive travel experiences included visits to 11 different countries. She was a constant supporter of the Humane Society of Tampa Bay and a committed caregiver of nine Maltese puppies. Nancy is survived by her husband, John Schwarz ’56; two daughters; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. **George M. Van Istendal Sr.** died Sept. 6, 2023, in Naples, Fla. Before entering G’burg, George served three years in the U.S. Navy. As a student, he had a unique job experience. He was the custodian to President Dwight Eisenhower while the president was recovering from a heart attack at his G’burg home. George worked for nearly 30 years as a partner at Markeim Chalmers Commercial Real Estate Company in Camden, N.J., and was a developer of many prime communities. George enjoyed freshwater and saltwater fishing, golfing, and traveling throughout North America and Europe. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Marilyn; three children; and six grandchildren. **Walter A. Sell** died Oct. 9, 2023. After graduation, Walter served in the U.S. Army Air Defense and later as first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves. He worked as a general manager for Sears and later a financial planner until retiring from Ameriprise Financial. Walter is survived by his wife Lynette, one son, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. We send our condolences to the families of these classmates.

**Don Helfrich**  
**7 Jeannes Way**  
**Forestdale, MA 02644**  
**pbhdrh@comcast.net**

Would you believe I found our 45th Reunion directory where we sent in pages of memories? I can't believe I've kept this for 20 years. We had a great 65th reunion with 13 members (and some spouses, children, and grandchildren) at the dinner. Those attending included **Marlene Strayer Stiffler**, **Cokie Machetzki Robrbaugh**, **Janet Bikle Hoenniger Davis**, **Joan Manges Walters**, **Ginny Moyer Seger**, **Bonnie Bankert Rice**, **Elaine Bonnett Molnar**, **Richard Brunner Jr.**, **Barry Kunkel**, **Bob Barkley**, **Mark Sibley**, **Carl Miller**, and **Dave Foreman**. Of course, we took time out to remember those who have passed away. Here are updates on some classmates that people have stayed in touch with: **Jan Petrillo Russell-Sienesi** is still living in England. **Marilyn Divan Morrow** also enjoys some friends from her college years. **Mark Sibley** visited **Danny Hamilton** at his home in Pensacola, Fla., where they visited the Naval Air Station Pensacola and watched the Blue Angels air show. While at the reunion, he and his wife visited the Adams County Historical Society's Beyond the Battle Museum and bumped into **Rich Brunner** and his wife. **Elaine Bonnett Molnar** sent info to **Beth** and **Dick Lily**, **Rachel Carl Cooper**, and **Betty Burger Cunningham** about our reunion. **Clem Peiren** is now a full-time resident of Guadalajara, Mexico. I hope to hear from him for the next issue. Now to the sad news of the chapter eternal. **Joe Gonzalez Jr.** passed away. Among his many accomplishments was his mastery of the legislative process as former president of the N.J. Business & Industry Association. He helped launch the annual Made in New Jersey Day at the State House. He served on more than 20 boards and committees as a tireless proponent for the betterment of his community and our country. He was a loyal G'burg and ATO alum. **Stephen Bishop** had an outstanding biochemistry career, working in various fields and universities with the final recognition of program officer with the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. He had a master's degree from Duke U and a Ph.D. from Rice U, with several years at Iowa State U in the zoology department. **Jaime Delgadillo**

served in the U.S. Air Force and worked for IBM and Lockheed Martin during his professional years. He was a resident of Md. **Margaret Huettenreiter Truhan** enjoyed a life well lived—married for 59 years, a mother and teacher, creative, thoughtful, and kind with lots of hobbies. Rather than a donation, please “do something kind for someone.” **Suzanne Opperman Schrogie** always enjoyed sharing laughs, stories, and many adventures. She loved exploring African wildlife and traversed the savanna with her husband, John, several times. She was a devoted animal lover and an accomplished equestrian. I can envision her happy smile. **Noel Kroncke** passed away in June 2023 after an illustrious career in the health profession. He was a member of The Joint Commission and former president of children's hospitals in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. Bucky Walters '59 offered this tribute to him: “He was a True Gentleman.” What a legacy our class has given to our world. Thank you!

**Janet Bikle Hoenniger Davis**  
407 Chamonix Drive  
Fredericksburg, VA 22405  
540-371-1045  
janhoen@verizon.net

## '59

**Nancy (Hood) Young**  
8 Medford Leas Way, #276  
Medford, NJ 08055  
609-257-3119  
nyoung@medfordleas.net

## 1960

**Donna Brogan** and partner Z. T. Daniels stopped by here on their way to G'burg for the dedication of the Donna Jean Brogan Center for Quantitative Learning (see more on page 10). “It is altogether fitting that the Center bear the name of Donna Jean Brogan because she is an innovator, breaking ground for women both in her career and in her personal achievements,” said President Bob Iuliano. “As a first-generation college student, Donna faced challenges that are familiar to many of our students today. We hope that her name and her accomplishments

will inspire them to approach these issues with the confidence that they need to overcome their own obstacles to achieve great things and make an impact in the world just as Donna has done.” From Donna: “Personally, I am very grateful to Gettysburg College for the academic education that I received. Gettysburg solidified my interest in and fascination for math, which I had held since first grade. In addition, it exposed me to statistics, via its Mathematics Department, which launched me into graduate education in statistics followed by a very enjoyable 36-plus-year academic career in biostatistics.” Donna is professor emerita of biostatistics at the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University. She and Z. T. are still active square-dancers! We had a great evening together recalling classmates and professors and our years of graduate school plus her recent trip to Antarctica (her seventh continent visited). I'm not sure I ever realized how many of our classmates went on to graduate school until our wide-ranging talk that night. That evening was followed by a visit the next week with **Herb Rigberg** in Blaine, Wash. Herb and wife Lynn followed one of their three sons to Blaine from Scottsdale, Ariz., and have adjusted well to the change from desert living to the milder-than-the-rest-of-the-Pacific-Northwest climate. Again, we compared college memories. Herb was an OB-GYN doctor in Philadelphia until one winter day he decided to leave winter behind and spent the next 40 years practicing in Ariz. They certainly seem to be enjoying the greenness of Washington! **Dan Selak** sent word of the death of **Bob Willoughby**. Dan recalled the summer after graduation when he, Bob, and **Bill Fleischman** went to Ocean City, Md., while waiting for fall plans—Bob and Bill to graduate school and Dan to Naval Aviation School. It was a summer of valeting, working at an ice cream counter, and joining a mate on an excursion sailboat. “Bob had a great sense of humor, and with his booming voice, you could always tell when he was around.”

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'61

Thank you so much for sending grist for my Class Notes mill. **Ray Mitchell** reported that nature abhors a vacuum and a preacher dislikes an empty page—a wonderful response to my plea. Ray reported that he and his wife just returned from a 15-day Viking River Cruise from Bergen, Norway; Reykjavik, Iceland; Greenland; Quebec; and Montreal, Canada, with seven stops in between. Ray highly recommends the service and amenities that Viking River Cruises provides. Adding to his exciting travel experiences, Ray spent a month in China teaching conversational English to Chinese English teachers. The Chinese people were hospitable, and smiles accomplished what our limited skills could not. **Pat Ness Smith** reports that the Class of 1961 had a “tweener” reunion luncheon on Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 13-15, 2023. It was a rainy and cool day. Thanks to Executive Director of Alumni Relations Joe Lynch '85, the group stayed warm and dry because he had us assigned to Glatfelter Lodge. There was a lot of good food, drinks, and conversation. Those attending were **Ed McCleaf**; **Sherm Hendrix**; **Gene Leber**; Sue Leber '62; **Doug Rockafellow P'86, P'89**; Janet Rockafellow P'86, P'89; Bob Smith '59; and **Pat Smith**. We are hoping to have another “tweener” for Homecoming Weekend 2024. Start passing the word! **Bill Matz** wrote that he and **Ken Tholan** and their wives, Linda and Jane, took a long bike ride in Ocean City, N.J., enjoying the beautiful September weather. **Bill Wright** and Phi Sig friends enjoyed Tom (Hoot) Johnson's Bent Creek Country Club for lunch and good times. Those Phi Sigs attending were John Wright '65, **Bill Wright**, John Reighter '60, Joe Rocklein '61, Jim Finckenaue '61, Tom (Hoot) Johnson '60, Elva Wright, Sandy Johnson, Carol Reighter, Betty Lou Rocklein, and Midge Finckenaue. It sounds like a fun event! Our deepest sympathy to the friends and families of **Joyce Smedley Reynolds** and **Stephen**

**Lawrence Wood**. If you would like more information, I have obituaries.

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'62

A nice note came from **Marianne Gelbert** recently. After two hospital stays followed by rehabs, she has relocated to assisted living in Sunrise, Fla., where she spends a lot of time on her stamp collection. Now the bad news. **Holly (Achenbach) Yohe** passed away Sept. 4, 2023, after a brief illness. She will be missed. Who has kept G'burg memorabilia like Holly did? Her job as MC at Reunion dinners will be remembered fondly and with a laugh. Days before her passing, she self-published a book, “Every Day's a Holly Day,” describing the life she led as a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot's wife, especially in Scotland and Israel. **Rick Rockefeller** passed away on May 25, 2023, in Westport, N.Y. He led an active life since college, having served on several boards of banks and charities. G'burg clearly produced a good citizen in Rick. Here's an email from **Bruce Simpson**: **Sue (Steele) Simpson** passed away from a stroke in 2020 in Franklin, Tenn. She suffered a bad head injury from a fall in 2014. Bruce's final years in business before retirement was as CEO of FedEx Custom Critical. That's all I have for now. This column gets shorter with every publication. Send me news!

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'63

“The greatness in life is to plant a tree in whose shade we will never rest.” I write this

column with sadness over the number of classmates who are no longer with us, while also inspired by the flourishing and stately trees they created. Their basic information is in our column; the College can provide more significant details. **Joshua H. Cockey** died on Saturday, June 24, 2023. Josh studied physics and worked at the Naval Support Facility in Dahlgren, Va. He is survived by his wife, Sheila, and his daughter, Elizabeth (John) and grandson, Morgan. **Duncan L. Evans** passed away on Aug. 16, 2023. Duncan studied biology and was a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program, Lambda Chi Alpha, and the wrestling team. After his service in the U.S. Army Medical Service, Duncan worked for a pharmaceutical company. He later founded a data processing consulting service. Duncan is survived by his wife of 51 years, Rebecca. **Richard Y. Gardner** died on Sept. 11, 2021. Dick studied political science and was president of TKE, vice president of IFC, and a member of the Varsity G Club. After he served as a captain in the U.S. Army, he was a manager for Haemonetics of Braintree, Mass. Dick is survived by his wife, Baerbel; his daughter, Christina (Martin); his son, Christopher (Andreia); and grandchildren Sophia and John. **Lawrence Martin Holliday** passed away on Sept. 16, 2023. Larry was an English and business major. He worked in sales at Hilton International Hotels before he co-founded Grinnell Designs Ltd. with his partner and husband, Bing de Ocampo. **Chester I. Knight** passed away on Nov. 30, 2022. After graduation from G'burg, Chet received his master's degree in teaching from Salisbury U. Most of Chet's life was spent teaching and coaching football at schools on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Chet was the driving force in the success of high school football programs there and was inducted into the schools' Hall of Fames. He is survived by his longtime partner, Mary Lou Chaney; his children, Christopher (Martha), Maryann (Edward), and Katherine (Raymond); and three grandchildren. **Heather (Ash) Moser**

passed away on Thursday, July 6, 2023. Heather studied music education, sang in the Chapel Choir, was a member of Owl and Nightingale Players, and was a sister in Phi Mu sorority. She is survived by her daughter, Heather Burton (Tammie). Heather was preceded in death by her son, Bradford Moser. **Timothy J. Schmitt** died in June 2022. While at G'burg, Tim studied economics, was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity, and was active in the Arnold Air Society, I.R.C., and Delta Phi Alpha. He is survived by his wife, Ann. I was not able to make the 60th Reunion in June as I was having instability issues while walking. **Oz Sanborn** kindly offered to walk (drag!) me to the raucous celebrations, but fortunately for him, I declined. A hip replacement has helped me, but I was deeply saddened to miss all the fun. 'Til next time, blessings to you all. Please send any news you have.

