The Connection

A Legacy of Leadership

THE OFFICE DOOR THAT NEVER CLOSES
On May 8, Head Women's Lacrosse Coach Carol Daly Cantele '83, P'15 received an impromptu water cooler shower following the team's 8-5 victory over Franklin & Marshall College in the Centennial Conference Championship. The win clinched Gettysburg's record 13th conference title and sent the Bullets to the NCAA Division III Championship playoffs for the 20th time since 2000.

The victory was another crowning achievement for Cantele, who retired at the conclusion of the 2022 season after 30 years at the helm. A 2021 Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) Hall of Fame inductee, Cantele won nearly 80% of her games coached at Gettysburg and finished third in NCAA history in career wins. She led the Bullets to three national championships in 2011, 2017, and 2018.

What made Cantele truly stand out, however, was her commitment and dedication to her student-athletes and their pursuits both on and off the field. She guided her players to a multitude of national, regional, and conference accolades. She also inspired them to be involved across the breadth of the campus community, becoming members of various organizations, taking part in community service, and engaging in experiential learning opportunities.

Cantele wasn’t alone in her retirement plans with four additional athletic staff members also coming to the end of their tenures, including Head Baseball Coach John Campo P’07, Head Athletic Equipment Manager Kelly Jones, Head Field Hockey Coach Barb Jordan, and Director of EES Student Success and the John F. Jaeger for Athletics, Recreation, and Fitness Cindy Wright P’08, ’13, ’16. Read more about these impactful coaches and administrators on page 13.

Photo by David Sinclair Photography
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A Legacy of Leadership
Celebrating 50 years of impact and change through the Black Student Union
by Kasey Varner ’14

34

The Office Door That Never Closes
Retired Psychology Prof. Bob D’Agostino’s teaching philosophy is about more than just passion. It’s about being a meaningful mentor—for life.
by Phoebe Doscher ’22

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The Care Connection
Roger Nelson P’91, ’93 and Rod Tosten ’85 collaborated in the College’s Innovation and Creativity Lab to build a teddy bear that’s captivating hearts and strengthening minds.
by Molly Foster
ON THE COVER  Cuddle Teddy takes being a cuddly companion steps farther than a typical teddy bear. It takes this role to heart—providing comfort and prompting engagement among individuals with Alzheimer’s or dementia.
“WHENEVER THY LOYAL ONES GATHER TO WAKEN FOND MEMORY, OUR THOUGHTS SHALL BE TURNED, ALMA MATER, OLD GETTYSBURG BACK TO THEE.”

Paul Gilbert and F.E. Reinartz’s stirring lyrics rang true at Reunion Weekend this past June. It was the first time the tradition had been held in over three years and the enthusiasm was palpable. Eighteen classes—hundreds of Gettysburg alumni in all—returned to campus for a celebration that was joyous, uplifting, and representative of all that makes our College so special.

Given that it was also my first Reunion as president, the weekend served as yet another reminder of the consequential education we provide. In my conversations with generations of Gettysburgians and their families, it was clear how much this place means to them and how the relationships they formed here continue to inspire their life’s work.

Gettysburg College, indeed, is a forever home.

Of course, like any home, our College is constantly evolving. While the values that guide us endure, Gettysburg is a different place than it was when Gilbert and Reinartz penned our Alma Mater one century ago. Gettysburg College changes with the world that is itself constantly evolving. This is all part of our commitment to ready our students to Do Great Work.

Today, we see this change all around us. As our institution’s reputation continues to grow, so too does our national and international footprint. This fall semester, we will proudly welcome the largest cohort of international students in our 190-year history—nearly 100 first-years from more than 25 countries. These are students who have dreamt of pursuing a Gettysburg education and will soon apply what they learned here to transform the world in immeasurable ways. It is encouraging to see.

Together, we at Gettysburg College are committed to ensuring every student from every background can call this campus home. To achieve this, however, we must remember that the brightest futures are those informed by the lessons of the past.

In this edition of the magazine, we reflect on the valorous work of the Black Student Union over the last 50 years. I invite you to read this powerful feature (pg. 26) and, most importantly, to discuss it with your Gettysburg friends and classmates. There is much we can learn, both as individuals and as a community, from the trailblazers of the BSU as we seek to advance our most fundamental mission and foster a more inclusive, lifelong home where every Gettysburgian fully belongs.

Sincerely,

Bob Iuliano
President

HOMECOMING WEEKEND TAKES PLACE OCT. 14–16, 2022! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU RETURN TO CAMPUS AND CELEBRATING THE BLACK STUDENT UNION’S 50TH REUNION WITH YOU.
INTRODUCING A NEW MAGAZINE SECTION

by Megan Miller

I
n our Winter 2022 issue of GETTYSBURG College Magazine, Molly Foster eloquently penned a feature defining A Consequential Education, our College’s promise to our students. She talked with many members of our community, including President Bob Iuliano and our 11th president, Charles Glassick; esteemed professors, one of whom was also a Gettysburg parent; and alumni spanning decades since the late 1960s. They all agreed—our graduates begin their lives of consequence here at Gettysburg College.

While each Gettysburgian possesses their own passionate pursuits, being consequential is the uniting thread in them all. It’s been ingrained in our being since our founding in 1832 and was emboldened when President Abraham Lincoln’s charge in his Gettysburg Address inspired us to Do Great Work, each and every year since.

“Being in service to others is part of my fabric. It’s part of my history. It’s part of the tapestry of who I am,” said Hayley Hoffman ’83, whose winding career path led her to being a relationship counselor. Joshua Eyler ’00, who has spent his career in higher education like his Gettysburg mentor English Prof. Christopher Fee P’21, added:

“A Consequential Education was more about building a life that would contribute to change in a way meaningful to us. It was about who we were going to become as people.”

It’s through the lives of our graduates and their commitment to making meaningful change in the world that we see A Consequential Education come to life—and it’s these lives of consequence that will forever be worth sharing with you.

When you turn to page 16, you will see a new department in our magazine dedicated to these Lives of Consequence. Moving forward, each issue of our magazine will showcase how our consequential education took hold in the heart and in the career of one of our alumni. This issue, you will hear from Emily Lunardi ’16, who is a member of an outpatient practice working with clients of all ages and identities through drama therapy. Like many of her fellow Gettysburgians, Lunardi strives to “show up in the world in a way that’s aware and effective.”

“Have you led a life of consequence? Share your story by emailing alumnimagazine@gettysburg.edu. We’d love to hear from you!”
Dear G’burg friends,

Thank you for your consequential alumni magazine. I am really impressed, and I don’t say that lightly. So, I have written and shared my comments:

The Consequential Battle of Gettysburg from the 1960s to 2022!

As a graduate of G’burg in 1966, I am grateful for the 2022 winter magazine. It is true to its cover: it is consequential. You really caught my attention in four ways!

First, you capitalized on two famous presidents [connected to Gettysburg]: Abraham Lincoln and Dwight D. Eisenhower. With Lincoln’s description of America as “a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal,” I see consequential progress by the new position of Tracie Potts as The Eisenhower Institute’s new executive director. Wow! What a change from my junior year as vice president of my class when we campaigned for more Black students. It was a time when my friend Snuffy Parsons ’64 was a hero on the football field, but was called names as we walked across Stine Lake. Thank you for your articles that highlighted that women and people of all races are equal. (See Men’s Basketball Coach B.J. Dunne’s anti-racism talk.)

Second, it is consequential by the inclusive recognition to the work of Amanda Del Gaudio, director of the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center. This article echoes equality for people of all orientations.

Third, it is consequential in the personal stories on “How do we learn and grow through challenging situations?” Thanks for the inspiring words from Nicole Cesanek ’24, Munya Chogea ’12, Economics Prof. Brendan Cushing-Daniels, Biology Prof. Véronique Delesalle, and College Life Vice President and Dean of Students Anne Ehrlich.

Fourth, it is consequential by the invitation, “We want to hear from you!” Here is the thoughtful request for alumni comments as well as for financial contributions. The two go hand in hand.

On a personal note, my education has been consequential in that I am embarking on a third book, “Growing the Lord’s Harvest in New Churches.”

The Battle of Gettysburg for A Consequential Education goes on!

Sincerely,

Rob Morrison ’66

(Dr. Robert W. Morrison, Pastor Emeritus of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church of Jackson, New Jersey)
SOCIAL MEDIA

SOCIAL MEDIA WAS AFLUTTER WITH THE COMING OF SPRING AND BIG NEWS ACROSS CAMPUS, INCLUDING THE RETURN OF AN IN-PERSON GET ACQUAINTED DAY, THE COLLEGE’S 190TH BIRTHDAY, AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NEW ONLINE MASTER’S PROGRAM.

GET ACQUAINTED DAY

The first in-person Get Acquainted Day in three years welcomed throngs of prospective students and their parents to campus with support pouring in from social media followers:

“It was a great day! Thank you Gettysburg, for the extremely warm welcome for all the 2026 students! Loved the breakfast spread, the pep band, the club fair, lunch in the dining hall, the tour around campus, and the faculty talks. Super informative and the school spirit was evident—the blue and orange wear was fabulous! ❤️❤️”

Laura Maduzia Nolan P’26

“I remember such excitement attending this day with Joe Mattina, Class of ’10!”

Terry Glynn Mattina P’10

“You will do great things here!”

Kate Halleran Hauk P’21

“Great college with amazing students.”

Nancy Smith P’18

STOLE OF GRATITUDE TRADITION

As the Class of 2022 graduated, Director of the Johnson Center for Creative Teaching and Learning and Health Sciences Prof. Josef Brandauer shared his thoughts about our beloved tradition on Twitter, from what it takes to build meaningful mentorships to the simple power of a professor’s presence in a student’s life. Head to Twitter to read the full thread.

“At @gettysburg, part of Commencement ceremonies is that graduating students receive a Stole of Gratitude. They are asked to bestow it to someone who made their college career possible and/or better: friends, family, College employees. I think it’s a beautiful tradition.”

Prof. Josef Brandauer (@BrandauerJ)

MASTER’S IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Gettysburg College and longstanding partner The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (GLI) announced a new online master’s program in American history, beginning in September 2022, and our community responded with pride:

“Outstanding. Inspiring. Thankful for my alma mater.”

Mary Folkemer ’68

“Super excited to continue this program from Pace to Gettysburg. It’s been a great program so far!”

Kevin Podeweltz, friend of the College

“Are there plans to expand the graduate offerings in general at Gettysburg? … I’d also love to continue my education, and if I could continue with Gettysburg, I would love to!”

Sarah Oppenheim ’14

“The College is in conversations about the possibility of expanding the MA in American History to Gettysburg alumni in future years. Stay tuned!”