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## '64

From **Robert Linders**, Bible major: "After 43 years as senior pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Doylestown, [Pa.], I am still full time at St. Paul's but in a new position as 'Theologian in Residence.' Looking forward to our 60th reunion in May and happy to note that my 800-meter record remains unbroken after 60 years!" **Edward Salmon**, physical education major, has been married for 60 years to Marilyn. Ed has spent 27 years as an educator, teacher, coach, and administrator. For 26 years, he has been involved in local, county, and state government, as well as creating four successful companies. He is a father to son Jim and daughter Kris. **Bob Furney**, physical education major, has worked 33 years with the federal government in various agencies and activities in the Baltimore-Washington, D.C. area. He lives in Taneytown, Md. We also have two deaths to report. **Susan Merrill (Mobley)** died peacefully in Merrimack, N.H., on July 17, 2023. An English major and

education minor, Susan began her career teaching junior and senior high school English in Whitman and Hamilton, Mass. Later, she was an English teacher at Nashua High School and an ESL instructor at the Nashua Adult Learning Center. Known far and wide for her culinary creations, Susan was also an avid gardener. Other of her loves included dancing, listening to music, and reading poetry, especially the works of Robert Frost. **Dr. George E. Jefferies III** passed away on Oct. 2, 2023. A biology major, George pursued a career in medicine and earned a degree from the former Thomas Jefferson Medical College (now the Sidney Kimmel Medical College) in Philadelphia before interning at Polyclinic Hospital in Harrisburg, Pa. His education paused as he served his country as a captain in the U.S. Army, spending two years in Chicago with his wife as a military physician. Upon discharge, he would fulfill his residency at Harrisburg Hospital (now UPMC Harrisburg), becoming an OB-GYN. He has a daughter, Nancy Ross. Remember our Class Reunion, May 30, 2024. Start planning to attend. We are the class of "substance and sizzle!"

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## '65

**Jim Todd** has finally retired from teaching and misses it a lot. He's still involved in the UVA student community in some ways and treasures that. His recent lecture on James Madison for the Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution at Madison's Montpelier is available on YouTube. Jim's orange G'burg pennant and Sigma Nu cup are in the background! He also presented at our own annual Alumni College. He went sailing with **Warren Vose** last summer in Edgartown, Mass., where Warren and his wife live. And there was a trip to New Zealand, visiting friends and former students in L.A. on the way home. Sad news to report: **Bob Trullinger** died July 29, 2023. After G'burg, he received his master's degree and Ph.D. in French

history at Vanderbilt U. He taught humanities at UNC-Asheville in the 1970s and moved to Central Michigan U. In 1989, he married the love of his life, Julia Daniels. Bob sat on the Mount Pleasant, Mich., City Commission and was mayor of Mount Pleasant in 1994. In White Plains, N.Y., he worked at Empire State College. They retired to Cary, N.C., where Julia died in 2022. His longer obituary is online. We've also received word of **Eve (Swank) Smith's** death on Aug. 2, 2023. She shared 56 years of marriage with Bruce after meeting at G'burg. She was an avid reader and writer, and she loved sewing and quilting. In addition to Bruce, she is survived by three children and five grandchildren. An English major, she was active in Phi Sigma Iota, the Spanish Club and Chapel Choir. Her longer obituary is also online. **Dick Vandervoort** worked for Owens-Illinois for five years but left for RCA Computer Systems Division and joined a subsidiary of CPC International, (Hellmann's and Best Foods Real Mayonnaise, Thomas' English muffins, Entenmann's, and more) where, among other things, he built two manufacturing plants. In 2006, after 35 years, he retired as an eight-year corporate vice president. He and Bobbie Metzner '64 lived three times in N.J., three times in Ill., and three times in Calif., plus Ohio and Md. They're presently at a CCRC in Pleasanton, Calif., where he is editor-in-chief of the literary magazine, after stepping down as the co-leader of the 775-resident community. **Tom West** was a slow learner who could hardly read until age 9 or 10, a late bloomer academically. He was finally diagnosed with dyslexia at age 41 and has since become known worldwide for his scholarly studies on dyslexia and alternate types of learning. His seminal book is "In the Mind's Eye: Visual Thinkers, Gifted People with Dyslexia and Other Learning Difficulties, Computer Images and the Ironies of Creativity." He has given hundreds of talks in the U.S. and 19 foreign countries showing that brilliant people have difficulty with simple tasks, but "different thinkers" possess amazing talents. Space limitations here mean I can only point you to his very full online

presence for fascinating studies about people we all know—maybe even you.

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## '66

**Dr. Tom Hardy** retired on Oct. 31, 2023, from the Dayton Veterans Affairs Medical Center after 11 years of service as chief of staff. His long career of service began with 18 months in Vietnam as an advisor to a Vietnamese unit. He was an Airborne Ranger and awarded a Combat Infantryman Badge in 1968. He graduated from medical school in 1980. Tom was a U.S. Army flight surgeon at Fort Rucker, Ala., in 1983, attended the Army War College from 1984 to 1985, commanded the Irwin Army Community Hospital in Fort Riley, Kan., from 1995 to 1998, and retired as colonel in 1998. He was a private sector physician executive from 1998 to 2012. Tom considers himself one of the luckiest men on earth—thankful for each day. When he left Vietnam, he swore he would never complain about anything for the rest of his life and has held true to that practice. He is married and has two children and one grandchild. **Susan Dean Feder** passed away on March 25, 2003, in Vineland, N.J. after a short illness. After graduating as a French major, she returned to Vineland and began a career as a high school English teacher, which continued until her retirement. Susan was married to **Steve Feder**, a high school and a College classmate who predeceased her. In addition to her teaching, Susan loved animals, classical music, boating, and Ocean City, N.J., where she had a second home for many years. She traveled extensively in North America and Europe with her mother and friends, which included several G'burg classmates. **James Jardine** died on Oct. 22, 2022. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the

Chemical Corps of the U.S. Army. He served in France and Germany and left the Army as a captain. He worked for the government in Washington, D.C.; Texarkana, Texas; and Huntsville, Ala. He obtained master's degrees in urban studies and urban and regional planning. An avid traveler and amateur photographer, Jim and his wife visited all seven continents and 39 different countries. He retained a great interest in military history, especially World War II, and particularly enjoyed European war museums. **Karen Caddell Frank** of Franklin Township, Pa., passed away on June 16, 2023. After G'burg, she received her RN from the U of Delaware. She was an outdoor person who loved horses and dogs. Karen competed in horse shows annually, including the Devon Horse Show. She also was a hiker for 45 years in local, state, and federal parks as well as Europe. **Gary T. Hawbaker** died on Aug. 15, 2023. He received a master's degree from Penn State. As time allowed during his 30 years of teaching, and full time after he retired, Gary avidly researched and published numerous genealogies, collections of transcribed letters from the Civil War era, and collected volumes of historical photos, diaries, and letters used in his writing. His greatest labor of love was his in-depth research of his family. In later years, besides his research, he raised orchids, enjoyed watching wildlife, and regularly kept in touch with his many friends.

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## '67

**Joanne Eckmann Kushall** passed on Aug. 24, 2023, at 78. She was born in Deptford, N.J., in 1945 to Ken and Mihs Eckmann. Soon after graduating from G'burg with a B.S. in biology, Joanne married Joe Kushall Jr. and enjoyed 30 happy years together. Joanne is survived by her daughters Jennifer

(Shane) Howat and Jessica (John) Norris; her brother, James "Jim" Eckmann; and her grandson, Tyler Howat. She was preceded in death by her husband. **Jean Bidlack Eddowes** also passed on July 17, 2023. She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Wayne A. Eddowes. Born June 23, 1945, in Danville, Pa., she received a B.A. in English from G'burg, was salutatorian of her class, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She received a Master of Education in English from Penn State U. Jean was employed by the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU), a Pennsylvania regional education service agency, for 25 years, serving as a public relations specialist for several years before her retirement in 2001. Jean loved spending time with her family, vacationing with them on Hilton Head Island, and supporting her grandsons in their activities. I received the following from Andy Mickley '70 concerning the passing of **John Andrew Marsh**, which brought to mind those in our class who paid the ultimate sacrifice. In Mickley's words: "The Vietnam War had such a profound influence on many of us who graduated from G'burg in the late 1960s and early 1970s. ...I was reminded of this era when visiting The Wall That Heals. A mobile replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., the traveling exhibit bears the names of the 58,281 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. I visited 'The Wall' on Veterans Day. Just like when I've walked along the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, I was surprisingly and profoundly moved to see the names inscribed there. They represent so many people whose lives were shortened by the war. One of these was my fraternity brother, John Andrew 'Andy' Marsh. Andy was a terrific person with a ready smile and an outgoing personality. Everyone who met him loved him. Andy joined AFROTC and served on an EC-121R reconnaissance aircraft out of Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base. On April 25, 1969, 1st Lt. Andy Marsh and his crew began an operational mission. The weather was poor with



thunderstorms around the field. Shortly after getting airborne, the EC-121R encountered a severe wind shear which forced the heavily laden aircraft into the ground, where it exploded and burned. Although rescue crews arrived at the crash site within minutes, none of the 18 air crewmen aboard survived the crash. Andy Marsh was 25 years old. And so, on Veterans Day 2023, 54 years after Andy's death, I took this picture of his name, and I remembered Andy Marsh—fraternity brother, friend, and a man who served in a controversial war that produced wounds that, for many, are still healing.”

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## '68

Yes, it is true that there were some hearing aids that had to be turned up, some knees that had to be coddled, and some dear classmates who were no longer with us, but it is safe to say that all who attended our 55th Reunion in June had a good time. I did not wish to carry around pad and pencil, so you will have to send any news you have in the old manner. One person, who has never attended a Reunion and rues it a bit, did write. **Joe Costa** has had a successful career in acting and thanks G'burg for giving him a great and supportive start. Although he still acts on occasion, he is now more concentrated on teaching acting. Check out his website, joe-costa.com, for what he is offering in the Portland, Ore., area. Unfortunately, I must report some more deaths. **Stu O'Neal** died in Sept. 2021. After leaving G'burg, he attended U.S. Naval Officer Candidate School and served two tours as a riverboat commander in the “Brown Water” Navy in Vietnam. He continued to serve on various charitable boards until his death. **Charles Davies** died in Sept. 2023. After G'burg, he served as a training officer at Fort Bragg and as military police officer and provost marshal in Thailand. After receiving a master's degree in accounting at SUNY Albany, he worked at

the N.Y. State Department of Taxation until he retired. We mourn with these classmates' families and friends.