Gettysburg College

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube

Gburg.College gettysburgcollege gettysburg-college gettysburg GettysburgCollege

READ MORE ON PAGE 12.
IN THE MEDIA

History Prof. Michael Birkner ’72, P10 was quoted in a History Channel piece on James Buchanan’s presidential shortcomings, which has led many historians to consistently rank him as one of the worst U.S. presidents. In the article, Birkner shared that in addition to being sympathetic to Southern slaveholders, Buchanan wasn’t very in tune with popular opinion in the North. “He is not the right man at the right time to be president of the United States,” Birkner said.

The Gettysburg Times reported that Jen Bryant ’82 was the keynote speaker for the 2022 Callie Awards for the Exceptional Women in Adams County virtual award ceremony. Bryant is a member of the College’s Board of Trustees and author of the biography “Fall Down Seven Times, Stand Up Eight,” which is about Patsy Takemoto Mink, the first woman of color and the first Asian American to be elected to the U.S. Congress.

Jewish Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies Prof. Stephen Stern wrote a column for the Times of Israel, reflecting on the person who inspired him to teach at Gettysburg College—retiring Religious Studies Prof. Charles (Buz) Myers Jr. P’09. Furthermore, Stern shared how Myers has dedicated his four decades at Gettysburg to helping ensure living Jewish voices aren’t absent from academic discussions or curriculums, and more broadly, caring about all people—having a particularly big heart for his students.

In an opinion article for Politico, Political Science Prof. Scott Boddery collaborated with Benjamin Pontz ’20, who majored in political science. The article analyzed President Joe Biden’s commission to review possible Supreme Court reforms and suggested a path forward: “Allow the number of justices to float.”

Distinguished alumna Mary Carskadon ’69 was featured in a podcast episode by The Academic Minute. Carskadon is a renowned researcher on sleep who serves as director of the E.P. Bradley Hospital Sleep and Chronobiology Research Laboratory and is a professor of psychiatry and human behavior at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University in Rhode Island. In the episode, Carskadon speaks about changing sleep patterns during early adolescence, particularly analyzing how COVID-19 affected sleep during the height of the pandemic.

Political Science Prof. Douglas Page was quoted in an AP News article about Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and what it says about the current state of democracy. Page also served as an expert source in a Newsweek article, suggesting that while evidence may emerge about Vladimir Putin’s mental instability, we should also consider the persona that Putin may be crafting during this time.

In an opinion article for Salon, Philosophy Prof. Steven Gmbel co-authored a commentary piece for Salon about Ivan Reitman, the former director and producer of “Ghostbusters,” “Meatballs,” and various other well-known films, who recently died. In this piece, Gmbel and his co-author explore Reitman’s life, framing him as a leading cultural voice of Gen X nihilism during the late 1970s and early 1980s.
CLASS OF 2022
COMMENCEMENT

Rain couldn’t stop the celebration for the Class of 2022, as each graduate walked through Pennsylvania Hall eager to Do Great Work in the world.

PAYING IT FORWARD

Former Entrepreneurial Fellowship recipient and Uber senior software engineer Wei Xiong ’15 shares the value of a Gettysburg education with aspiring entrepreneurs.

KEN BURNS
FILM FESTIVAL

Gettysburg College is set to host the first-ever film festival honoring the award-winning director at the Majestic Theater in 2023.

CELEBRATING AN ERA

Longtime coaches and athletic administrators announce retirement plans after decades of service to Gettysburg College.
Paying It Forward

Computer science major and economics minor Wei Xiong ’15 was the first recipient of the $10,000 grant through the Gettysburg College Entrepreneurial Fellowship program, and he has built a career working for Deloitte, Google, Snap Inc., and now Uber as a senior software engineer. He continues to serve as a mentor through the fellowship, continually reminding aspiring entrepreneurs about the value of a liberal arts and sciences education and the power of the Gettysburg Network.

“I know how valuable it is to get that mentorship... so I try to provide that to students who are in school,” he said.

“Those alumni connections were infinitely more valuable than the $10,000.”

Lincoln Prize Winner

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Gettysburg College announced Caroline E. Janney, author of “Ends of War: The Unfinished Fight of Lee’s Army After Appomattox,” as the recipient of the 2022 Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize. Janney is the John L. Nau III Professor of the American Civil War and director of the John L. Nau III Center for Civil War History at the University of Virginia and was recognized on April 14 during an award ceremony held at the Harvard Club in New York City.

Class of 2022 Commencement

On May 14, the Class of 2022 reflected on their winding journeys of growth that led them to their Commencement day and the building blocks they assembled along the way, upon which they’ll create the future as the College’s newest alumni.

“Today, you emerge from Pennsylvania Hall not only as Gettysburg graduates, but as leaders and engaged citizens prepared to change the world,” President Bob Iuliano said.

U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy, the 2022 Commencement speaker, also expressed a heartfelt confidence in the class to use their education in transformational ways.

“Your diploma bears a name—Gettysburg—that is central to the American story and represents what is best about the American spirit. That should make you feel proud and humbled,” Murphy said. “As a Gettysburg graduate, you are now ready to Do Great Work for your community, your country, and your world.”

Inspiring Giving

During the 2021-2022 fund year, thousands of alumni, parents and friends generously supported Gettysburg College’s exceptional student experience—uplifting current and future generations of Gettysburgians through giving. New gifts and commitments to the College totaled an impressive $21.3 million, an increase of $4 million over the previous year. Nearly 5,300 alumni, 1,990 current and past parents, and hundreds of faculty, staff, and friends contributed to this total. Thank you!

$21.3 million dollars in new gifts and commitments
CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER NAMED

On Aug. 8, Dr. Eloísa Gordon-Mora joined the Gettysburg College community as our new chief diversity officer. Recognized as one of “35 Outstanding Women in Higher Education” by Diverse: Issues in Higher Education, Dr. Gordon-Mora is a renowned leader in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) practices with a longstanding commitment to democratic civic engagement and social justice. She earned a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Notre Dame and has taught both domestically and internationally.

Most recently, Gordon-Mora served as the inaugural university diversity and inclusion officer at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), designing and implementing its first DEI Strategic Action Plan. She is also one of two higher education representatives from Nevada on the Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities’ Equity Council. At UNR, Gordon-Mora partnered with the university and surrounding community to organize and champion advocacy efforts, and she created educational campus programming like the “Dialogue, Equity, and Democracy” series and faculty development workshops.

Prior to UNR, Gordon-Mora was the dean of the School of Social Science, Humanities, and Communication at Universidad Ana G. Méndez and vice president for academic affairs at Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, both in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She also had stints in government affairs and with philanthropic and nonprofit organizations in New York City.

READ THE FULL PRESS RELEASE ON GETTYSBURG.EDU.

MATH AND DEMOCRACY

Gettysburg College Mathematics Prof. Beth Campbell Hetrick was named a member of Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf’s Redistricting Advisory Council, which establishes a set of guiding principles to determine whether a map is gerrymandered or equally balanced. Campbell Hetrick’s involvement in the topic began several years ago as part of a First-Year Seminar titled Mathematics of Voting: Counting the Vote and Making Your Vote Count.

KEN BURNS FILM FESTIVAL

Gettysburg College will host the first-ever film festival dedicated solely to the work of award-winning documentarian Ken Burns on Feb. 10-12, 2023, at the College’s Majestic Theater. Gettysburg students and the general public will personally engage with Burns, his collaborators, and historians in consequential conversations centered around a question the filmmaker has explored in each of his films on American history: Who are we? Burns will meet with Gettysburg departments and classes throughout the festival to discuss his films and how they can inform students’ thinking and actions as tomorrow’s leaders.

“Gettysburg is both a place of remembering and imagining,” Burns said. “It is of course a burial ground for those who fought there—North and South—but it is also where President Lincoln imagined a new country, one where the values we associate with our country’s founding were given new meaning. Our work tries to present the past in all of its complexity, collecting individual stories into larger narratives. I’m honored and so appreciative for this opportunity to share our films as part of this festival and to join many of my colleagues in a conversation about our art form—and our country’s history.”

PRODUCING FULBRIGHTS

At Gettysburg College, we prepare our students to be leaders in an ever-changing world, exploring new perspectives and engaging in cross-cultural dialogues. Recently recognized for our commitment to fostering this global perspective, the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs named Gettysburg a Top Producing Institution for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, receiving one grant and submitting seven applications in 2021.
ON CAMPUS

NEW ONLINE MASTER’S PROGRAM

Gettysburg College proudly launched a new online master’s program in American history this past spring, in collaboration with The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (GLI). Courses begin in September 2022.

Widely endorsed by the Gettysburg faculty, our new academic offering is open to all K-12 educators, district supervisors, librarians, museum professionals, and National Park Service employees who are affiliated with The GLI. The GLI has a network of 29,000 affiliated schools in all 50 states. It has delivered an M.A. in American history since 2014.

“Recognizing that more than 60,000 K-12 teachers in the United States are supported by this program—and these teachers engage with nearly 8 million students every year—our new master’s program presents us with a unique opportunity to advance Gettysburg’s mission and to strengthen American democracy for the better,” said President Bob Iuliano.

The 30-credit degree program is fully online and fully accredited. The courses will be taught by distinguished faculty-scholars on a range of topics spanning from the Founding Era to World War II and the present day. Master’s candidates are required to complete 10 three-credit courses. Tuition for the program is among the lowest of any M.A. program today at $750 per three-credit course ($7,500 for the entirety of the master’s program), ensuring the College’s reach extends to educators across the nation.

REGISTRATION FOR THE GETTYSBURG COLLEGE-GILDER LEHRMAN M.A. IS NOW OPEN. VISIT WWW.GILDERLEHRMAN.ORG/GETTYSBURG TO LEARN MORE.

ON CAMPUS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES WELCOMES FIVE

Jake Asplundh ’10 studied economics at Gettysburg and later earned his master’s in management from Wake Forest University. A resident of Towson, Maryland, he is the founder and principal of Passive Capital Management in Baltimore. He previously served as an ex-officio Board member in his role as BOLD Council chair.

Anna Baldasarre ’14 of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, is the assistant director of annual giving at Millersville University. An English major at Gettysburg, she has been a member of the BOLD Council since 2019, and serves as an ex-officio board member as the BOLD Council chair.

Chris Carr ’90, P’20, P’23 of Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania, studied English at Gettysburg. Named a Visionary Gettysburgian in recognition of his philanthropic support, he has previously served on the Steering Committee for the Unfinished Work Campaign, the Young Alumni Committee, and the Reunion Gift Committee for his 10th reunion. He worked as a senior medical device specialist for B. Braun Medical Inc before his retirement in 2021.

Sarah Wendt ’90 is a 2005 Young Alumni Career Achievement Award winner who has served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, reunion committees, and the New York Leadership Group. After graduating from Gettysburg as a political science major, Wendt earned her M.B.A. from New York University. She is currently the chief philanthropy officer for the Ethical Culture Fieldston School (NYC), after working with the Young Women’s Leadership Network/College Bound Initiative in NYC.

Alexander “Al” Wilkins ’06 serves as an ex-officio board member in his role as the new Alumni Board president. He is the senior director of strategic research at EAB in Washington, D.C. Since graduating from Gettysburg as a double major in management and anthropology, he has served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors in addition to service on his class reunion committees and the DC Alumni Club, of which he was president. He earned the Young Alumni Achievement Award in Service in 2016.