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## '69

**Fred Schumacher** was one of the featured speakers at a July ceremony in Frederick, Md., commemorating the 70th anniversary of the armistice in the Korean War. Fred also acquired more athletic kudos, participating in the Md. Senior Olympics in Aug. 2023, where he medaled in the six events he entered. The only other news I have to share is, sadly, the loss of three more of our classmates. **Delmar Crum** passed away comfortably at his home on June 1, 2023. Delmar was a graduate from Biglerville High School in Biglerville, Pa. After graduating from the College, he spent a brief period teaching at Governor Thomas Johnson High School in Frederick, Md., and then 30 years teaching biology at his alma mater, Biglerville High School. He was known as the “voice of the Cannons” and announced Friday night football games for two decades. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Adena; two sons; a daughter; five granddaughters; and a brother. **John J. Donovan III**, “Jack” or “JJ,” lost his short battle with pancreatic cancer on July 3, 2023. After G'burg, Jack spent his time in the tire industry working for Valley Tire Corporation in Charleroi, Pa., and was considered a true master, according to several industry publications. He loved antique cars and Harley Davidson motorcycles, and he and his wife traveled many miles on their Harleys with friends to Western states and national parks. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Patricia, a son; a brother; and a granddaughter. **Alan Brent Rice**, a banking law writer and publisher, died in Frederick, Md., on Sept. 14, 2023. After graduating from G'burg, Rice enlisted in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Vietnam as a military policeman, where he earned the Bronze Star Medal, National Defense Service

Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Good Conduct Medal. Upon his return from service, Rice worked briefly at G'burg National Military Park, where he met his future wife, Patricia. He then attended the U of Va. School of Law and was inducted into the Md. State Bar Association. In addition to his wife, Rice is survived by his son- and daughter-in-law.

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## 1970 ☉

I hope everyone had a good summer! It was dry in Md. I'm sad that the summer is over. It hasn't been an easy column to write—I had about half done and saved it like I always do, but the computer wasn't cooperating, and I had to rewrite it all! Thanks so much to **Mary Ann McFaul Bonos** for calling me on the phone to tell me of the passing of **Ginny Pfromm Ahearn**. Ginny passed away on April 29, 2023. She is survived by her loving husband Charles; a daughter, Robin Brosius and her husband Fred; granddaughters Luna and Lyra; sisters Cathy Krasely and her husband Bruce, and Linda Zimmerman and her husband Fred; her brother Robert and his wife, Maureen; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews. Ginny was a member of the Harford Congressional Church, where she served on Council and treasurer for 27 years, as well as teaching Sunday school. She was also a 4H and Girl Scout leader. Her interests included raising sheep, chickens, and Scottish Highland cows; baking rye bread; attending Montrose Area Adult School classes; making baskets; gardening; traveling; volunteering at the St. Francis of Assisi kitchen in Scranton, Pa.; and reading, especially with her friends at Ladies of the Lake Book Club. During her later years, Ginny learned to play bridge, enjoying the challenge and friendship. Kasey Varner '14 wrote to let me know that **Donald Brobst's** daughter, Shannon Brobst '15, married her longtime partner, Tom Renninger, in May 2023, in Wilkes Barre, Pa. Kasey was a bridesmaid in the wedding.

Andrew Mickley '70 wrote that he has hiked to the highest points in all 50 states! Way to go, Andy! I hope everyone has a great winter.

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71

I've not had too many formal items submitted from our classmates for this edition of the alumni magazine. Informally, folks have shared that they have resumed travel and visits to places on their bucket list(s) and are able to enjoy times with friends and family again. Here's one submission from our classmate **Mark Ellingsen**. A philosophy (and religion) major, Mark has just written and published his own philosophical system, called the Philosophy of Waves. It's the latest alternative to the likes of Process philosophy and existentialism. In his book, "Reality and Waves: A Quantum Physics Cosmology, Philosophy of Religion, and Ethic" (Lexington Books, 2023), Mark notes that since physics teaches that matter is wavelike, then the universe must be nothing but a bunch of waves, and the good life is best lived as a game of jumping and riding the waves of life—sort of like a fun day at the beach. Another book recently released—this one is already getting some media attention—is written with a young Civil Rights leader and former student of Ellingsen, James Woodall: "Wired For Racism? How Evolution and Faith Move Us to Challenge Racial Idolatry" (New City Press, 2022)." Mark and his wife Betsey celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year with a trip to and throughout the wilderness and Arctic regions of Alaska. With retirement finally coming—although he's still got a bunch more books slated for publication and is also writing articles for publication on how to cope with the challenges of AI—they

plan on lots more travel to exotic, off-the-beaten-path locales. I'm informed from the College staff that we've lost classmates **Dean S. Thomas** from the Gettysburg and Biglerville, Pa., area; **James E. Stevenson III** from the Lansdale, Pa., area; **John E. Fleming** from the Newport, Va., area, and **Greg E. Grybowski** from the Harrisburg, Pa., area. My sincere best wishes to all for safe, secure, and happy times in the 2024 new year!

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 **Gettysburg College Class of 1971**

72

Here's what I did this summer—a Kenyan safari with G'burg. Lions, elephants, zebras, giraffes, hippos, rhinos, and cheetahs just scratch the surface of what we saw on the vast and beautiful Kenyan savanna of the Masai Mara National Reserve. A sunrise hot air balloon ride skimming the grasses, the treetops, and a sky view of the reserve were followed by a champagne breakfast. We saw elephant herds at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro and had conversations with Masai tribesmen. And all were put into perspective by G'burg Environmental Studies Prof. Natasha Gownaris '09, who energetically shared her insight on how the animals of Africa adapted to and impacted the environment they live in. Georgene '73 and I traveled happily with 20 other G'burg alums, including **Maggie Childs**. It was great to reconnect with Maggie. She recently retired from the U of Kan., where she was a professor of Japanese language and literature for 35 years. Maggie enjoys horseback trail riding and backpacking in her spare time. As a continued celebration of our 50th anniversary, Georgene and I went on a six-week road trip to the Grand Canyon, and we stopped in Boulder, Colo., to see

**Chris Knud-Hansen**. He had just returned from a trip to Egypt and Jordan that included a week of scuba diving in the Red Sea. Chris has lived for more than 10 years in Latin America and Southeast Asia, mostly for academic positions. He continues to be active as a freshwater ecologist. Chris has called Boulder home for nearly 40 years and has a son and daughter who are establishing their careers in the area. However, his father was born and raised in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and was a fifth-generation West Indian descendant from 18th century colonists. Chris is considering moving back to his tropical "homeland" next year for many reasons, including to enjoy Cruzan rum with an ocean view and to never shovel snow again. Sadly, we mourn the loss of two of our classmates, **Corinne Stump Fairbairn** and **Douglas George Baugher**. Corinne passed away on Sept. 13, 2023. She lived in Lititz, Pa., with her husband Roy. After graduating from G'burg College, she and Roy were married in 1972 and had two daughters, Laura and Alison, and five grandchildren. Corinne spent most of her career as an administrative assistant with firms in Lancaster. In her spare time, Corinne enjoyed making greeting cards, especially around the holidays, and spending time with her friends and family. Doug passed away on July 13, 2023. Born in G'burg, Doug got a Ph.D. from PSU in 1978. He launched his career in N.J. and Md. before returning to his hometown with his family in 1993, where he ran his own consulting company for more than 30 years. He also enjoyed doting on his dogs and exploring the country and world. Two of his favorite destinations were Acadia National Park and Yellowstone National Park. His final adventure was a trip to China with his children, Kathryn and Gregory.

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'73

**Albert “Skip” Kabler** wrote to share how much he and his wife Sallie '72 enjoyed their 50th reunions and to encourage other class years to attend. In his note, he wrote: “We were surprised by how much we enjoyed our time there. None of our former roommates or other close friends were attending, so the idea of participating felt a bit awkward. But it turns out our bond with G’burg was strengthened almost like when people renew wedding vows. We had retired to Fla. in 2017 after living in N.M. for 12 years, so G’burg was not easy access for us. Skip’s work at the Los Alamos National Laboratory involved considerable international travel. And over the course of our 52 years together, we have visited all 50 states and lived in nine of them. But no place tugs at our hearts like G’burg. So, when Reunion time approached, we were eager to attend. In our 48 hours there, we had a full range of experiences, some of them giving us a new perspective on circumstances during our college days. Among the highlights: a variety of lectures, ‘small-world’ moments, humorous anecdotes, inspirational narratives, and truly surprising revelations. You just never know what curve awaits you on the road back to G’burg. Be sure to travel it!” **Jane Buckingham** also reached out to share that she has been living in Brattleboro, Vt., since 1990 and working at the School for International Training (SIT) for 28 years. During that time, she earned a master’s degree in counseling psychology from Antioch U New England and became a licensed clinical mental health counselor. She retired from SIT as director of counseling and disability services five years ago, but she continues with other interests: serving as a justice of the peace for the town of Brattleboro, volunteering at our community hospice, and participating in a local writing group. She has two sons, one living in Calif., and the other in Vt. Although she did not attend this summer’s College Reunion, she recently had a mini-reunion in Brattleboro with Suzanne Fauber '73. Classmates can reach her at [janebuckingham@yahoo.com](mailto:janebuckingham@yahoo.com). In her note, Jane also shared a few thoughts and a touching tribute from the late

Sen. John McCain of **Diana Tabler Forbes**, who passed away in 2015. In his tribute, McCain recognized her three decades of public service and the central role she played in responding to both international crises and domestic challenges. He particularly noted her role in shaping the military health system; her work providing military medical support after the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001; and her role in the reconstruction of health systems in Iraq after the U.S. invasion. McCain noted what many of her classmates likely remember: Diana’s limitless energy and passion for the well-being of service members and their families. “She ensured everyone in Congress remembered who we served and why we served them. She knew how to cut through the bureaucracy and provide real solutions for those in need.”

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'74

The most important news is that our 50th Reunion is coming up this year, May 30–June 2. Don’t miss it! If you’ve been thinking about returning to campus and haven’t been there for many years, now is the time to come! The Reunion planning committee, led by **Paul Nix** and **Bonnie Stephan Hampton** (thank you!), is working hard to make our few days together fun and fulfilling. On Thursday before the weekend officially begins, the Alumni College will be held, offering classes on interesting and unique subjects. If you have an interesting career or a particular passion or hobby that you think would make for a good topic, please let the Office of Alumni Relations know. Last year’s 50th Reunion featured a few classmates who “taught” Alumni College classes. Their unique classes were very well received. On Saturday morning of Reunion Weekend, there will be a breakfast for our class hosted by President Bob Iuliano. This breakfast will be a great opportunity to meet the president. Look online for

more information on Reunion Weekend. **Marilyn McVicker** has written a new book of poetry, “Long Field Hollow.” A review of her book states, “Marilyn’s newest collection of poems offers a capsule of the beauty, joy, magnificence, and silence that living in a remote mountain oasis affords her.” You can find more information about Marilyn’s writing on her website, [marilynmcvicker.org](http://marilynmcvicker.org). Her book is available on Amazon. I recently learned of the passing of classmate **William F. Scudder**, who died in May 2023. We send his family our sincere condolences. **Bill Heyman** is retiring from his position as CEO in the executive search firm he founded 35 years ago, Heyman Associates. Congrats to Bill on a highly successful career. Once again, please be sure to join our classmates for the 50th Reunion! Many of you may not have had your 50th high school reunions in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so don’t miss your 50th Reunion at Gettysburg College!