ATHLETICS

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Women’s basketball claimed another Centennial Conference (CC) crown last February, advancing to the NCAA playoffs for the fourth consecutive season and hosting the first two rounds inside Bream Gym. The success of the winter carried into the spring with women’s lacrosse claiming its record 13th Centennial crown before marching all the way to the national semifinals. Men’s lacrosse resumed its annual presence in the NCAA playoffs, advancing to the quarterfinals, while Holly Ferrara ’24 grabbed All-America status with a fourth-place finish at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Additionally, swimmer Oliver Pickering ’22 was named the CC Scholar-Athlete of the Year across all men’s sports.
CELEBRATING AN ERA

Joining Women’s Lacrosse Head Coach Carol Daly Cantele ’83, P’15 in retirement are four more athletic staff members that together total more than 150 years of service to Gettysburg College.

The longest-tenured head coach in the department, Baseball Coach John Campo P’07 concluded his 36th campaign at the helm and his 37th overall at Gettysburg. Campo retires as the baseball program’s career leader in wins with 644. A member of the Adams County Sports Hall of Fame, he led the Bullets to a dozen 20-win campaigns, a Middle Atlantic Conference championship (1987), and a trip to the NCAA Division III Tournament (1988).

Barb Jordan took the reins of the field hockey program in 2002 and finished with the most wins in program history at 182. She guided the Bullets to the conference playoffs 10 times and an ECAC Division III championship in 2005. Jordan, who was inducted into the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 2004, was a key part of Gettysburg’s success on the lacrosse field as well, contributing to three national titles, 10 conference championships, and 18 national playoff appearances.

Since arriving on campus in the spring of 1987, equipment manager Kelly Jones created an indelible legacy as a mentor to thousands of student-athletes. She has cheered on the Bullets to 132 conference championships and three national titles. Off campus, Jones has been a leader and advocate for equipment managers and was recognized by the Athletic Equipment Managers Association with the Glenn Sharpe Award in 2005, becoming the first woman from a Division III institution to earn the distinction.

Cindy Wright P’08, ’13, ’16 impacted the lives of countless Gettysburgians as an administrator of the campus recreation and intramural programs and a health sciences instructor. She was named Outstanding Professor in health sciences by the Order of Omega three times and was voted Favorite Professor at Gettysburg by the Class of 2008. During the last 12 years, Wright oversaw The John F. Jaeger Center for Athletics, Recreation, and Fitness and served on committees focused on student well-being.

ON CAMPUS

GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE

On April 19, the Eisenhower Institute at Gettysburg College alongside Spotlight PA and its founding members, hosted a gubernatorial debate on campus, which included Republican candidates Joe Gale, Charlie Gerow, Melissa Hart, and Nche Zama.

“Our goal is to inform and empower Pennsylvania voters as they head to the polls,” said Eisenhower Institute Executive Director Tracie Potts.

“Given our commitment to nonpartisan discourse and critical analysis of issues, the Eisenhower Institute is proud to host this debate.”

ALUMNI

MESSAGES TO THE MOON

Sara Freed ’18, the spacecraft operations lead at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, spends her workdays sending commands to NASA’s Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, a robotic spacecraft currently orbiting the moon collecting data that is essential for planning NASA’s future human and robotic missions. Freed, who majored in computer science and minored in Spanish, looks back fondly on her time at Gettysburg, saying, “That’s the value of a liberal arts education.”
ON THE TOPIC OF PURPOSE

HOW DO WE WAKE UP EVERY DAY WITH DRIVE AND DETERMINATION?

Edited by Phoebe Doscher ’22

Amanda Berg
Photographer, filmmaker, and adjunct instructor of interdisciplinary studies

One of the toughest things about being a photographer or following any self-directed path that is led by creative passion is simply getting out of bed every morning confident in your purpose. It is the internal compass that directs your work, and without that structure, it can be hard to move forward.

When I reflect on my purpose, I consider what it means to be an ethical documentary photographer today and how my identity intersects with this pursuit. What I’ve found is that my purpose is not a static thing. It shifts with my needs, develops with my awareness, and is restrained by my limitations. To sustain my creative practice, I have to interpret my purpose in the present moment while accepting that it is temporary.

Lately, I find myself coming back to two ideas. First, for me, making pictures is an act of community-building. Second, I believe visibility is a lever for social progress. With this framework, I prioritize relationships over photographs and look to make images that will contribute to a more visible world.

Andy Hughes
Executive director of the Garthwait Leadership Center

When I’m coaching students interested in developing leadership skills, I often ask, “So, you want to develop your leadership skills? For what purpose?”

I think about this question regularly myself. Having a clear sense of purpose is essential for the activity of leadership. Clarity of purpose not only reveals your “why” or your “raison d’être,” but it can be motivating and inspiring when facing change or adversity—it reminds you of what’s important in the moment and in the future.

Purpose in leadership must be clear for both the leader and those engaged in the leadership process. Ethical, effective, and enduring leadership—the type of leadership necessary today—requires a co-creation and shared articulation of purpose. In teams and organizations, we usually articulate this in mission and goal statements, publicizing our purpose to the world and providing guideposts for decision-making. The complexity, challenging nature, and sheer busyness of life and leadership often distract us from our purpose. Perhaps the simple question—“For what purpose?”—can help us and our teams remember what matters most.

Syd Quan ’22
Outgoing Student Senate president, biology major, and peace and justice studies minor

Purpose is constant. It’s in everything we do—it’s the choices we make and the decisions we blindly make. Even when you don’t do things “on purpose,” there was still an intention behind your action.

I find it to be one of the most difficult parts of leadership, and I still feel self-conscious every day when I am put in a position to take charge of a situation. Whether big or small, our decisions reflect our purposes in every role. A sense of purpose drives our outcomes and inspires others to find meaning in their own plans. It encourages us to persist through any obstacle we encounter, influencing us to make the best decisions we can for ourselves.

As Student Senate president, I always said, “We have two ears and one mouth, so we should be listening more than we talk.” This allows everyone in the room to determine their purpose before acting. We then find ourselves regrouping around a certain vision and incorporating feedback that intentionally fosters an environment for each member to live up to their fullest potential.
Purpose is what drives us. The dictionary defines it as “determination” and “resoluteness,” but I prefer to think of it as why we get up in the morning.

I found my purpose early in my career when a U.S. senator asked me to help our nation honor firefighters killed in the line of duty. We designated a stunning memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and created a congressionally chartered foundation to help the families left behind. Thirty years later, I remain very involved with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and I run the D.C. office of the National Fire Protection Association.

As an economics major who received an MBA in marketing, I explored lucrative jobs with big companies. But through classes and internships, I found my passion was to influence public policy and help others. A long career as a government executive at U.S. Customs and Border Protection and NASA combined with a lifetime of volunteer service proved more rewarding than big salaries. Having purpose in your life makes waking up each day a whole lot brighter.

As a cancer biology research scientist, I am routinely challenged to synthesize information and form strategies to test new hypotheses. I spent graduate school trying to understand why tumor cells spread throughout the body to help patients—a very purposeful learning objective. However, my Gettysburg experience made me a lifelong learner because it taught me how to think, instead of what to think.

As with any science major, there was a lot of memorization, but there were also problem-solving exercises that forced me to apply what I was memorizing. My classes outside my major then reinforced the concepts of crafting and discussing an opinion and receiving feedback.

At the time, I thought my science classes gave me purpose because I was learning facts that would be useful in a medical career, and the humanities classes were full of interesting topics to make me a well-rounded individual. But now I realize it was learning how to critically think across subjects that really motivated me to pursue a Ph.D. and build a meaningful career in scientific research.
LIVES OF CONSEQUENCE

THE INTERSECTION OF THEATER AND THERAPY

HOW DRAMATIC TECHNIQUES CAN LEAD TO CATHARSIS AND CHANGE

by Megan Miller

“Why fit in when you were born to stand out?”

Dr. Seuss

Stories are brought to life on stage, stirring thoughts and evoking emotions—but sometimes, it’s the stories that emerge behind the curtain that truly transform lives.

In 2014, the Gettysburg Community Theatre launched its Penguin Project, mirroring the national nonprofit program of the same name founded by an Illinois pediatrician nearly 20 years ago. The Penguin Project in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, provides children with special needs a cost-free opportunity to act, dance, and sing in a musical alongside a peer mentor.

Photography by Blake Fitch
A Gettysburg senior documented the preparation for the local program’s “Suessical, Jr.,” production as part of her theatre arts capstone, stating in 2016: 

“The effects of this program have been more meaningful than anyone could’ve anticipated. This program has given these children confidence, friendships, stage experience, and singing and dancing training. It has given parents hope for their children’s futures. It has given me a passion for using theater in ways that make the lives of those involved larger and more meaningful.”

“My name is Emily Lunardi ’16 (she/her) and I have been involved with theater for half of my life. … For everyone who has seen theater work it’s magic the way that I have, theater is therapy.”

Today, as part of an outpatient practice, Lunardi works with clients of all ages and identities through drama therapy. Drama therapy is the use of dramatic techniques to achieve therapeutic goals—art as a medium to promote healing.

“I want to show up in the world in a way that’s aware and effective,” Lunardi said, reflecting on her career path to becoming a licensed mental health counselor in Massachusetts and a registered drama therapist.

Three years after graduating from Gettysburg, Lunardi received her master’s degree in clinical mental health counseling with a specialization in drama therapy from Lesley University, and then led a partial hospitalization program for LGBTQ+ adults until December 2021. She also provides trainings on LGBTQ+ competency and mental health for first responders and medical providers to this day.

“I do think my work is consequential, and I think I’m doing great work,” said the theatre arts and psychology double major.

It is because of her Gettysburg College education that Lunardi has been able to grow both personally and professionally, coming out as a member of the LGBTQ+ community herself and being comfortable challenging the status quo with the respect she gained from members of the Gettysburg community, including Theatre Arts Prof. Eric Berninghausen, Susan Russell, and Blair and Leslie Strongwater.

“I’m strong-willed. When I believe in something, it doesn’t falter. At Gettysburg, I felt my ideas mattered,” said Lunardi, who was invigorated by pursuing the uncommon field of drama therapy as an 18-year-old. “I found out a lot of who I am at Gettysburg. I felt the encouragement to be who I am even if that means I was breaking the mold—I was encouraged to be me.”

Lunardi first came out in her senior year of high school to her closest friends and family, but she initially decided to hide her true identity at Gettysburg until she made new friends. She joined the concert choir and a sorority, Alpha Delta Pi. She participated in Big Brothers Big Sisters, as well as Colleges Against Cancer, and even advocated for her own community through Friend or FOE, a student organization dedicated to offering queer students and their allies the chance to connect on campus. When she was elected to be vice president of Friend or FOE entering junior year, she decided it was time.