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'75

**Rich Horowitz** shared that he and his wife Debbie now split their time between condominiums—one at their home base of Moorestown, N.J., and the other in Orleans, Mass. In Sept. 2023, they enjoyed a visit with Rich’s college roommate, **Merle Black** and his wife Susan. Rich visited Merle in June 2022 at the Blacks’ home outside Cincinnati, Ohio. Merle and Rich are retired educators, and their wives are retired nurse practitioners. In May 2023, Rich also got together with his friend **Brian Naas**. Brian spends most of his time living in Bangkokorowio, Thailand, but comes to the United States every few years to spend time with family and friends. During their visit, Brian and Rich took a trip to one of my favorite places, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y. In Oct. 2023, my wife Catherine and I shared an enjoyable lunch with **Stan (Lee) Blazejewski** and his wife Debbie. They were in Louisville attending a

veterinary dentistry and oral surgery conference. After earning his biology degree at G'burg and a master's degree at Villanova, Lee attended the U of Pa. School of Veterinary Medicine. With his wife (a nurse whom he met at Penn), Lee ultimately ran a small animal and avian practice in Chadds Ford, Pa. In 2005, Lee returned to Penn for specialty training. He is now retired but still active in mentoring plus peer review and certification in this field. Lee and Debbie enjoy traveling and outdoor activities, spending time at the Chesapeake Bay, and refurbishing their old stone house in Kennett Square, Pa. They most recently visited Mackinac Island, Mich., with a swing by Milwaukee to see **Bill (Fed) Fedoryshyn** and his family. While in Louisville, Lee and Debbie enjoyed walking tours plus time on the Ky. bourbon trail and at the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory. Debbie's stage 4 cholangiocarcinoma was not on their retirement agenda, but they celebrate that treatment success has exceeded expectations. They are living every day to the fullest! Dr. Anne (Kuhlmann) Taylor '66 shared the sad news of her sister **Celia Kuhlmann's** death on Oct. 13, 2023, in Linwood, N.J. Celia graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.A. in business administration and an accounting focus. She was active in the Chi Omega sorority and the Pan Hellenic Council. Celia clearly knew the career path ahead of her. She earned her MBA in 1981 at The George Washington University School of Business and later her Certified Public Accountant license. Celia started her working career in the Washington, D.C., area before moving to the NYC area, where she spent 27 years with the American Insurance Group. She retired in April 2022 as their associate director of global tax research and modeling. Upon retirement, Celia moved back to Linwood, N.J., to spend time with family including her sister Anne, niece Amanda, and nephew Benjamin. Celia has established and funded the Celia J. Kuhlmann Scholarship at Gettysburg College, to which she would welcome contributions

from her Gettysburg friends.

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'76

*Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates? Contact Joe Lynch '85 in the Alumni Relations Office (jlynch@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6522) or Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.*

'77

J. Stephen Woodside, Esq. has been included in Marquis Who's Who in America as a civil trial and appellate lawyer specializing in employment and labor litigation. He was licensed in Pa. in 1985 and in N.J. in 1986. Since 1993, he has built a prolific trial career as a sole practitioner at J. Stephen Woodside, P.C. Steve has tried more than 100 major civil jury and non-jury trials to verdict and has argued more than 55 appeals in the intermediate appellate courts and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. In addition to employment matters, he has tried major cases in the areas of civil rights, federal and state Constitutional law, construction, contract, commercial and business law, equity, injunctions, legal malpractice, and personal injury over his career. He has appeared pro hac vice as trial counsel in Del., D.C., Mo., Md., and W.V. Steve earned his J.D. in 1985 from Ohio Northern U Pettit College of Law. Steve has a peer review rating of Distinguished. He has been recognized as one of the Top-Rated Lawyers in Pennsylvania in 2023, a Lawyer of Distinction in 2019, and one of the Top 1% of America's Most Honored Professionals in 2023. A significant number

of his cases have impacted the course of American law, establishing legal precedent as reported decisions in the federal and state courts. Steve shared with me that he attributes this most recent honor to years of late nights, ruined weekends, a very understanding family, and the attraction of adrenaline and risk and theater that comprises every single trial and case. Looking toward the future, Steve aspires to continually litigate complex cases and has no plans to slow down. **Dr. Robert Banco**, a board-certified orthopedic spinal surgeon, has been named a Boston Magazine Top Doctor for the sixth consecutive year. The Becker's Spine Review listed Robert as one of the top 102 spine surgeons who have made significant contributions to the field of spine surgery through research, innovation, or leadership positions. He was spine section chief in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the New England Baptist Hospital from 1997 to 2007. During his tenure, the spine section produced more than 150 publications and presentations and participated in 12 U.S. FDA IDE studies. For more than 15 years, Robert was the president and senior partner at the Boston Spine Group. In 2015, he started the Boston Spine Care Group practice. He has been in practice in Boston for 33 years. He is an associate clinical professor in orthopedic surgery at Tufts U School of Medicine. **Dr. Richard Gennaro** of Point Pleasant Beach, N.J., passed away on Nov. 9, 2021, in West Palm Beach, Fla. Ricky was a dentist who practiced general and restorative dentistry and was licensed to practice in N.J., N.Y., and Fla. In more recent years, he authored several published articles on dentistry topics. Ricky had many passions in life, including boxing, music, theater, acting, and cooking. He loved engaging in conversations with people he knew and people he met. Ricky enjoyed learning languages and was fluent in several. He spent a great deal of time in Fla. with his girlfriend Graca, his lifelong partner of more than 40 years, and loved traveling to Brazil with her. They visited an

orphanage in Brazil numerous times to donate clothing and other items and spend time with the children.

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## '78

I heard from **Beth Carnahan O'Sullivan**. On June 30, 2023, after 20 years, she retired from teaching leadership communication skills to MBA students at Rice U's Jones Graduate School of Business. Beth plans to keep offering executive coaching and consulting services but is looking forward to a lot more travel and volunteering. Good for you, Beth! Beth reported that **Kurt** and **Nancy Kramer** are also retired and living in G'burg. They volunteer extensively with the town, YMCA, and area homeless programs. Another good friend of Beth's, **Donna Crudeli**, was also planning to be retired by the time this magazine goes to print. Donna, we need you to fill in the details! It looks like the G'burg spirit of volunteerism lives on with the Class of '78 retirees. I would love to hear from the rest of our retirees about what you're up to!

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## '79

**Karen (Tykal) Smith** and her husband Don have lived in Colorado Springs, Colo., for 29 years. Of their two daughters, one lives in Sweden while the other is in Colorado Springs as well. Karen retired from her school district in 2020. She loves retired life, especially grandma time, and stays active helping local homeless families and teens, a refugee Afghan family, and her local alumnae chapter of Alpha Delta Pi. **Cathy (Knight) Ostermueller** retired in 2022 after serving as director of the Metuchen Senior Center for 12 years.

She and Gary '80 still live in Metuchen, N.J., and traveled to Paris and Mallorca in July 2023. **Barb (Myhre) Koch** and Rob '76 had a fabulous time biking, dining out, and exploring Hilton Head Island, S.C., with **Tori (Beach) Hickerson** and her husband, Tom. **Cindy (Williams) Pitera** lives happily in Mass. and welcomes visitors! She keeps in touch with **Carolyn Zygmunt** and **Bill Butler** and got together with **Bob** and **Suzanne (Moore) LeComte** in Oct. 2023. **Hope (Dyer) Luken**, **Anne (Peitz) Remetz**, **Cindy (Eni) Yingling**, **Marianne (Miller) Yingling**, **Barb (Bright) Henderson**, Anne (Pulliam) Perry '78, Jane (Holmes) Hollingsworth '80, and Robin Yingst got together in Exton, Pa., when **Jill (Fausold) Baroni** and her husband Ron were in from Australia, where they have been living for some time. Jill and Ron came to watch their grandson play in a hockey tournament. **Anne (Peitz) Remetz** and her husband, Nelson '80, explored national parks in the RV they recently bought. Tom and **Kim (Bennett) Close**'s youngest child Eric was married in the fall, making it Tom and Kim's third wedding of a child within a year! Other weddings were son Drew '12 and daughter Cassie '13. **Karen (Jones) Sabatino** and Kim recently enjoyed an outing at the Mercer Museum in Doylestown, Pa. **Bob Ehlinger** reports that he and his wife Sherry just welcomed their second granddaughter in April 2023. Bob had the opportunity to attend the Phillies vs. Braves playoff game with fellow Phi Delts Craig Sabatino '78, Mitch Madden '75, Scott Kintzing '74, and Tom Shusted '77, where the Fightin' Phils won 10-2. Back in 1987, Bob rode in his first bike-a-thon for cancer. Last summer marked his 45th year as a cancer survivor, so he and his sister participated in this year's 66-mile bike-a-thon. Congratulations are definitely in order! Speaking of 45 years, next summer is our 45th Reunion weekend, May 30-June 2, 2024. **Paul Welliver** and **Anne Hanley Casillo** are working hard to make it "Gettysburg Great"! On a sad note, I learned of the passing of **Gordon E. Summers** on Sept. 20, 2023, in Steelton, Pa. An economics major, Gordon worked as an engineer for more than two decades with Verizon. We extend condolences to

his wife, Elizabeth Ann Tate Summers, and his extended family. I also learned that **Claire (Wilmot) Kraft**'s husband of 39 years, Canning, died unexpectedly on Nov. 4, 2023. In addition to Claire, he is survived by their children Courtney and Canning III and one grandchild. Heartfelt sympathies are extended to Claire and Canning's family.

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1979](#)

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## 1980

Age is just a number, right? Several of our classmates have reported celebrating a milestone birthday with old G'burg pals. **Mary Fitzgerald**, **Sue Bryers**, **Sue Clark**, **Sue Kinzer Brundage**, **Randy Brundage**, **Maryellen Byko Kenny**, Phil Kenny, **Libby Crawford Evans**, Tim Evans, **Heidi Erickson Butcher**, and John Butcher '79 gathered for a fjord cruise through Norway and Denmark. **Susan Doyle** traveled to Portland, Ore., to celebrate with **Pat Steele Nielsen**, which included, among other things, matching "hello 65" T-shirts in G'burg blue. The "Stratton Street Six," **Laura Burke Heckler** (Utah), **Lisa Morton Bruce** (Pa.), **Pam Gaborko Neighbors** (Pa.), **Karen Ziegler Goldfine** (Ga.), and **Susan Schmitt Bryja** (Ga.) met in Philadelphia to celebrate their birthdays and the wedding of Mike Murray (**Sue Speakman** and Neal Murry's son). I had the pleasure of attending the wedding of Andrew Garson, **Anne Williams Bebe**'s youngest son, in Stockton, N.J. David Schaffer and his bride Susan became Fla. residents in April 2023 and bought a home in the St. Petersburg area. They will be splitting their time between Md. and Fla. Their first guest was **Glenn Smart**. **Scott Erickson**, **Nancy Jewell Erickson**, and Dave Thorpe '82 are scheduled for later this year. **Wes Jones** wrote to say that his youngest daughter, Kersey '27, was awarded a Presidential Scholarship and that he was on campus helping her to move into Rice Hall. Wes has six children and

16 grandchildren, and he was recently inducted into the Oklahoma Soccer Hall of Fame. Wes qualified to be on “Jeopardy!” for the third time and credits his time on the College Bowl team with **John Cipollini** in 1976 to 1977 and 1977 to 1978 for developing this lifelong interest. Finally, **Dr. Steven Jirgal** was inducted into the Gettysburg College Hall of Athletic Honor in Oct. 2023 for his accomplishments in men’s track. Steve serves as an associate minister at Lee Park Church in Monroe, N.C., and has authored his 20th book, “Hidden Treasures.” Steve and his wife Pam just returned from a 17-day mission trip to Malawi, Africa. They also traveled to Annapolis, Md., to attend **Bob Long’s** son’s wedding. Classmates **Doug Lieberman** and **Jolee Emery Lieberman**, as well as **Jeff Cuddeback**, will be in G’burg to celebrate with Steve and his family! Doug and Jolee live in Flourtown, Pa. Jolee is the teaching director for the local chapter of Community Bible Study, and Doug is a medical equipment planner. They spend their free time with several grandchildren who live in the area. Finally, I have just learned of the passing of our classmate **Peter Drake, D.D.S.** Please keep Marcella (Marci) Stiffler Drake ’80, their daughter Jessica L. Drake ’11, and their entire family in your thoughts and prayers. Don’t forget to write, call, text, and let me know if you have retired, and if you have, how you are spending your time!