“It was the push I needed,” she said. “I am a cisgender white sorority girl. … [I wanted] to forge connections at college that might not feel like they exist, like Greek life and queer life. I wasn’t going to put up with that. I’m not the only one that’s both of these things, so let’s connect them. I wanted to create a path that you can be both—and I wanted to show how.”

Lunardi took it upon herself to talk to her peers of all backgrounds—“If you talk to people and share your story, they might listen. It might inform the way they exist in the world.”

She did just that, meeting with Greek life organizations across campus, and even received a text message from a fraternity member thanking her for her help when his brother came out. Lunardi continues that same notion in her current role, bringing with her to each session a bag full of expressive therapy tools, including a giraffe figurine and streamers, to help create a safe space for her clients to find meaning, connection, and moments of joy in their lives.

“It all goes back to the opportunities at Gettysburg,” Lunardi said. “I was given platforms to share my story. … A Consequential Education, if it works, is to break molds and challenge systems.”

For Lunardi, healing isn’t about being perfect; it’s about being your true self. Drama therapy helps her clients increase their ability to tolerate instability in a world full of constant change.

“The Penguin Project was the culmination of everything I cared about. Once a year, I go back and watch it and think about how much I’ve learned since then,” said Lunardi, who will teach at Lesley this fall in its expressive therapies program. “We all play many roles in our lives; some we choose, and some we don’t. But it’s about being the fullness of who we are.”

For Lunardi, that includes continuing being a supporter of the LGBTQ+ community, empowering those she educates through her work and in the classroom to do the same.

“I know these things because I pay attention, and I’m now sharing it with you,” Lunardi continued. “My goal is to empower people that they understand enough to do better, and I’m hoping to do a lot more.”

Visit www.gettysburg.edu to learn more about A Consequential Education and its lifelong implications. You can also visit www.emilylunardi.com to learn more and connect.
CONNECTIONS

GETTYSBURG WAS DEFINITELY THE FOUR BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE. It was an incredible period of growth for me, and the person most responsible for that growth was former Football Coach Barry Streeter. He taught me and my teammates many lessons about life. I can still hear it now: “Be a man of integrity.” He told us, “Men, I’m going to treat you just like I treat my sons. It’s my job to help you be productive men in society.” I’m forever grateful for that.

MANY OF THE LESSONS THAT I LEARNED AT GETTYSBURG ARE ONES I STILL CARRY WITH ME TODAY. Professionally, I’m an attorney, and personally, I’m someone who is very much an advocate against the status quo. Part of why I’m an attorney is I want to be able to advocate for people who are somehow harmed by the system that we have in this country and who may not have the same capabilities or voice to be able to defend themselves. At Gettysburg, I learned that being part of an organization or team is bigger than your personal feelings or your selfish desires or goals. Really understanding what sacrificing for the greater good means is something that I utilize every day.

GIVING BACK IS IMPORTANT TO ME. I wouldn’t have been able to attend Gettysburg College without the generosity of others. I’m not a believer in fate, but if there ever was evidence for me that fate was real, it was me ending up as a Gettysburg College student. When I return to Gettysburg, it’s the feeling I get when I go back to my mom’s and dad’s homes or my grandparents’ house—it’s like returning home. I know why we call the places we went to school our alma mater—it literally means “loving mother” in Latin. That’s what Gettysburg was for me. I couldn’t think of a better way to pay forward the blessings that I got through Gettysburg than establishing a Gettysburg Fund Named Scholarship to help another student or students in need—to contribute toward the gift of a Gettysburg College education.

MY HOPE FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDENTS is that they leave Gettysburg with a real understanding of what it means to be a quality person. I want them to be open-minded and open to listening to different perspectives. Maybe you still end up disagreeing, but you’re listening and hearing others. I hope that they bring that approach with them in life because it’s something that stuck with me, and it’s something that I continue to try to do in the communities where I’ve lived since I left Gettysburg. I think if everybody would do that, worldwide, we’d be in a much better place as an overall human race.
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Britney Brunache ’22 (pictured), outgoing president for the Black Student Union
Photograph by Anh Nguyen ’22
The Car Connection

by Molly Foster
Utilizing the Gettysburg Network and sharing a deep desire to solve problems, Roger Nelson P'91, '93 and Rod Tosten '85 collaborated in the College’s Innovation and Creativity Lab to build a teddy bear that’s captivating hearts and strengthening minds—now known and loved as CueTeddy.
Nov. 6, 2018, Roger Nelson P ’91, ’93 was scrolling through Facebook when he came across Gettysburg College’s most recent post—an article on then-Digital Technology Summer Fellow Tyler Mitchell ’20, who created an affordable, closed-loop insulin pump in the College’s Innovation and Creativity Lab.

Aha! That’s it! Nelson thought to himself. He quickly sent an email to connect with Vice President of Information Technology and Computer Science Prof. Rod Tosten ’85, who supported Mitchell during his project, alongside Director of Educational Technology Eric Remy.

“It was providence,” Nelson said, remembering this serendipitous moment on social media, as just a few days before he had visited his sister-in-law and her husband in their live-in memory unit in Virginia. It was during that visit that an idea was stirred—one that could help individuals with varying levels of decreased cognitive function due to Alzheimer’s or dementia. It had the potential to improve their long-term memory and increase feelings of comfort and connection.

That idea was CueTeddy.

“I noticed that many of the residents were carrying around stuffed animals, and my sister-in-law had this little white rabbit,” Nelson said. As he watched her carry this rabbit everywhere, he also realized those in the memory unit often preferred spending much of their days passively watching TV, some even with their stuffed animals in tow, rather than engaging with one another. “And I thought, well, why not have the rabbit talk to the individual?”

But it was just an idea at the time, and it was all he could think about.

Serving as a visiting professor at SOMT University of Physiotherapy in Amersfoort, Netherlands, in late 2018, Nelson had ongoing CueTeddy conversations with a colleague who works for the Dutch health system’s innovation department, Waldemar Hogerwaard. Seeing its potential, Hogerwaard helped Nelson think through how he might be able to have the bear talk, and Hogerwaard encouraged him to find a way to implement the concepts they brainstormed.

With a personal tie to the subject, Nelson was unquestionably motivated to heed his colleague’s advice, but he needed hands-on help transforming this idea into something tangible and lovable—and the Innovation and Creativity Lab was his answer. Tosten, gladly offering his expertise, partnered with Nelson, and several months later, the prototype for CueTeddy was born.

“This concept would have stayed a concept if it wasn’t for Rod,” Nelson said. “He really brought it to life.”

Four years and many tinkering hours since that fortuitous day on Facebook, the most recent prototype, owned by Gettysburg College, has caught the attention of local, regional, and even a few national news organizations. This well-earned spotlight has since inspired floods of emails from people who believe in the bear—families with loved ones suffering from memory loss that believe in CueTeddy’s potential to change lives as much as Nelson and Tosten do.

“It has all just reaffirmed that we’re heading in the right direction and that we’re onto something here,” Tosten said.
The ins and outs of CueTeddy

“How do you spell love?” Piglet asked Winnie the Pooh, to which Pooh replied, “You don’t spell it. You feel it.”

There is something endearing about the love and comfort a teddy bear can provide—consoling a woeful infant, befriending a lonesome child, and even possessing the power to transport an adult back to a place, time, feeling, or memory from the attic of their long-ago youth. For Christopher Robin and the young-hearted across the globe, Winnie the Pooh’s adventures in the Hundred Acre Wood were very real—they embarked on them together. As they read the words in the books or indulged in the story on TV, the beloved and nostalgic bear brought them joy and solace.

Similar to Pooh and the friendship, fond memories, and hope he offered and continues to offer grownups and children alike, CueTeddy takes being a cuddly companion steps farther than a typical teddy bear. It takes this role to heart. Its soft, fabric exterior is custom-made by a Philadelphia-based designer, Liz Bauman, to be both huggable and able to be cleaned with a disinfecting wipe—a critical design element, as each bear can be programmed to be used by more than one individual. Adding dimension and functionality to its head, ears, and hands are metal-woven patches, purposefully positioned to respond to a user’s prompted touch. Beneath its heart-shaped felt nose, CueTeddy’s mesh mouth, upturned in a gentle grin, allows conversation. Then, on the inside, there’s much more than stuffing: it is home to the motherboard.

The various technological components that are tucked away beneath CueTeddy’s surface include a lavalier microphone, a soundboard, a connection board, and a tiny computer known in the tech world as “Raspberry Pi”—all of which, and more, are accessible to students in the Creativity and Innovation Lab to build their mind’s innermost ideas, like Mitchell. Together, these pieces make it possible for the bear to connect and engage with the individual, using both cognitive and psychomotor approaches to learning.

What was your pet’s name when you were growing up? What are the seasons of the year? What did your mother cook for Thanksgiving that you really liked?

These are just a few of the countless, customizable questions that CueTeddy can ask—in any voice—to get neurons firing and pleasant memories stirring in minds. “For one resident, we actually recorded her son’s voice,” Tosten said. “She was able to recognize it and was beyond excited to hear her son’s voice come out of the bear.”

“With CueTeddy, you see the cognitive approach at work as the bear asks the person simple questions and the psychomotor approach as they’re prompted to move the bear. Whereas the affective domain, which involves feelings, emotions, and attitudes, is employed as they hug CueTeddy or pat one of its touch-responsive areas,” added Nelson, who has worked in physical therapy for more than 60 years. “We’re able to track these responses too. Rod built in the bear a mechanism that records this information to help us learn how each individual best interacts with CueTeddy.”

Nelson further explained that recent memories are frequently fleeting for individuals with progressive memory disorders like Alzheimer’s or dementia. Many live in an in-between world, somewhere between the present and the past, clinging to the memories that remain. With this in mind, it’s both Nelson’s and Tosten’s hope that CueTeddy combats feelings of isolation among these populations, rather sparking a newfound excitement to engage.

And it’s working. In just a few sessions, those who have used CueTeddy are not only strengthening their cognitive recall, but they’re also smiling more, they’re tapping into feelings of nostalgia and joy, and correspondingly, they’re growing more open to conversing with the bear and with others.

“When I think about the effect it could have at a larger scale, that’s what’s energizing,” Nelson said. “That’s what keeps us going.”

Captivating hearts, strengthening minds

During early prototype testing in 2019, the CueTeddy duo vividly remembers the day they returned to a memory unit in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, to observe five individuals’ interactions with the bear. Due to needed technical work, it had been three long weeks after their last visit. As they always did, they walked
Vice President of Information Technology and Computer Science Prof. Rod Tosten ’85 (left) pictured with Roger Nelson P ’91, ’93 and their CueTeddy creations in the College’s Innovation and Creativity Lab

in carrying the teddy bears in a yellow sack—much like Santa Claus would carry his bag of toys—and one woman’s face lit up with sheer excitement.

“You’re the guy with the bear,” she said to Nelson.

“She was someone who had a memory of about two minutes, and after three weeks, she remembered working with the bear. That’s truly remarkable,” Nelson said.

These small moments of success brought an abundance of praise, but Nelson and Tosten wanted to perfect their product. They understood that firsthand feedback through their trials would also present areas of growth, which would ultimately bring elements of CueTeddy back to the drawing board.

“A lot of times in these entrepreneurial efforts, it’s three steps forward and two steps back,” Nelson added. “We had our celebratory moments and our frustrating moments, but that’s the joy of entrepreneurship. It’s slow, teetering progress.”

One preliminary user with impaired hearing had difficulty with the volume of CueTeddy’s prompts, to which Tosten developed new technology, allowing a customizable audio experience. Now, the bear is equipped with a clip-on Bluetooth speaker.

With each found fault, the improvements have propelled them one step closer to a universally accessible, finished product.

“CueTeddy is not a complex idea, but Roger saw a need and a solution, and we ran with it,” Tosten said. “It’s in pretty good shape for a prototype, but now it just needs to be built a little bit differently. It needs to be commercialized and made turnkey.”

In pursuit of getting CueTeddy on the market, Tosten filed for a patent in July 2020 and a trademark in September 2021. He and Nelson are currently looking to secure additional funding to support their efforts, as well as a strategic partner interested in further developing, marketing, licensing, and manufacturing the bear. As they await patent approval and seek out the perfect partner, they’re sharpening their assets.

They’re continuing to iron out kinks in CueTeddy functionality and polishing its website before making it public-facing, with the help of several Gettysburg College students—Daegan Wilcox ’22, Jacobus Hoetmer ’22, and Nikha In-Amkha ’21—as part of their computer science senior capstone projects.

While the long-term goal is to widely distribute the bear in assisted living facilities in collaboration with a global partner, Nelson is committed to ensuring Gettysburg College remains at the bear’s core.

“I’d like to see that we have the Gettysburg College logo somewhere on the bear and get it out across the world into the hands of those who need it most,” Nelson said.
Behind CueTeddy’s heart-shaped nose and in the hearts of those invested in the invention, Nelson sees a care connection. He envisions an ongoing blissful blending between the College and the community, as modeled by his collaboration with Tosten—a culmination of people who not only care deeply about others, but also dare to find creative solutions to problems, together, by tapping into invaluable resources, like the Innovation and Creativity Lab.

In Nelson’s eyes, the bear is just the beginning.

**Big change starts small**

Tosten’s and Nelson’s ambitions for CueTeddy are rooted in joy, comfort, and hope for those with memory loss and their families. But perhaps it too will serve as someone else’s moment of providence, like Mitchell was for Nelson.

Today, Mitchell is a software engineer at Tandem Diabetes Care—another connection deriving from his work in the College’s Innovation and Creativity Lab.

“After graduating from Gettysburg, I was three weeks away from starting graduate school at Tufts University, and I was on an eight-hour drive from Tufts back home to Maryland when I got a call from Tandem,” Mitchell remembers. Tandem staff had just read the article about his insulin pump work and wanted him to join their team.

Mitchell’s answer was without hesitation: Yes! It was his dream job, and two years later, it still is. Every day, Mitchell is continuing the great work he started at Gettysburg, improving insulin pumps with personal and professional implications—making them more accessible and affordable for those whose lives depend on it, a problem he’s quite familiar with as a diabetic for more than 20 years.

“Without the Innovation and Creativity Lab, I may have never found that passion,” he said.

Witnessing the evolution of the lab and experiencing endless possibilities that have emerged from it, Mitchell is proud to see his alma mater investing in innovation with a continued devotion to problem-solving. Furthermore, he was touched to learn that he’s even played a small role in bringing CueTeddy to life.

“From the universally-loved form factor they went with to the customizable experience, the whole idea of CueTeddy is so sound,” Mitchell said. “Working in the medical device industry, I often have people running their ideas by me, and it’s been a long time since I’ve found a new, creative idea that excites me like CueTeddy—something that I feel could actually work.”

“And because it’s coming out of my alma mater and the Innovation and Creativity Lab, that excites me even more.”

As confident as Tosten is in CueTeddy, he’s even more optimistic that it won’t be the last head-turning invention to come out of the Innovation and Creativity Lab. He hopes it might inspire Gettysburg College students, alumni, and community members who read this story to follow the trail of something they care about—to take a leap of faith.

“We want students to have A Consequential Education and make a positive impact in the world—to take on the big challenges,” Tosten said. “Here’s two guys and we’re trying to address Alzheimer’s and dementia. It just takes mustering up the courage to do it—to take that first step.”

Are you passionately pursuing innovative work or tinkering with your own solution to a problem? Share your story with alumimagazine@gettysburg.edu.

If you are interested in partnering with Roger Nelson P’91, ’93 and Rod Tosten ’85 on CueTeddy, please contact them at cueteddy@cueteddy.com.
A Legacy of Leadership

Celebrating 50 years of impact and change through the Black Student Union

by Kasey Varner '14
When Buddy Glover ’71 came to Gettysburg College through the Upward Bound program, which actively sought to help underrepresented students pursue higher education, he became a voice for the student body to encourage belonging and inclusion on campus. But, most importantly, he became a voice for fellow Black students. He was the College’s 12th Black graduate—Dr. Rudolph Featherstone ’56 was the first.
Uniting together, Glover and a handful of students did what Gettysburg College students do best: they saw a need and they filled it, founding a student-led Afro-American Society that became known as the Black Student Union (BSU) in 1972. Since then, each generation of BSU members has built upon what Glover and his classmates started, creating a community of understanding that continues to expand resources for students of color. Now celebrating its 50th year, the BSU has provided pivotal experiences in helping cultivate a “culture of openness” across campus, said BSU’s most recent president, Britney Brunache ’22—and the College community has witnessed its lasting legacy.

As a member of the Board of Trustees and CEO of Jay-Z’s The Parent Company, Troy Datcher ’90 often reflects on the skillset he gained during his time at Gettysburg, as a member of the BSU, and how those values have shaped his life since.

“I didn’t realize I was developing them at the time, but that’s exactly where I learned some very valuable principles that I use every day,” Datcher said. “Principles around authenticity, trust, and stewardship, the confidence that my opinions mattered, the knowledge that my actions had impact, and a desire to leave a place better than I found it—those were lessons that I learned and values that I formed on campus as a member of the BSU.”

Enduring Bonds

“Coming together with people that look like you in an environment like Gettysburg is a natural inclination. It’s like a magnetic force,” explained Cheryl Walker Davis ’75, who currently serves on the Alumni Board of Directors. Like Glover, she was one of the driving forces behind the BSU and a leader across campus, serving as the vice president of the Student Union Board and also captaining the cheerleading squad.

“There were so few Black people that we came together, looking for the comfort of familiarity and the comfort of academic and emotional support, and a bridge to connect with the broader College community. What we created in doing so was a platform for transition. It was the glue that bound us together and gave many of us the leverage we needed to succeed in the Gettysburg College environment.”

The BSU was not the first student organization dedicated to the issues of Black students, but its impact has been the most transformative, casting a wide-ranging mission. It aimed to mentor Black youth in the greater Gettysburg community, advance recruitment for other academically talented Black students, and provide programming and events open to the entire community. These educational events included visits from African American Blues singers, writers Alex Haley and Nikki Giovanni, and political activist Dick Gregory, as well as art shows and film festivals. According to Walker Davis, however, the biggest learning experience for students was through their daily interactions.

“Most Gettysburg students at the time came from small white communities, and there were many instances when students told you that you were the first Black person they had a chance to talk to or befriend,” Walker Davis said. “Although we didn’t fully understand at the time, every interaction was an opportunity to educate; to debunk stereotypes; and to foster, strengthen, and cultivate relationships. It was an opportunity to effect enduring social change for the greater good. We needed to embrace that responsibility and show that not only did we occupy a position on campus, but that we could excel on campus and in our post-collegiate endeavors.”

Perry Clark ’74 carved a space for himself on campus as a standout basketball player, but recalled longing for acceptance off the court. Yvonne Morgan Jefferson ’76 shared that feeling, as secretary, vice president, and president of the BSU at different times.

“We wanted to be happy, we wanted to be successful, and we wanted to make a good impression to show people who we really were,” Jefferson said. “As a result of just being on campus, we ended up being agents of change.”

Perhaps most importantly, the BSU created a space on campus centered around Black student experiences—a unique ability on a predominately white campus in a rural town. At the time, students met in the College Union Building (CUB) in a room behind the bowling alley, and they took their commitment to cultivating a social scene and advancing Black student recruitment seriously.

“We did not join fraternities, so the BSU was our social gathering spot as well as our on-campus support system,” Michael Ayers ’75 said. “Some of my inner-city classmates never interacted with white America the way we did at Gettysburg. Having the BSU helped us make it through our college years.”

The Power of Connection and Community

In the years that followed, Gettysburg College saw the recruitment of underrepresented students and faculty continue to grow, as well as a rise in cultural organizations and spaces on campus—Diaspora House (D-House), the Latin American Student Association, Latinx House, a chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and the first historically Black Greek letter organizations. The BSU also evolved to serve all members of the College’s Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) community.

Hilda Roche-Santiago ’79, a former vice president of the BSU, was the College’s first Hispanic graduate.

Harry Matthews was hired as the first Black dean at Gettysburg College in 1985 and worked on intercultural advancement. Psychology Prof. Judith Gay was the first Black female professor hired at the College in 1976, Economics Prof. Derrick Gondwe became the first Black tenured professor in 1989, and English Prof. Deborah Barnes P’04 was the first Black female professor to earn tenure in 1999.
Members of the BSU listening to Nikki Giovanni during a campus visit.

(ABOVE; RIGHT) BSU Field Day 2022
(Photo by McKenna White '25)
“... every interaction was an opportunity to educate; to debunk stereotypes; and to foster, strengthen, and cultivate relationships. It was an opportunity to effect enduring social change for the greater good.”

Cheryl Walker Davis '75
These individuals, and many more, became mentors for Gettysburg students of color, and the impact they made has never been forgotten. When Darryl Jones joined the Gettysburg community as an admissions officer in 1985, he recalled just 10 students of color in the incoming class. He quickly made it his goal to make a difference and develop personal connections, including with Lawrose Brown ’10. Jones was one of the supporters “in [Brown’s] corner,” invested in her personal and professional development, ultimately guiding her as a student speaker at Get Acquainted Day after she expressed her interest in public speaking. In 2020, Jones then appeared in HBO’s “We’re Here” docuseries as way to further promote inclusion and belonging through drag.

“We need to put the ‘unity’ back in the word ‘community,’” Jones said in the Winter 2021 issue of GETTYSBURG College Magazine. “If we all joined together—both people of those backgrounds and the allies of people from those backgrounds—that’s how you make the difference. That’s where the power to create lasting change is.”