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'81

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2024. My mailbox is empty this time around. Let me know if you might be interested in taking over our Class of '81 column and giving it a fresh perspective.

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'82

We have a few updates this time around! This past summer, **Beth (Martin)** and **John Critchley** cruised from Copenhagen to Bergen, Norway, with **Scott** and **Terri Woodcock**. They had a great trip—and stumbled across a G’burg connection while visiting the Bryggens Museum in Bergen. As they waited for their tour to begin, the woman at the reception desk suggested they visit the special photography exhibit upstairs—where they were stunned to discover a very large G’burg logo on the exhibit description and credits. The exhibit can be found here: <https://bymuseet.no/event/across-the-west-toward-the-north>. In other cruise news: **Mary Jane Danilek Pianko**, her husband Chuck ’79, and MJ’s G’burg roomie **Susan Faulhaber Seader** and her husband Francis took a Viking Cruise on the Seine from Paris to Normandy. They planned this trip after spending time together at our 40th Reunion; MaryJane said the group was overwhelmed with the American Cemetery. And, last summer, **Lawrence Cuneo**, **Pete Gambee**, **Tom Duane**, and their wives gathered in Washington, D.C., to celebrate the marriage of **Rick Cole’s** son. Then, last fall, Lawrence was re-elected to a fourth term as mayor in his town. Congrats! Please be sure to stay in touch via our Facebook group: Gettysburg College Class of 1982! We’d love to hear about travel, mini-reunions, work, retirement, and family milestones—whatever you’ve been up to! Be well, friends.

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1982](#)

'83

I know everyone who attended will want to join me in thanking our 40th Reunion committee for putting on one heck of a bash. At least 84 of us showed up—that’s how many were in the photo, anyway—and it was a wonderful welcome home. I wasn’t able to attend the Alumni College classes, but I heard from several people that they enjoyed the presentations—and that there was not a Blue Book in sight! Thanks to **Bill** and **Susan (Eicholtz) Pyron** for being kind (and brave) enough to open their home, too. I caught up with fellow College choristers **Rich Hurlbrink** and **John Geracimos** (who, by the way, became a newlywed this past fall) there, as well as ROTC classmate **Raul Marin**. Raul is a retired colonel and an M.D. in Texas. He served in Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 101st Airborne Division, and as we learned Saturday night, he’s a terrific dancer. I was especially honored to talk with retired **Lt. Gen. Flora Darpino**, who was the first woman to serve as the Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Army. As much as I imagined myself walking around with pad and pen in hand, talking to everyone and jotting down your achievements, anecdotes, and what were surely witty bon mots, the G’burg spirit overtook me, and I found myself just joining in the fun. Saturday night’s reception was wonderful—the DJ spun some great tunes, and I was deeply impressed by the fact that many of you could still get all the way to the floor—and back up—during “Rock Lobster.” And although far too many of us can recall all—and I mean all—of the words to “Rapper’s Delight,” I suspect I’m not the only one who walks into rooms and can’t remember why I did so. To the folks who put the slideshow together, I say, “Well done!” The All-Class Party in the CUB Ballroom was a great end to the evening. Sharing a table with old friends like **Seth Statler** and **Annette Lange**—who seem not to have aged a day—and so many others, I was reminded of the best part of G’burg: the people. **Anthony Pierce** couldn’t join us,

but he dropped a line from Ga. to say he'd given up coaching college football and moved into life insurance—and the theater, where he recently played Maj. Metcalf in Agatha Christie's "Mousetrap." He also mentioned he'd been kayaking in "the shark-infested waters of Tampa Bay" with **Joyce (Chambers) Barron**. Now a personal note: After two years as your class correspondent, I'm stepping down. I'm still working full time and keeping busy with a couple of nonprofit boards. Equally important, though, is that I live on the West Coast, where I can't get back as often to run into y'all at the Whole Foods or alumni events. I hope one of you will take the pen—er, keyboard—and have as much fun as I have had writing this column. Cheers!

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## '84

Greetings to our fellow classmates from the Class of 1984 who will be celebrating 40 years on May 30 to June 2, 2024—40 years since our Commencement from Gettysburg College to the world! A group has gathered already to begin to plan the festivities, and we hope for great participation. Stay tuned! If you can't make the Reunion in person, perhaps you can plan to return to the campus during this anniversary year. Better yet, maybe you can consider giving a gift to the College in honor of our 40th! I recently heard from **Ed McGrath**, who remarked he always enjoys reading this magazine and thinks I need to update **Dave Schafer** on how I'm doing. Eddie retired from his career as a science teacher and science curriculum supervisor in Wilmington, Del., in June 2022. Then, he and his husband Charlie fulfilled a lifelong dream and moved to Valencia, Spain, in Sept. 2022. They own a flat and are enjoying the wonderful food, culture, and history of this amazing country. Speaking of retirement, Lexi and I have determined July 2025 as our retirement month. I will have been the pastor of St. Benjamin's Lutheran Church in Westminster, Md., for 30 years then and

have been ordained a pastor for 37 years. We're headed to N.C. to the Emerald Isle Beach area. We received word that **Mark D. Cavallero**, age 60, of Frenchtown, N.J., passed away Monday, Nov. 28, 2022. Born July 22, 1962, in Union, N.J., he was the son of Dominick and Marie (Terzella) Cavallero. His dad predeceased him. Mark was a decorated athlete and received many awards for football and track throughout high school and college. On Oct. 14, 1989, Mark married the love of his life, Nicole (Montesano). Together they raised two children, Justin and Sydney, whom he adored. Mark owned and operated Cavallero Construction, Inc. Mark was extremely hard-working and was proud of the numerous homes and renovations he completed throughout New Jersey. Mark always gave back to his community. He volunteered his time for several organizations including Christmas in April, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, and coaching youth football for the Colonia Patriots and Del Val Dogs. A true outdoorsman, he could often be found enjoying his time boating, fishing, camping, and coaching. His favorite pastime was spending time with his beloved family. Mark will be forever missed by his loving wife, Nicole; his son, Justin Cavallero; his daughter, Sydney Cavallero; his mother, Marie Cavallero; and his sisters, Diane Jacob and Lisa Cavallero. Also surviving are many nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, and friends who love him dearly. Mark will forever be remembered for his warm smile, generosity, and pure heart. Our sympathies to Mark's family. To our other classmates, keep us up-to-date on how things are going for you. See you in June, we hope!

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## '85

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## '86

Greetings, Class of '86! Thank you to this amazing Class of '86 for sending me frequent updates. It is always so nice to receive emails with your news. **Chris Droogan** wrote to let us know that he and his wife Barb became grandparents in Nov. 2022. Their oldest daughter had a beautiful baby girl. He is so excited about this new chapter! Chris is a cardiologist and the medical director of advanced heart failure at Lankenau Medical Center in Wynnewood, Pa., where he has practiced for the past 27 years. Congrats, Chris, and enjoy your granddaughter. **Nancy Finney Legath** sent in an update that she just earned her doctorate in education (Ed.D.) in cognitive studies in literacy at Widener U. Her research topic was "The Effects of Participation in Socratic Seminar on Critical-Thinking Skills," focusing on elementary students. Nancy is a K-5 literacy specialist in the Downingtown Area School District entering her 25th year of teaching. Nancy is now Dr. Finney Legath! Congratulations on this amazing achievement. Nancy also wrote that she and her college roommate, **Suzanne Vaughan Simmons**, see a lot of each other; Suzanne lives close by in West Chester, Pa. Suzanne is a bilingual school caseworker and is looking forward to the birth of her first grandchild. Together, Nancy and Suzanne love to travel to Savannah, Ga., and booked their ninth trip together last fall. Mark your calendars for April 20, 2024, as **Dan Cicala** is planning a birthday party for our class on campus! This year, so many of us will turn—or have turned—the big 6-0. What better way to celebrate than with a party! Look for updates coming soon. I unfortunately need to end this column on a sad note and sadly report that **Mary Ellen "Moo" Grimm** passed away on Aug. 5, 2023. Mary was a business major at G'burg and had many talents. She was a fitness instructor, manager of a fitness facility, and a talented entrepreneur, running multiple businesses of her own, with a deep love for cooking, sports, music, her pets, and her family. She leaves behind her devoted husband, Francis "Buddy" Grimm. Mary will be deeply missed by all whose lives she touched.

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 Gettysburg College Class of 1986

## '87

We hope any classmates who returned to Gettysburg for Homecoming Weekend last October enjoyed the festivities. **Ray Hopkins**, the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award winner, hosted one of the seven “Golf with Gettysburg Day” events at Arcola Country Club in Paramus, N.J., on Oct. 4, 2023. Swinging the clubs with Ray were classmates **Greg Edelson**, **Dave Domino**, **Mark Chamberlin**, and **Ed Heaney**. Classmate **Bill Weir** retired last June after teaching music in Central Bucks School District for 35 years. His retirement date happened to be exactly 40 years from his graduation from Central Bucks West High School. Bill enjoys performing in local theater, having participated in more than 40 shows during the last couple of decades. He also enjoys showing his 1964 Mercury at car shows all over the Delaware Valley area. Bill resides in Chalfont, Pa., with his husband Kevin. **Dave** and **Janis (Vosburgh) Richards** celebrated the wedding of their second daughter, Brenna, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in May. Celebrating at the event were Lambda Chi brothers **Bob Palmer** and his wife Sheila, **Bruce Braunewell** and his wife Liz, and **Eric Toburen** and his wife Diann. **Laurie (Acquire)** and **Glen Vilim** made the trip to Oxford, Md., as well for the wedding. **Matt Rockstroh**, **Seth Bendian**, **Jimmy Anderson**, **Jim Myrtetus**, and **Sean Murphy** (Phi Delt Class of 87) were at Lehigh U as Lehigh inducted Andy Coen '86 posthumously into the Lehigh U Athletics Hall of Fame. Matt also reported that he and his wife met **Jen (Carfrey)** and **Paul Abrens** in Portugal (Lagos and Lisbon) for several days in late September last year. Matt's wife and Jen were best

friends growing up in middle school. **Hope Carter Kowalewski** celebrated 40 years of friendship at the beautiful Mandes family's Bethany Beach home for a Labor Day girls' weekend with **Bessie Mandes Airey**, **Barbara Mandes Donovan**, **Caroline Roos Sergison**, **Jen Harris-Jacobus**, and **Lynne Davignon Smith**. We know there is so much more than this information to report from our fellow classmates. Please send us your updates for the next issue.