Brown, who described herself as a 6-foot-3, Black and Muslim woman, echoed that sentiment when she spoke to Archives Assistant Devin McKinney in February 2021, as part of Musselman Library’s oral history collection. Thanks to her experiences on campus, including with the BSU and D-House—a College House specifically focused on promoting, educating, and fostering cultural diversity awareness of African diaspora—she built an understanding for embracing different perspectives.

“In the microcosm that is Gettysburg, but that also translates to a larger world, the BSU was phenomenal for being a group of people that understood,” Brown said. “[The BSU] was a lot of fun. I enjoyed it, and still recognize that in any group, you take the commonality, and you still retain your individuality because you know that you’re a person who has to do your own thinking and make your own decisions. The last year of D-House, the extended community around BSU and the Black community—that was really a great year. … It was a great group of people who led it, and they also really valued making people feel included in it.”

For every new wave of students entering Gettysburg College, the BSU served as an outlet to continue fostering those meaningful connections. It was also a space for mutual learning, inclusivity, and leadership. Together with BSU treasurer Mike Warren ’89, Datcher, as president of the club as a senior, was able to bring renowned Black speakers to campus, including prominent civil rights movement organizer Kwame Ture, formerly known as Stokely Carmichael.

“I got involved with the BSU because I was feeling homesick and I was looking for community, but I also saw the power and the impact it could have on campus,” said Datcher, who was also the Student Senate president and DJ for the College’s radio station WZBT. “It was a great way to bring diversity to campus through educational and social programs.”

The social scene is also what provided students with many of their quintessential collegiate memories, including the BSU’s annual step show, a fashion show, and a student-featured talent show. Students could often be found hanging out at the BSU office or listening to Datcher DJ at the newly opened Dive—a social hangout before it was transformed into a campus eatery.

“The BSU room was a place where we could go and play records and relax and hang out. We could study. It was a private environment,” said Michelle Lynette Hughes ’91, P’18, a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. “It was very important that I could kind of let my hair down. … It was kind of an informal, conversational atmosphere, and the bonding was very positive. That type of bonding is something that’s unmatched.”

Transcending Barriers, Impacting Lives

While national discourse and campus climate have changed over the years, many of the challenges that the BSU was created to combat remain the same: helping students adjust to a campus that may be very different from what they call home and providing them with a space to feel seen, heard, and represented.

This is where the BSU shines, according to Kermit O. & Renee A. Paxton Endowed Teaching Chair and English Prof. McKinley Melton, the club’s faculty co-advisor alongside Africana Studies Chair and History and Africana Studies Prof. Scott Hancock.

“As the College works to become a more inclusive place, and to embrace the opportunities that come with being a different institution in its future than it has been in its past, the students often bear the impact of those growing pains,” Melton explained. “The BSU, through its existence, let alone its activities and programming, provides a space where Black students never have to question whether they belong. That’s not always guaranteed everywhere else on campus.”

As a theatre arts and psychology double major, Brunahe has never had a Black professor during her four years at Gettysburg due to her schedule. Yet through the BSU, she has built connections with Melton, Hancock, and Daria L. and Eric J. Wallach Professor of Peace and Justice Studies and Africana Studies Prof. Hakim Mohandas Anami Williams. The mentorships they have all provided transcend her academic experiences, aiding in her personal and professional development.

It’s not just connections with Black faculty that students are looking for to enhance their College experience. They want greater connections with Black alumni, too.

Following the Black Lives Matter protests that swept the nation in June 2020, a handful of students and young alumni organized a call to talk about shared experiences and challenges. During this call, students expressed frustrations over the lack of a physical presence of BIPOC alumni on campus—a wake-up call for Deonte Austin ‘11, who recalled ease of access to a number of Black alumni who were actively involved with the BSU when he was a student.
A LEGACY OF ‘DOING THE MOST’

By Britney Brunache ’22, outgoing president for the Black Student Union

The fall of 2021 was my first time as president of any organization, and it was my most involved post-pandemic experience in the past two years after initially serving as the secretary of BSU. I decided that in order to make a mark on campus and make sure that we are returning to a sense of normalcy, I committed myself to doing the most—having four events every month, hosting consistent general meetings, providing my executive members the chance to lead as well, and building a relationship between the club and our advisors, Africana Studies Chair Scott Hancock and English Prof. McKinley Melton.

Through this, we were able to have large-scale events like our game night, dodgeball tournament, and fashion show. The event that I am most proud of was our BSU prom, as it was a mission of mine to have a BSU formal for the first time in years—especially one that was catered to the first-years and sophomores who weren’t able to enjoy one in high school due to the pandemic. Essential to this experience was creating memories, so prom featured a class gift and a 365-degree photo booth they could all use together. We also had a section dedicated to those of neurodiversity so they could have a space to destress and relax.

This really kicked off our cosponsor frenzy with other organizations on campus in the spring 2022 semester because we were starting to become a club that was open to everyone. We co-sponsored Valen-Chat with the Latin American Students’ Association, partnered with Musselman Library’s Special Collections to highlight the history of Black people on campus, and held our annual field day that was cosponsored by many Greek organizations.

The importance behind this adaptation is that we created a sense of togetherness that was lacking during the pandemic. We ensured that we were always available as a resource to share opinions and an outlet to have fun during a stressful year for everyone, not just our members. Ultimately, this culture of openness allowed our organization to leave a legacy not only this year, but for many to come.

That’s why I consider the legacy of not just my leadership but of my entire generation as “doing the most.” Together, we tried to think above and beyond. I hope that keeping the club alive is what fuels the next generation of BSU members to continue to do the most for our community.

“The BSU, through its existence, let alone its activities and programming, provides a space where Black students never have to question whether they belong.”

Prof. McKinley Melton

During his time at Gettysburg, Austin had pursued leadership roles and employment across campus, including with the BSU as secretary, vice president, and then president, and with Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, the Attic activities board, the Women’s Resource Center, and the Intercultural Resource Center’s Pal Program. He saw himself then as an active student, but “looking back on those times, I definitely was an activist,” he said.

That mindset is what defines the BSU student experience, historically and today. It’s not just the conversations they have during their meetings, said Brunache. Activism most often takes the shape of events centered around a sense of Blackness, providing necessary representation on campus and helping Black students navigate unique challenges to their Gettysburg experience, including learning how to style their hair through workshops specifically catered to their needs. Ultimately, it’s about staying true to who they are and what they stand for.

“Black students usually worry about where to get their hair done in Gettysburg. So, they brought someone in to teach us to twist our hair, wear a bonnet, or wear our curls. It was really specific to our culture and to our hair, and it showed us that they were paying attention,” said Brunache of the spirit week that took place during her first year. Since then, she also noted some rising students have brought their braiding talents to the College.

“There are more social issues today than there were when I was a student,” Austin added. “There are currently students on
campus who look like me—whom I might be able to help, whom I can positively impact.”

So, he asked himself: If not now, then when?

Continuing to live the mission and spirit of the BSU, Austin organized. He and 10 other alumni formed a steering committee to establish the Gettysburg Alumni of Color Council (GACC). While their goals are multifaceted, they are committed to impacting current BIPOC student experiences, often partnering with the BSU and uniting generations of its activists and leaders.

Together, they aim to fulfill the promise of a Gettysburg education for current students and also hold the College accountable to students’ needs as they continue to create spaces for underrepresented groups on a predominately white campus. Today, more than 50% of Gettysburg’s alumni of color are within the Burgians Of the Last Decade (BOLD) population, representing alumni who graduated in the last 10 years, and now Walker Davis also serves on the GACC Steering Committee.

The lasting legacy of the BSU extends beyond recruitment, representation, and connection. It’s their ability to turn students into changemakers—people who lead lives of consequence and impact the institutions and communities of which they are a part for the better.

“None of us came to Gettysburg with the intention of being trailblazers,” Clark said. “We came to Gettysburg to get a better education, for an opportunity to be the first in our families to go to college. The motivation was never to go to college to be a trailblazer, but I think history looks back and sees that.”

Special thanks to Musselman Library’s Special Collections and College Archives for their oral histories and digital resources on diversity and inclusion at Gettysburg College. To share your story, contact the College magazine at alumnimagazine@gettysburg.edu. We look forward to celebrating the BSU 50th Reunion during Homecoming Weekend on Oct. 14-16, 2022!
Retired Psychology Prof. Bob D’Agostino’s teaching philosophy is about more than just passion. It’s about being a meaningful mentor—for life.
On a quiet Friday morning during the spring 2022 semester, Psychology Prof. Bob D'Agostino sits in his office in McCreary Hall—door propped open, feet up on his desk. From wall to wall, Gettysburgians can peer in and see storage boxes overflow with journals, mugs, and letters from former students, spanning a 53-year career. While he retired at the conclusion of the fall 2021 semester, he still comes to campus to visit with the colleagues and students who affectionately call him “D’Ags.”

Despite being the longest-serving professor at Gettysburg College, little has changed about D’Ags. When you walk into the room, he’ll leap up from his seat to greet you and direct you to the chair next to his desk where decades of students have sat over the years. He assumes his age-old professorial stance, reclining in his chair with his legs kicked up on the corner of the desk—the same stance that students recall from his first year of teaching back in 1969. His voice modulates from an intense whisper you want to lean in to hear to a booming crescendo that shakes the room. Without missing a beat, he begins to ask about your life and listens intently.

This has been the D’Ags way: teaching passionately, caring deeply, and, most of all, connecting with and inspiring his students.

“That’s probably the thing I’ll miss most—getting to know these kids,” he said with a smile. “They become friends. Some of these kids are friends for 50 years. That’s probably the most important and positive thing that’s happened here for the last half century.”

INSTRUCTING WITH FERVOR

In 1969, his first year at Gettysburg as a brand-new scholar in his mid-20s, D’Agostino established a headstrong vision: be innovative in the field while educating the next generation onto greatness. He had just graduated from the University of Virginia with a master’s and Ph.D. in psychology and captured the attention of the Psychology Department and a group of students during his interview at Gettysburg with his research on social cognition and memory. D’Agostino landed the job because he wore his heart on his sleeve and showcased a personability that would build lifelong connections.

“He communicated such a love for research,” Paul Bartkus ’70 explained. “[In the classroom,] it was sort of like a volley of tennis. He brought the journal articles to life as if it was a conversation among the scientists who wrote them. It was a completely novel experience for me.”

With an out-of-the-box point-grading system and lecturing after ample preparation, he immediately commanded the respect of his students as both a mentor and an academic. Bartkus even remembers the young professor staying after class, leaning against his table, to chat with his students.

“[Gettysburg] was his first teaching assignment after the University of Virginia, so we were within a five- or six-year age range [of D’Ags]. That made him more collegially approachable,” said Bartkus, a retired school psychologist.

Since the early days of his tenure, D’Agostino proved to be a respected scholar and an intrinsically passionate educator. He published research in prominent psychological journals, such as the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology and the Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition. He also earned three grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), including the largest NSF grant Gettysburg College had received in 1975. Some of his research topics included the effects of repetition and recall on memory and the perception of subliminal information.