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## '88

**Julie (Buoy) Whamond** was kind enough to send me an update about our reunion. This past June over 40 members of YOUR class came back to celebrate 35 years since we graduated! Cocktails and snacks were at the Majestic on Friday night, some folks attended classes, a class picture was taken AND we won the award for Most Improved Class in Giving! Saturday night there was an amazing dinner prepared by Servo at the gym next to the rock climbing walls, they watched a ton of fun pictures from the past and chatted with President Iuliano. Big thanks go **Julie (Buoy) Whamond**, her co-chair, **Dr. Robert Pomponio**, as well as their committee—**Terry (Samaha) Lewis**, **Jill (Jakober) Carney**, **Jane (Reeder) Padgett**, **Tim Foley**, **Jeffrey Blavatt**, **Betsy (Rohland) Mosmiller**, **Rich Hammler**, **Sharon Willis**, **Steve Eck**, **Dave Moyer**, **Alex Boone**, **Amy Marren**, **John Bilsky** and a couple others that Julie couldn't remember... sorry! So far, everyone has committed to come back for the 40th reunion when we are 63 (ponder them apples). Please visit our Class of 1988 Facebook page to see photos from our reunion and follow our class on Instagram @gburgclassof88. Hope everyone is doing well and don't forget to send me some news!

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## '89

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 Gettysburg College Class of 1989

## 1990

Hi, all. Unfortunately, I need to begin with some sorrowful news, which I received just after the last column deadline. Here are some excerpts from a recent obituary shared by **Missy Schalick Furlong**, **Carol Dillingham Rowe**, a devoted mother, dedicated volunteer, successful businesswoman, and avid Giants fan, died peacefully May 23, 2023, at Norwalk Hospital with her three daughters, Kiely, Shannon, and Maggie, at her side. The cause was complications from lung cancer, which she battled courageously for almost three years. She was 55 years old. When Carol died, she had been working as an agent service representative with CATIC, where she was known for her genuineness, optimism, and willingness to go the extra mile for colleagues and clients. A celebration of Carol's life was held on June 10, 2023, at the Wilton Presbyterian Church, with many of Carol's family, friends, and Alpha Delta Pi Sisters in attendance celebrating her loving memory. Memorial donations may be made in Carol's name to St. Jude Children's Hospital, Make-A-Wish Foundation, the church, or your favorite charity. And now, some wonderful news to share: **Todd "Wolfie" Wolfram** married his sweetheart, Jennifer Frey, Aug. 5, 2023, in Cornelius, N.C., with many family members,



including Todd's daughter Reilly and son Holden, and friends gathered around them. Congratulations to the beautiful, happy couple! **Steve Stavisky** and fellow Sigma Chi brothers **Sean O'Leary** and Rob Brakeman '91 celebrated their annual Sebago Lake, Maine, trip in Aug. 2023. **David Sale**—may he rest in peace—was truly there with them in spirit. The group has been celebrating annually in Maine for some time now—what a great tradition! **Angela Carbone Sontheimer** had the chance to see **Lauren Wise Bright**, **Sarah Wendt**, **Greg Pinchbeck**, and **Bill Deptula** recently on campus at the College's Summit on the Future in Sept. 2023. Angela recently took a job at the College, where she splits her time between the offices of Enrollment & Educational Services and Diversity & Inclusion. She loves being back on campus and a part of the College community again. Good luck to you in your new role, Angela! Please take good care of yourselves everyone and send news my way.

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'91

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'92

Congratulations to **Jill Beggs**, head of North America Reinsurance for Everest Reinsurance, who was recognized by Business Insurance as a 2023 Women to Watch. The Business Insurance Women to Watch Award program honors the achievements of extraordinary female business leaders across the risk management and commercial insurance sector. Jill was recognized for her outstanding leadership acumen, deep industry expertise, and significant contributions in driving

substantial reinsurance growth across North America. She started her career at Everest and rejoined in 2021 to oversee the strategic direction of the company's reinsurance business in North America. Prior to her current role, Jill spent two decades at Munich Re in various leadership positions with increasing responsibility. She is an active member of Everest's DEI community as an executive sponsor of the DEI Council and the Veterans Employee Resource Group. She is also a member of the Association of Professional Insurance Women (APIW) and the Central New Jersey chapter of The Institutes CPCU Society. Well done, Jill! Congratulations to **Donna Bourke** who was elected to the Hall of Athletic Honor for Women's Basketball. The awards ceremony honoring the newly inducted athletes was this past Homecoming Weekend in October.

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1992](#)

'93

**Denise Maynard Heal** continues to live in a thatched roof cottage in a village outside Cambridge, United Kingdom. She feels she is the definition of success as an English major because she actually lives in England. Her house is quaint, but it is spider season, and the spiders are ginormous! If you do not like spiders, you do not want to live in a house that dates to the 18th century in an area where the main building materials were reeds and hay. She teaches Reception in a village school. Her job description is as follows: "I work with 48 four-year-olds, which is like working with 48 raccoons on meth." For fun, Denise does wild swimming in the River Ouse. "It is just like "Wind in the Willows," in the summer. Breaking the ice in the winter is "a bit less idyllic." One of Denise's sons is at the U of Stirling, where Denise spent a semester abroad. He is an accomplished football (soccer) player and plays for the first team at the university. Her twin sons are doing a

gap year, working as river tour guides for a punting company in Cambridge. Denise is proud that her sons are still convinced she spent her entire four years at G'burg in the library. Denise said, "If you're ever over on this side of the pond, feel free to get in touch. You can even stay in my spider-infested house, but remember to tell my sons you only remember me in the library."

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'94

Dear classmates, with a heavy heart, I'm sharing the news that **David Manoogian** passed away in July 2023. The following is from his obituary: "After graduating from Gettysburg College, he earned his Juris Doctor law degree, later standing as a beacon of justice and advocacy practicing law for over 20 years in Maryland. Known for his unwavering commitment to upholding the law and championing the rights of the vulnerable, David earned the respect and admiration of peers and clients alike. His love for history was also evident in every conversation as he effortlessly weaved in stories of forgotten historical anecdotes, memorable leaders, and pivotal moments that shaped our world." David was a friend and part of many fond campus memories. Let's keep him and his friends and family in our thoughts. Take care.

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1994](#)

'95

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1995](#)

'96

Hello, Class of 1996! I hope this column finds everyone well. I recently heard from two Emilys from our class. **Emily Cunningham** wrote to me that after 20 years of working in federal and state politics in Del., she has joined the Blood Bank of Delmarva, part of the N.Y. Blood Center Enterprise. In her role as vice president, she oversees operations on the Delmarva Peninsula and works to promote the importance of blood donation. Emily lives in Rehoboth Beach, Del., with her daughters. **Emily Flagg** also dropped me a note that she is currently the vice president of project management at the Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders based in New Haven, C.T. She works on a Parkinson's disease study funded by the Michael J. Fox Foundation. Prior to this position, she worked at the U of Rochester for 18 years. Emily is in Pittsford, N.Y., with her 10-year-old dog Luna, but she also enjoys spending time in the Adirondacks, which has become her second home. If you have any additional updates, please continue sending them my way!

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 Gettysburg Class of 1996

'97

**Randee Gagné**

'98

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 Gettysburg College Class of 1998

'99

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2000

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 Gettysburg College Class of 2000

'01

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'02

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'03

**Jennifer O'Hara Roche**  
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 Gettysburg College Class of 2003

'04

Hello, Class of 2004. **Katie (Greenwood) Walo** started a new job as registrar at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., a small liberal arts institution of about 2,500 students. Katie worked as a work-study student in the Office of the Registrar at Gettysburg for one semester at the College, and it started a love for the field that she continues today. **Eric Danielson** joined Muhlenberg College as dean of admissions in July 2023. Previously, Eric served as director of admissions of Mount St. Mary's U in Emmitsburg, Md., since 2016. While there, he prioritized transparency, equity, and inclusion, which led to four of the five largest first-year classes in the university's

history, a 5% increase in retention, and a doubling of the enrollment of students of color. Keep your updates coming!

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 Gettysburg College Class of 2004

'05 

**Sarah Sigal** published a novel last fall, "The Socialite Spy: In Pursuit of a King." You can find it at Barnes and Nobles and Amazon. **Brad Hoffman** and Carolyn (Glorioso) Hoffman '06 welcomed their third child. Emily Harper Hoffman was born on April 24, 2023. She joins big brother Luke (8) and big sister Grace (5). **Devina Mitra** and **Kerry Hart** visited **Emily Peterson** in Maine, where she lives. While there, they also caught up with **Adam Spillman** and **Nick Stable** for an impromptu mini reunion. Some of them hadn't seen each other since graduation, but it felt like no time had passed. Happy New Year!

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'06 

**Anna (Jordan) Romanelli** married Riccardo Romanelli in Gettysburg on Nov. 26, 2022, and then again on June 3, 2023, in Rome, Italy. Lots of Gettysburgians were among the attendees at both weddings. **Carolyn (Glorioso) Hoffman** and Brad Hoffman '05 welcomed Emily Harper Hoffman, born April 24, 2023. She joins big brother Luke (8) and big sister Grace (5).

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## '07

In May 2023, Team Katie took on the Colfax Marathon races in Denver, Colo. Formed in memory of **Mo Rafferty Sharkey's** sister, Team Katie raised funds and awareness to end domestic violence and was 50 runners strong across the various distances. Mo thanks the many Gettysburgians who donated generously to the cause and to alumni Anna Jordan Romanelli '06, Sara Gustafson '06, Shaina Wright '08, and Bethany Bromwell '06 for signing on to run. **Nadia (Edwards)** and **Justin Womack** welcomed their third son, Yaaziel, on April 29, 2023. Nadia was recently promoted to manager of clinical support services at Jewish Community Services in Baltimore, Md. Justin has been senior advisor for legal counsel at Dell Technologies for more than two years. **Phil Umbrino** and his wife Jackie welcomed son Michael Francis to the world on May 22, 2023. Big brother Oliver loves having a young sibling, and everyone is doing well. **Francis Merlie** accepted the role of godfather to young Michael in Oct. 2023. **Chris Gabriel** and his wife Amanda welcomed their first child, Lorelai, on June 15, 2023. Mom and baby are happy and healthy! Congrats to **Jameson Calitri** and wife Katie for adding not one, but two, new bundles of joy last August. The couple welcomed identical twin girls, Fiona Grace and Caroline Rose. Jameson and Katie were surprised, but thrilled, to have the girls join them and their big sister Eleanor (2 1/2 years)! **Jessica Basta** tied her love of teaching together with her love of budget travel, inspired by her study abroad semesters at G'burg. She recently published a book, available on Amazon as an e-book or in print. It is called "Unlocking Affordable Adventures: A Guide to Travel Planning on a Budget." You can find the link on her LinkedIn page or through a quick Amazon search. What an inspiring accomplishment, right? And, finally, it is with a heavy heart that I share the unexpected passing of **Alexandra "Ola" Naleszkiewicz** on Oct. 12, 2023, at 38. While at G'burg, Ola completed two degrees and just recently completed her MBA in less than half the expected time, receiving multiple excellence awards and

still working full time. Her obituary stated, "Gifted with extraordinary intelligence and infectious energy, her wit and affable nature drew people to her. We will never forget her talent for storytelling, which she brought to life with her razor-sharp wit, theatrical flair, expressive face, and, more often than not, embellishments. She was a unique individual, and to be loved by her was a true blessing." Please remember her family and friends in your prayers, and if you know one of her G'burg friends, please reach out and share your love and support. From my family to yours—happy 2024! Wishing you all a healthy and successful year filled with love, happiness, and laughter.