“Bob’s focus on excellence in teaching and research, beginning back in the late 1960s, set a standard not only in the Psychology Department but also for the College more generally,” said President Emerita Janet Morgan Riggs ’77, a psychology major who took many of his classes.

For the first 20 years of his career, D’Agostino followed a strict daily routine of preparation and teaching: wake up early, work until 4 p.m., walk to his Water Street home for dinner with his wife and three kids, and then return to campus preparing the next day’s lesson plans until the bell of Glatfelter Hall struck 10 p.m. He also frequented his office on weekends because his workdays often revolved around interacting with students and colleagues rather than sitting alone, preparing for lectures.
“[I spent] countless times in his office. It turned into a frequent thing of me just stopping by for what I always [thought was], ‘OK, I’ll be here for 10 minutes,’ [but it] turned into an hour and I’d be running late for practice,” said Gabby Dunning ‘21, a psychology graduate student at Fairleigh Dickson University who fondly remembers D’Agostino supporting her in the classroom and in the stands at Gettysburg women’s lacrosse games—to the point where he felt like family.

When D’Ags looked back at his demanding routine as a professor, he wondered how he did it all, but he said with a smile that he did it for his students. Up until the final hour of his retirement, and even beyond, he showed up every day, dedicated and driven.

GUIDING WITH BELIEF

It was to no one’s surprise that D’Agostino quickly moved up the ranks. By 1973, he earned tenure, and six years later, he attained full professor status, the highest rank for a professor at the College. During this time, his impact on students remained paramount to his work. His faculty colleagues selected him for the 1999 Distinguished Teaching Award, and in 1973, the first honors thesis student for the Psychology Department asked him to be the primary advisor on the special project. He went on to advise 11 of the 18 following select honors thesis students over the years, in addition to many more advisees in the program.

D’Agostino became a sought-after advisor because he taught with his whole heart, mind, and body. He often bounced around the classroom and caught students off-guard with his commanding voice, echoing down the hall and into other lectures. His energy was contagious.

“That’s his style, and it’s riveting,” said Psychology Prof. Rebecca Fincher-Kiefer P’17, one of D’Ags’s closest colleagues and mentees. “As much a dramatic performance and a sermon as it is a lecture, it’s something to watch—and borne out of hours upon hours of preparation for each and every lecture.”

“There was definitely no dozing off in his class,” added Riggs, who considered D’Agostino a role model.

D’Agostino also took great care to address each student individually, remaining attentive to who they were as people just as much as who they were as students. Even decades down the line, he still recalled where specific students sat in the classroom, which sports they played during their undergraduate years, or awards they received for work in other areas of study.

“It really felt like there was no one else in the classroom,” said Arizona State University Psychology Prof. Kevin Grimm ’00, who remembered D’Ags applauding him for a Mathematics Department award. “He made everything really relevant to his students. … He knew a lot about you outside of psychology.”

Despite many of his students never experiencing such a challenging and fast-paced course previously, the usage of points rather than letter grades helped students better track their progress. The more points they accumulated, the better they commanded the topic—and the more effectively he taught. As a result, many of his students rose to the occasion and felt energized by his belief in their skills.

“Most college classes were not too challenging for me, and [his class] was hard,” said Melinda Stanley ’80, a distinguished emerita professor at the Baylor College of Medicine. “I actually had to think and problem-solve.”

At the end of each semester, D’Agostino also regularly asked students to work with him as research assistants and later guided them through the process of applying to graduate school. Instilling an unprecedented level of self-confidence in scores of young undergraduate students, his power of belief transcended any barriers in his students’ paths to success.

In fact, four of his former students have become college presidents—Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College President Tracy Brundage ’92, Elizabethtown College’s Transitional President Betty Rider ’80, St. Lawrence University President Kathryn Morris ’92, and Gettysburg’s own president emerita Riggs. Many of his former students have also gone on to earn master’s degrees and doctorates.

“The first time I took the GRE, [he] looked at my score and looked at me and said, ‘You can do better,’” said Abigail Levrini ’02, a psychologist, owner of Psych Ed Connections, and bestselling author for the American Psychological Association. “That was all it took. Because [he] believed I could, I did. Until eventually, I believed in myself.”

LEADING WITH HEART

From hanging out with Bartkus after the bell went off in the late ’60s to attending Dunning’s lacrosse games through 2021, D’Agostino has impacted every one of his students in a way that the memories came flooding in when he announced his retirement in 2021.

“Bob’s greatest gifts are his brilliance, humbleness, and listening with empathy,” said former Director of EES Student Success and Well-being Cindy Wright P’08, ’13, ’16. “He emulates the foundation of a liberal arts education, believing in the holistic development of our students both in and out of the classroom.”
“THAT WAS ALL IT TOOK. BECAUSE [HE] BELIEVED I COULD, I DID. UNTIL EVENTUALLY, I BELIEVED IN MYSELF.”

ABIGAIL LEVRINI ’02

“THAT WAS ALL IT TOOK. BECAUSE [HE] BELIEVED I COULD, I DID. UNTIL EVENTUALLY, I BELIEVED IN MYSELF.”

ABIGAIL LEVRINI ’02

“This quote, ‘To teach, you need books. To educate, you need heart,’ by Vikrmn really sums up Bob—he educated with heart,” she continued.

More than 50 years strong, his career has become a legacy to uphold. In honor of that legacy, “Team D’Ags”—a group of fundraisers led by faculty colleagues and alumni—collected more than $124,000 in donations in just over a year to establish the Bob D’Agostino Endowed Scholarship Fund. This scholarship will be awarded to a student aspiring to pursue a degree in psychology, beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year.

“Bob’s legacy of teaching and research excellence continues on in this scholarship and in the lucky students who will receive it and benefit from the respect and admiration that former students showed for a very special professor,” said Fincher-Kiefer.

He leaves behind a legacy of excellence in innovative instruction and mentorship in addition to achievements in research and scholarship. But what ripples through his network of students, faculty, and friends—and endures the test of time—is his unwavering humanity.

“The job was teaching and research,” said D’Ags. “[But] talking with people, getting to know them, that’s not the job—that comes naturally.”

His door will forever remain open to remind that network how much he believed in them.

“There aren’t enough ways to say thank you. I can only hope to have the impact on even one person that [he has] had on me,” said Levrini. “Thank you, D’Ags. With all my heart—thank you.”
REMEMBERING, CHERISHING, AND CELEBRATING RETIRED FACULTY

by Molly Foster

For many faculty at Gettysburg College, the role of being a professor doesn’t end when they step foot out of the classroom. Rather, it blossoms. It’s a way of life and a position that they long embody, joyfully.

Not only are they teachers, but they’re also mentors, curiously passionate scholars, and changemakers. Our faculty inspire, and conversely, are inspired by their students, daily—they shape and are shaped by one another.

Now-retired Psychology Prof. Bob D’Agostino invested a substantial slice of his career into shaping students’ lives—53 years—and the ripples of his impact continue to be felt across the College and well beyond. Alongside him, 10 other faculty colleagues have retired this year, bringing forth a combined 300-plus years of meaningful influence at the College.

In their time at Gettysburg College, our most recent faculty retirees reached many noteworthy personal and professional achievements:

- Sunderman Conservatory of Music Prof. Paul Austerlitz released multiple solo albums, including “Journey” in 2008, which combined jazz with Afro-Dominican, African, and Indian music.
- Biology Prof. Kay Etheridge designed the College’s K-12 science education program Advancing Science, which makes more than 30,000 student contacts each year in the schools of south-central Pennsylvania.
- Religious Studies Prof. Charles (Buz) Myers Jr. P’09 was honored three times with the Student Senate’s Faculty Appreciation Award for excellence in teaching.
- Psychology Prof. Rebecca Fincher-Kiefer P’17 brought to life the study of human cognition for students, creating the College’s Human Cognition and Advanced Laboratory in Cognition courses—both mainstays of the department.
- English Prof. Leonard Goldberg passionately pursued his scholarly interest on Lord Byron, publishing in Studies in English Literature, Texas Studies in Language and Literature, Criticism, and Philological Quarterly.
- Health Sciences Prof. David Petrie ’77 published several research papers relating to his expertise in exercise physiology and biomechanics.
- Philosophy Prof. Lisa Portmess ’72 has been described by many of her colleagues as “a master teacher”—stirring the Lisa Portmess Peace and Justice Leadership Award to be created in her name.
- Sunderman Conservatory of Music Prof. Marta Robertson led with an enthusiastic and collaborative spirit through student-faculty research and well beyond—engaging students in open-ended problems through the lenses of music and dance.
- Spanish Prof. Kent Yager P’10, ’12 persistently encouraged students to break through linguistic, cultural, and racial stereotypes by looking at the world through different perspectives.
- Art and Art History Prof. Mark Warwick’s artworks have been exhibited in Italy, France, Argentina, United Kingdom, Hungary, Canada, Sweden, and across the United States.

This is just a small sampling of their successes. Their days at Gettysburg College were filled with many seen and unseen fleeting moments, as they wholeheartedly devoted themselves to the transformational, multifaceted role of professor. Yet, in the eyes of Gettysburgians whose paths crossed with theirs, those moments, no matter how fleeting, never went unnoticed—they were, and will be for countless years to come, remembered, cherished, and celebrated.
When Political Science Prof. Douglas Page reflects on his roots, he distinctly remembers the role that education and civic engagement has continually played in his life—cherishing the people and moments that nurtured these interests and propelled him toward his career in education.

His mother, Janis, was a kindergarten teacher—in the classroom and at home, she modeled the formative role an educator can have in a young person’s life. His father, Luther, worked in the textile industry in Lexington, North Carolina, selling machinery for 30 years, a career that evolved in the 1990s to include selling machinery to textile factories overseas in countries like China, Bangladesh, and Turkey. This transition led to Page’s first travels abroad, exposing him firsthand to the economic and political landscapes of various countries.

In 2013, Page and his father traveled to Istanbul, Turkey, while Page was pursuing his Ph.D. in political science from the University of South Carolina—a trip he now deems transformational looking back. During that trip, massive protests started against President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, and they bore witness to the destruction that was left behind. They also spoke to workers and shopkeepers who supported Erdoğan for his efforts to strengthen the country’s economy and trade relationship with the European Union.

“Turkey is a large, majority Muslim, and relatively poor country in comparison to Western European countries, and Turkey sought to define itself as part of the European fold,” Page explained. “These differences and the mission to harmonize Turkey and Europe are compelling political dynamics that influenced my decision to study the European Union in graduate school.”
Page earned his Ph.D. in 2016 while simultaneously starting his teaching career at High Point University in North Carolina as a visiting professor in the final four months of his doctoral program. Seeing an opportunity to relocate to a college and town rooted in history and political significance, Page was drawn to the liberal arts and sciences environment at Gettysburg College and joined its Political Science Department.

“What I found was a vibrant community on and off campus,” Page said about his move to Gettysburg.