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## '08

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## '09

After 13 years in Calif., **Amanda (Fasenmyer) Calder** spent six months traveling in Europe and Southeast Asia before making the move to Greenville, S.C. She now works remotely as the director of advancement and partnerships for Project Equity, a nonprofit that helps small businesses transition to employee ownership models. She married Michael Calder in July 2023 with **Kelly (Rouleau) del Rosario** in attendance at the wedding. **Sara (Harenchar) Levinson** reunited with **Brady (Luceno) Seals** in Boulder, Colo., in Oct. 2023 (picture to follow)! Brady and her husband Dan live in Boulder and just welcomed their first child, Guy Williams Seals, in Aug. 2023. Our 15-Year Reunion is coming up this May 30-June 2, 2024! Co-chairs **Sara (Harenchar) Levinson** and **Lauren (Meehan) Keefe** look forward to seeing you all there. Thank you to all the awesome committee members

who already volunteered. If you'd like to be part of the committee, drop me a line at saramarialevinson@gmail.com.

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## 2010

**Emma Snellings**  
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## '11

Hello, Class of 2011. I have a few updates to share. It is with great sadness that I share the passing of **Theodore "Ted" Allen**. Ted passed away on Aug. 3, 2023, surrounded by family after a courageous 19-month-long battle against cancer. He was a member of the football team and a brother of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. Following graduation from G'burg, Ted worked as a senior consultant at Deloitte before establishing himself as the assistant vice president of foreign exchange at Brown Brothers Harriman in New York City. Ted will be deeply missed by his wife Liane (Comanto) Allen '12, two sons, parents, a sister, and legions of aunts, uncles, cousins, and dear friends whose lives Ted so meaningfully touched. **Krissy (McMabon) Doane** and her husband, Owen Doane, welcomed their first child, Nolan Rhys, in Oct. 2023. Lastly, I recently started a new job as the assistant dean of students and director of community standards and student responsibility at Ohio U in Athens, Ohio. I wish everyone the best. Please continue to send me updates!

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## '12

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## '13

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## '14

Hello, Class of 2014! Can you even believe what's coming up in Sept. 2024? Mark your calendars for Homecoming and BOLD Weekend, September 20–22, 2024—our 10th Reunion at G'burg! Plans are underway, and we hope to see as many classmates as possible back at the 'burg. **Emily Thren** graduated on May 17, 2023, from the U of Md. School of Nursing with a doctorate degree in nursing and a concentration in pediatric primary care. She is pursuing job opportunities as a pediatric nurse practitioner in Md. Congrats, Emily! **Nick Skitko** and his wife Stephanie welcomed their first daughter, Cecilia, on Oct. 11, 2023. The family is doing well and loving their future Bullet!

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## '15

Greetings from New York City, Class of 2015! I had a busy summer, which was highlighted by celebrating the marriages of many G'burg classmates. **Ben Machtinger** married **Meg Yager** in Red Bank, N.J. **Genevieve Herdegen** married Joseph Tracy '14 in Jersey City, N.J., and **Annie Truss** married Jack Cunningham '14 in Peekskill, N.Y. **Shannon Brobst** married Tom Renninger in May 2023. Several of her Tri-Sigma sister stood next to her as bridesmaids. Shannon and Tom recently bought a house and moved to the Oxford, Pa., area. **Sophie (Kashurba) McDonald** was the female winner of the Laurel Highlands 70 mile Ultra. The race follows the length of the Laurel Highlands hiking trail and finishes in Seward, Pa. Sophie was paced for the last 13 miles by fellow alumna

Kerry Campbell '13. Sophie and Kerry ran cross country together at G'burg and have stayed connected ever since. **Michael Reali** and **Lindsay Gonnella Reali** joyfully welcomed the birth of their first son, Michael Gabriel Reali, on Aug. 8, 2023. Everyone is happy and healthy and soaking in all the newborn moments. Please send me your updates to be featured in future columns. You can also submit notes in the Alumni & Friends section of [www.gettysburg.edu/alumni](http://www.gettysburg.edu/alumni).

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## '16

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## '17

Love is in the air! Many of our classmates have been celebrating the recent weddings of members of the Class of 2017. **Sarah Hansen** married Cade Sitton in July 2023 in Rockland, Maine. In attendance was a Gettysburg crew that included **Maddy LaCroce**, **Julia (Harper) Delenko**, **Alex Delenko**, **Piper O'Keefe**, **Brooke Gutschick**, and Kate (Schwartz) Wilder '16. **Amanda Finck** married **Nate Cutting** in Aug. 2023 in Philadelphia. A big G'burg crowd was there to celebrate with them. **Maja Thomas** and **Chandler Robertson** got married last August. More than 40 Gettysburgians were in attendance, including Chandler's parents, Scott '89 and Angela '91. **Laura Valente** married Joe Accardi '16 in Sept. 2023. **Brandi Lauer**, **Lizzy Butler**, **Genie Lavanant**, **Sam (Misurell) Colasacco**, and **Ashley Sauer** were all bridesmaids, along with other fellow Gettysburg alumni guests. **Sam Wilensky** married Sam Murray in Oct. 2023 in Pa. In attendance were classmates **Matt Morrow**, **Joe Recuperero**, **Logan Pezzillo**, **Caitlin Connelly**, and

**Heather Garland**. **Heather McConnell** married Matthew Lulofs in Philadelphia last October. **Claire Bailets**, **Katherine (Southall) Czubakowski**, Samantha Moroney '16, Danielle (Ofeldt) Santee '18, Brynn Hambley Richardson '18, Jared Richardson '18, and Edie Pierce were in attendance. Lastly, **Caroline Moyer** has been tearing it up athletically! Caroline won the Ironman Happy Valley 70.3 and the N.J. state sprint triathlon. She also traveled to Finland in Aug. 2023 for the Ironman 70.3 world championships. Please keep your contact info and address up-to-date by going to [gettysburg.edu/alumni](http://gettysburg.edu/alumni) and clicking "update your alumni profile." We don't want you to miss out on good stuff like this: First, the BOLD Council has launched a new program called the New City Ambassadors, where trained ambassadors welcome you when you move to cities like Washington, D.C. or Philly. The ambassadors are also going to host events and work to get alumni in their city more connected to fellow Gettysburgians in the area. See previous Bullet Points or email me for more info. Second, the Gettysburg Cookbook launched earlier this year. The cookbook is free and full of recipes that remind us of Gettysburg, whether it's the chicken bruschetta from Servo or the garlic parm wings from Blue & Gray Bar & Grill. The link is available in the Bullet Points from May 2023.

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[f Gettysburg College: Class of 2017](#)

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## '18

*Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates? Contact Joe Lynch '85 in the Alumni Relations Office ([jlynch@gettysburg.edu](mailto:jlynch@gettysburg.edu); 717-337-6522) or Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing ([lcarr@gettysburg.edu](mailto:lcarr@gettysburg.edu); 717-337-6800) for more information.*

## '19

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## 2020

Hi everyone! I have a few updates to share with you. **Callie Fucarino** is pursuing a law degree at American U. Washington College of Law. **Jessica Greenman** recently graduated with her JD from U. Richmond and passed the bar exam. She will be starting her career with the Navy JAG Corps. **Alyssa Kaewwilai** is now working as an engineer on NASA's Earthdata Search contract Scalability and Performance team while she continues her master's degree at Johns Hopkins U. **Hanna Michel** and **Rhiannon Winner '19** eloped in 2022 and recently held their wedding celebration with friends and family on their one-year anniversary, October 6th, 2023. Fellow G'burg alumni **Becca Campo '19**, **Miranda Lieberman '19**, **Dan Miller '19**, **Abby Wester '19**, **McKenzie Somers**, **Courtney Ward**, and **Rowan Roth '21** were in attendance.

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 [Gettysburg College: Class of 2020](#)

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## '21

Hi, Class of 2021! Our classmates continue to do inspiring work in their continuing education and careers. It is so incredible to hear about the impactful work our classmates engage in to better our communities. **Nick Peterson** and **Connor Stafford** are working at Cambridge Associates in Arlington, Va., as investment performance associates. They track asset performance for various endowments, pensions, and private clients. They value their experience as co-workers and appreciate the opportunity to continue bonding with Gettysburg classmates through their careers. Since graduating in

2021, **Matt Walker** has worked in different environmental roles all over the country. He is currently the Urban Forestry Fellow at the Morris Arboretum & Gardens of the U of Pennsylvania, where he helps to manage the canopy of almost 7,000 trees on Penn's campus. Additionally, he spreads awareness of the importance of urban trees throughout Philadelphia. I would love to hear from you, so please do not hesitate to reach out!

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## '22

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 2022](#)

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## '23

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### CLASS NOTES CORRESPONDENTS' DEADLINES

4/8 for Summer  
10/15 for Winter

*Disclaimer: All class notes are compiled by class correspondents, who are responsible for confirming the accuracy of the information submitted to GETTYSBURG College Magazine.*

# CLASS PHOTOS

1 Hansen wedding (left to right): Kate (Schwartz) Wilder '16, Alex Delenko '17, Julia (Harper) Delenko '17, Sarah Hansen '17, Maddy LaCroce '17, Piper O'Keefe '17, and Brooke Gutschick '17.

2 Shannon Brobst '15 and her father Don Brobst '70, P'15 pose with a Gettysburg College flag at her wedding to Tom Renninger in May 2023.

3 Sara (Harenchar) Levinson reunited with Brady (Luceno) Seals in Boulder, Colo.

4 Kelli (Very) Wright '06, Jess Basta '07, Josh Easterson '07, Kyle Rhoad '08, Jen Lazuta '07, and Kris Eysell, former social psychology professor.

5 Valente-Accardi wedding: Laura Valente '18 married Joe Accardi '16 in September. Brandi Lauer '18, Lizzy Butler '18, Genie Lavanant '18, Sam (Misurell) Colasacco '18 and Ashley Sauer '18 were all bridesmaids, along with other fellow Gettysburg alumni guests.

6 Senem Suzek '05; Laura Smicker '06 and her husband Terry Metz; Crystal (Ebert) Parker '06, Jason Parker '09, and their children Eloise and Thomas Parker; Christine (Baluk) Mang '06 and Cody Mang '07; Anne Marie Forney '08, David Colman, and their children Daniel and Claire; name unknown; Sarah Lilley '06 and her daughter Fern; Zach '06, Lauren (Mounts) Snyder '06, and their children Harrison and Carrington; Christina (Ditucci) Sweeney '05; Sam (Bruno) Fuller '07; Kris Eysell, former social psychology professor; Jennie Fiorito '06; Erin Neusbaum '06; Kyle Rhoad '08; Allie Barkmeier '06; Dave Levy '07; and Scott Fuller '07.

7 Thomas-Robertson wedding: Maja Thomas '17 and Chandler Robertson '17 got married in August. More than 40 Gettysburgians were in attendance, including Chandler's parents, Scott '89 and Angela '91.



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# IN MEMORIAM

ALL DATES ARE 2023 UNLESS NOTED

- '94 David C. Manoogian, July 27  
2011 Theodore S. Allen, Aug. 3
- RETIRED FACULTY & STAFF**  
Robert A. Pitts, Aug. 16
- '94 David C. Manoogian, July 27  
2011 Theodore S. Allen, Aug. 3
- '63 Joshua H. Cockey Jr., June 24  
Duncan L. Evans, Aug. 16  
Lawrence M. Holliday, Sept. 16  
Heather A. Moser, July 6
- '64 George E. Jefferies, III, Oct. 2  
Susan Merrill Mobley, July 17
- '65 Eve Swank Smith, Aug. 2  
Robert S. Trullinger, July 29
- '66 Donald W. Cameron, May 8  
Karen Caddell Frank, June 16  
Gary T. Hawbaker, Aug. 15
- '67 Jean Bidlack Eddowes, July 17  
Joanne Eckman Kushall, Aug. 24
- '68 Charles E. Davies, Sept. 30
- '69 Delmar A. Crum, June 1  
John J. Donovan III, July 3  
Alan B. Rice, Sept. 14
- '70 Virginia Pfromm Ahearn, April 29  
Mary Lou Robinson Seamans,  
July 9
- '71 John E. Fleming, April 11\*  
James E. Stevenson, III, Sept. 11  
Dean S. Thomas, July 15
- '72 Douglas G. Baugher, July 13  
Corinne Stump Fairbairn, Sept. 13
- '74 William F. Scudder, March 14
- '75 Celia J. Kuhlmann, Oct. 13
- '76 Susan Bailey Owens, July 12  
Craig B. Rineman, Sept. 11  
Charles W. Vanasdalan, Oct. 4
- '79 Gordon E. Summers, Sept. 20
- '80 Peter H. Drake, Oct. 12
- '84 Mark D. Cavallero, Nov. 28\*
- '85 Deborah Grzelecki Rooney,  
Aug. 10
- '86 Mary E. Schueler-Grimm, Aug. 5
- '90 Carol L. Dillingham, May 23
- 1941 Margaret Stauffer Fisher, May 27
- '45 Lubitsa Nenadovich, Oct. 5
- '47 Margaretta Curry Weaver, Oct. 15
- '48 Walter L. Schutzenbach, Jan. 4
- '49 Andrew M. Larson, Aug. 29  
Guinn E. Unger, Sept. 17
- '50 Carl H. Greenawald, Oct. 1  
Barbara Ziegler Helmuth, April 26\*  
Ruth E. Kumler, Oct. 13
- '51 Norman R. SanSoucie, May 25  
Albert J Malley, Jr., Sept. 28
- '53 Fern Carr Ewing, Aug. 27\*  
Joseph B. Hess, Aug. 25  
W. Robert Kurz, Sept. 29  
Nancy Wieand Reimert, July 5
- '54 Barbara Franke Johnson, Sept. 26  
James H., Lampe, Aug. 8  
Robert W. Prais, April 14  
Mary Lou Martin Robertson,  
Aug. 26  
Faye Luckenbill Whitehead,  
May 18
- '55 Nancy Long Stratford, July 13
- '56 Charles E. Galbraith, Oct. 19  
Richard M. Mitchell, June 11
- '57 Richard C. Christensen, Sept. 21\*  
Nancy Lindner Schwarz, Aug. 21  
Walter A. Sell, Oct. 9  
George M. Van Istendal Sr., Sept. 6
- '58 Stephen H. Bishop, June 30  
Jaime A. Delgadillo, Aug. 19  
Noel E. Kroncke, June 14
- '60 Richard K. Rockefeller, May 25
- '61 Joyce Smedley Reynolds, April 7  
Stephen L. Wood, July 4
- '62 Holly Achenbach Yohe, Sept. 4

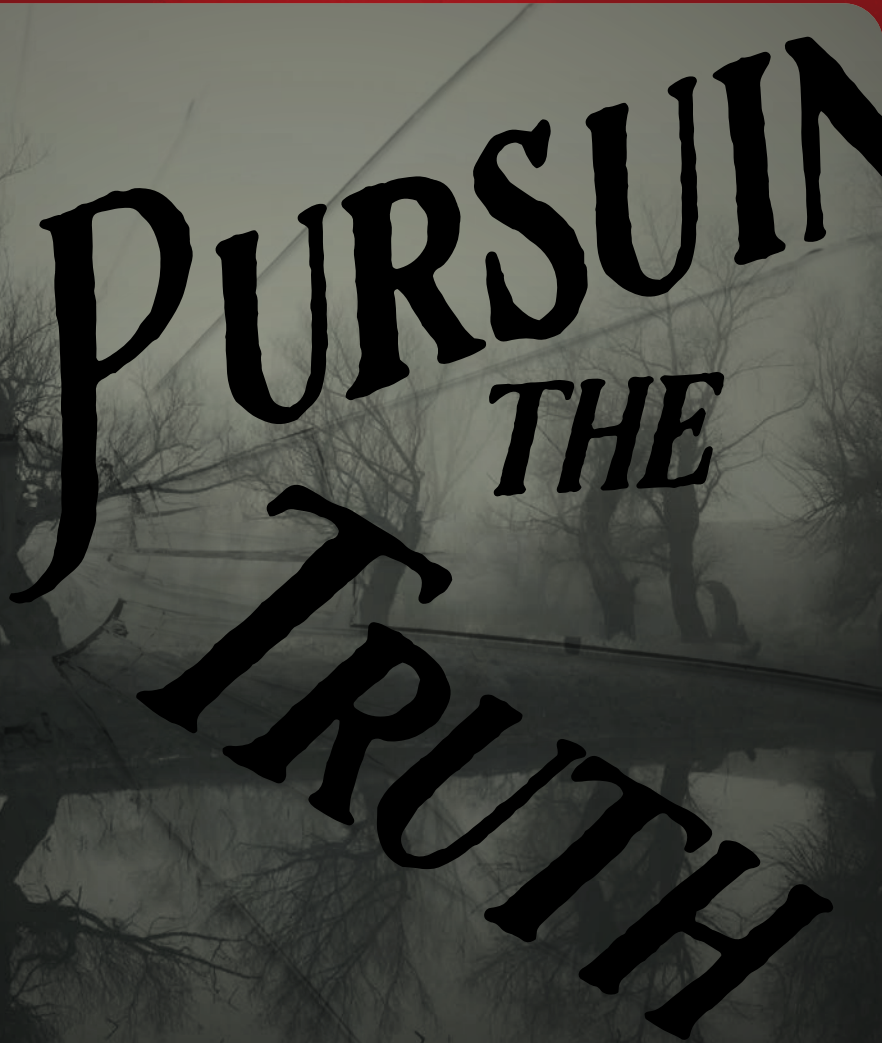
\* denotes 2022

BEHIND THE SCENES

WITH A GETTYSBURG GREAT

HOW LIZ FARRELL '97 USES INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM AND  
THE POWER OF PODCASTING AS A FORCE FOR GOOD

*by Michael Vyskocil*



PURSUING  
THE  
TRUTH



**LIZ FARRELL '97 IS ON A CRUSADE IN THE NAME OF TRUTH, CALLING OUT LIGHT FROM THE DARKNESS OF DECEIT. WITH MORE THAN TWO DECADES OF JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE, FARRELL DIVES DEEP TO UNCOVER THE FACTS, BEING RECOGNIZED AS A TOP COLUMNIST IN 2018 BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA PRESS ASSOCIATION FOR HER WORK AT THE ISLAND PACKET IN HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA.**



**ABOVE** Liz Farrell '97 and Christina Schlosser Sweeney '97, in 1994  
**TOP, RIGHT** Liz Farrell '97

In 2022, one of the most talked-about stories in South Carolina made national headlines. Alex Murdaugh, a 55-year-old attorney whose family was synonymous with a legacy of legal prosecutors, had been convicted of murder in a failed attempt to hide multiple financial crimes. Murdaugh was sentenced to life in prison in March 2023.

The twists and turns of the Murdaugh murders struck a chord with Farrell's truth-telling soul. In 2021, she partnered with award-winning journalist Mandy Matney on the Murdaugh Murders (now True Sunlight) and Cup of Justice podcasts. Together, they separated fact from fiction in the Murdaugh case in each of the podcast's 116 episodes. In 2023, this case became a true crime documentary on Netflix.

Learn how Farrell, a political science major, took inspiration from her Gettysburg education to cultivate a career of pursuing the truth.

#### **GETTYSBURG COLLEGE**

**MAGAZINE:** *How did you apply the knowledge and enduring skills gained from Gettysburg College to your journalism career?*

**LIZ FARRELL '97:** Gettysburg helped put me in touch with the real world. One of my favorite things that I did at Gettysburg was this mock trial for the murder of JFK [President John F. Kennedy]. I felt connected with the people in my class and was so proud of how seriously we took it. It opened my eyes to what's true with one of the ultimate stories in the history of our country. It taught me that in order to argue your side, you have to understand both sides of an issue. Gettysburg also gave me my first opportunity to write for the public. I remember writing a letter to the editor of *The Gettysburgian* with my friend **Christina Schlosser '97**, and it got published, and that turned into a column opportunity. To me, that was breaking a huge seal.



**GCM:** *What are the essential qualities of an investigative journalist?*

**LF:** The road to investigative journalism is about proof. It's very fact-based, very steeped in reality. Yes, you have to have suspicion, but you have to have something provable. You can go with your gut, but you need facts to back you up.

**GCM:** *How has your calling to expose the truth guided you?*

**LF:** When everything is built on a lie, you can go back to the cornerstone of that lie, and everything else falls apart. When you put sunlight on something, you can see things clearly—you can see what the truth is. You're able to make better decisions about your life for your family, yourself, and your career. You're a better citizen. For me, that's the motivation—giving people information that they can use to parlay into a better quality of life for themselves.

**GCM:** *What do you think makes a great podcast?*

**LF:** What I love about podcasting is taking people by the hand immediately, leading them into the conversation, and getting them to trust me. A podcast allows you to tell a story in a 3D way. Not only are you able to say the words that you would have written, but you're able to punctuate it with interviews or the sounds of what was going on in a courtroom. It makes a story more live for people. **G**

# LEARN HOW TO LEARN

HOW GOING OFF THE TOURIST TRAIL ALLOWS ONE TO FOCUS ON GROWTH

by Hank Dunlop '72

Entering college, filled with an excess of teenage angst and self-doubt, I did wonder what the next four years were going to mean. Starting the first semester with a 1.6 GPA didn't help my state of mind. But Gettysburg College was a time of transformation for me. I became a better student—and a better person.

Gettysburg shared many gifts, the most prominent being learning how to learn: how to approach each issue, problem, and situation with a good foundation for success. We enter college during our most formative years, and at a residential college, we are given the opportunity to learn by trial and error—good choices and bad, fun times and sad.

What sticks with us is remarkable, especially in hindsight as we gain the benefit of time, experience, and wisdom. You learn how to learn about life. You not only learn about happiness, but how to achieve it as well. You learn how to persevere, realizing good luck is a function of hard work, and to my surprise, I made Dean's List my last five semesters.

Three years after graduating in 1972, I found myself in Manizales, Colombia, living in a town in the coffee zone, being effectively mute in the language in a culture I was clueless about. But I leaned on my liberal arts and sciences education to learn the language and understand the culture, and today, I am now fluent in both Spanish and Portuguese. Little did I know then that it was the start of a career in the coffee, cocoa, and chocolate business—buying raw material from farmers, processing the beans, and delivering them to our retail clients, such as Nestle, Mars, and Starbucks. My career has lasted 50-plus years, from the farm to the C-suite, the board, and now currently managing a hedge fund at Opportune Fund.

A great case of perseverance came when **Rich Falotico '04** interviewed with me at Atlantic Cocoa Company (USA) upon his graduation. At the time, we felt he needed to grow his skills, so we encouraged him to come back in a year if he was still interested. Indeed, he came back 365 days later, was hired, and is extremely successful, while commuting between his offices in New York, London, and Abidjan. He continued to learn how to learn.



Hank Dunlop '72

*“You learn how to learn about life. You not only learn about happiness, but how to achieve it as well. You learn how to persevere, realizing good luck is a function of hard work.”*

Throughout my life and career, making both good and bad decisions, it dawned on me that failure is never fatal. We all fall—getting back up is what counts most. The tools I have when I get back up are the skills I received during those four years at Gettysburg when I learned how to learn. I have a process and the humility to know what I don't know, regardless of the arena. For that, I am thankful for those four years. **G**



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