Six years later, Page remains grateful that he chose Gettysburg, as it afforded him so many opportunities, particularly in research. Not only has Page recently served as an expert source in many regional and national articles about political topics, including Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, but even more notably, Page is the first faculty member in political science to work on queer politics. His latest research on Bosnia and its path to membership in the European Union analyzed public opinion data from before and after Bosnia’s first Gay Pride March in 2019, observing some positive changes in Bosnian support for LGBTQ+ rights. In 2021, Page even presented this research to United States Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina Eric Nelson.

Sharing this passion for research with his students, Page and research assistants Catharine Arranz ’20, Matthew Montes ’22, and Taylor Paulin ’22 coauthored a paper, “Reassessing the Relationship Between Homophobia and Political Participation,” which was published in the European Journal of Political Research in February 2022. Their research found that homophobic respondents are turning out to vote more than tolerant respondents in countries with high levels of persecution against LGBTQ+ people.

“Responding to criticism, incorporating feedback, and editing the paper help teach students to be flexible and adaptable—an important skill in jobs,” said Page, who learns alongside students, too. “For me, talking with students and reviewing their writing helps me reflect on my own arguments and articulate them better.”

Outside of the classroom, Page is an advisor for College Democrats, encouraging students to vote and helping with voter registration. He even assisted the club in bringing U.S. Congressman Conor Lamb to campus during his campaign in 2021. In his free time, Page does much of the same, sparking civic engagement through conversations wherever he goes and volunteering to canvas for campaigns—including Joe Biden’s 2020 run for president.

He also enjoys brisk runs on the battlefield and playing the bass guitar with his friends at Waldo’s & Company, an art house and coffee shop in downtown Gettysburg. But above all, he cherishes the community that uplifts his passions and deep-rooted interests.

“My political conversations with students, friends, and colleagues in both the classroom and at lunch—often with my colleagues—are enjoyable and help build my self-efficacy,” Page said. “I have found a great community in Gettysburg.”
It was July 1, 1863. The temperature lingered in the high 70s, shaded by a cloud-coated sky above, and there was a high chance of battle. Longtime mathematics, chemistry, and natural philosophy Prof. Michael Jacobs' day of teaching quickly turned to a history lesson in the making as he witnessed the Battle of Gettysburg billow around him on the campus grounds.

Seeking safety, Jacobs retreated to his house on the corner of Washington Street and Middle Street to wait out the battle with his family, but his eyes remained fixated on the war that raged on outside. Recognizing the significance of the days' events even then, paper in hand, Jacobs recorded his observations, most notably one detail that faded into the background for all others: the weather.

By October 1863, Jacobs published his findings in "Notes of the Rebel Invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania in the Battle of Gettysburg," one of the first books published about the battle, of which an original edition can be found in Musselman Library's Special Collections and College Archives.

This detailed weather report penned by Jacobs continues to play a critical role in setting and preserving the scene of the Battle of Gettysburg. Not only can we feel warm, summer days in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on our skin and know it to be reminiscent of the weather during those defining days in 1863, but it has also helped save "The Battle of Gettysburg," a painting by 1800s artist Paul Philippoteaux depicting Pickett's Charge.

Following years of deterioration, a substantial portion of the sky was missing from the painting. In the early 2000s, the Gettysburg Foundation, in partnership with the National Park Service, worked with art conservationists to recreate the sky—strongly referencing Jacobs' long-living musings.
July 1

“The entire sky was covered with clouds all day.”

7 a.m. Stratocumulus
2 p.m. 76 degrees with “a very gentle southern breeze” (2 mph)
9 p.m. Cirrostratus

July 2

8 a.m. Stratocumulus
2 p.m. (The time of Pickett’s Charge) 81 degrees, 3/10 clear skies
9 p.m. Cirrus clouds, gentle breeze

July 3

8 a.m. Stratocumulus
2 p.m. 87 degrees, sky 4/10 covered “with cumulus or the thunderclouds of summer”
6 p.m. Thunderstorms: “The thunder seemed tame, after the artillery firing of the afternoon.”
9 p.m. 7/10 cumulus. Wind SSW, very gentle
BULLETINS

OCTOBER 14-16
- Homecoming and BOLD Reunion Weekend
- Reunion Celebrations for Classes of 2012 and 2017
- Black Student Union 50th Anniversary Celebration
- Young Alumni Awards
- Hall of Athletic Honor Introductions and Recognition of the 2011 Women’s Lacrosse NCAA Championship Team

See details on all of these events and more at gettysburg.edu/alumni/events.

OCTOBER 28-30
- Family Weekend
- Fall Honors Day

NOVEMBER 7-14
Alumni Travel Program trip to Costa Rica

NOVEMBER 10
Reception with President Iuliano at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia

CANDIDATES FOR HONORARY DEGREES
DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2022, FOR 2024 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. If you have any questions, you may email HonoraryDegreeNominations@gettysburg.edu.

NOMINATIONS TO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2023

Alumni Association Board of Directors share a close connection to the College and provide leadership and representation for all alumni. Send your nominations to Adrienne Seitz at aseitz@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-8075.

NOMINATIONS FOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS
DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 12, 2022

The Alumni Association invites alumni to nominate candidates for awards by November 12. Complete the form at gettysburg.edu/alumniawards or contact alumni@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-6518.
1946

John Aurand wrote to the College to share the following note: “On Nov. 3, 2021, I had my 96th birthday. I retired in 1991 from full-time ministry, having served six parishes encompassing 12 churches over 42 years. After retiring, I served about 20 years in part-time ministerial positions such as supply pastor, interim pastor, and visitation pastor in Lutheran churches in Berks and surrounding counties. For several years in my 80s, I participated, by walking, in quite a few local races where I was the oldest finisher by 10 to 20 years. Also, in my 80s, I was still doing some international travel. Over the years, I have visited 102 countries. I have also visited all of the Canadian provinces and territories, and all of the states in the United States.”

1953

Check with your grandchildren, and perhaps you could come up with at least one who comes closest to duplicating your life. To start the ball rolling, I will submit one of my six grandchildren, who makes me laugh almost every time she comes up with a new activity. God created a child of beauty and an outgoing personality to match when he brought Kayleigh Hamer, now 22, into this world. She is the reigning 2022 Miss Lancaster County (PA), and this is definitely not an activity that approximates anything I do (LOL). As a matter of fact, she took a position of deputy press secretary in Nashville, TN, and will not compete in the Miss PA contest. My invasion into politics included press secretary stints with the U.S. Senate and gubernatorial candidates in the late 1970s. Kayleigh was a newspaper editor at Liberty U, and so was I at Gettysburg College. She soloed in musicals in high school and college, and so did I with her maternal grandmother after college. Kayleigh played tennis, competed in several track events, and set a cross country record prior to college—as did I in high school and at Gettysburg College. I broke the Mount St. Mary’s course record as captain of the Gettysburg cross country team in 1952. Kayleigh graduated from Liberty with a major in broadcast journalism and may end up in that field as did Shannon Bream—another Liberty graduate—at Fox News. My TV broadcasting with Merrill Reese in the early 1980s ended abruptly with the bankruptcy of the Philadelphia Freedoms of World Team Tennis. I turned down the broadcasting of Penn’s football team and told Merrill about the opening. He parlayed that job into becoming the longtime voice of the Philadelphia Eagles.

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

1954

Glenn Pannell reported that he and Connie are celebrating 12 years at Trinity Terrace in Dallas-Ft. Worth, a decision they are happy they made. Glenn has been the chair of a number of activities at Trinity and now is vice chair of the welcome committee. He is glad to be getting back into activities that were lost during the COVID-19 shutdown. Many classmates are celebrating their 90th birthdays.

Nancy (Penniman) Young has arranged a special celebration for hers. She and her family and friends will be walking several miles along the Delaware Canal towpath and having lunch at The Black Bass, a charming hotel on the canal, built in 1745. The national organization I founded, The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration, is now 20 years old with 37 staff. In May, I spoke at the annual conference in Baltimore attended by more than 1,200 people, in-person and virtually. Sam Evangelista of Medford Lakes, NJ, died in Nov. 2021. He was a retired teacher from Lenape High School in Medford, NJ. He was varsity wrestling coach for Paulsboro and Lenape Heights high schools. He was coach of the year in Burlington County and Region 7 in 1982. He was inducted into the South Jersey Wrestling Hall of Fame. An avid golfer and U.S. Army veteran, Sam was a member of the Medford Lakes Golf Club. He is survived by his wife Judith, two...
daughters, and seven grandchildren. **William Corcoran** died in July 2021 in Vero Beach, FL. He was a man of many talents—an accomplished musician and pilot, as well as a collector of antique cars. He had degrees in biology and music. He was a successful business owner, as well as president of the Hockey Association in Salem, VA, and secretary of the Musicians Union in Roanoke, VA. He became the FAA Examiner for the state of FL until he retired at 84. He had more than 35,000 hours flying and last flew at age 87. He is survived by his wife Sarah, two children, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. **Donald Adickes** of Fair Oakes, TX, died May 2021. After college, Don graduated from United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia. He served for 23 years on active duty as a U.S. Army chaplain and retired as a full colonel. While serving, Don won numerous awards and commendations, including three Legion of Merits. He was senior Lutheran pastor to churches in Waco and Dallas, TX, and also served as interim pastor to many churches in San Antonio and nearby. Don was known for his sense of humor and his big smile. He is survived by his wife Marjorie, three children, and nine grandchildren. **Benjamin Snyder** of Patasaca, OH, died Nov. 2021. While at Gettysburg, he was treasurer of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and head manager of the athletic department. After graduation, he received his MBA from Michigan State U and served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force from 1955 to 1980. Post-retirement, he worked as finance director for Southeast Community Mental Health. He enjoyed photography, hiking the national parks, and photographing. He is survived by his wife Ruth, two children, two stepsons, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

**'55**

The other day I read this quip: “We all get heavier as we get older. That’s because there’s a lot more information in our heads. That’s my story, and I’m sticking to it.” On the other hand, news about our classmates tends to be negative these days. Maybe we should expect that, given our longevity. If we have reached this point in life, we are privileged indeed. Two of our former classmates concluded life in the past half-year. **Robert H. Landino** passed away in Dec. 2021 in Sun Lakes, AZ. Following graduation, Bob served in the U.S. Air Force and afterward was employed as an accountant for the Montgomery County School District (PA). Later, he had his own business: a Bonanza family restaurant in Mechanicsburg, PA. In better health, he enjoyed traveling, his family, working outdoors, the sports scene, and donating to specific charities. Bob is survived by two daughters, a grandson, a sister, and two nephews. **Virginia Hausmann Fitzgerald** of Beverly Hills, FL, also passed away in Dec. 2021. Some of us recall that she was a fellow “warbler” in the College Choir, under the direction of Parker Wagnild, and she continued offering that talent in various congregations during her years. “Ginny” began her career in human resource management and was HR director at the Boston Museum of Science. After her kids were “out of the nest,” she and her husband Dick moved to FL, where she became a nature tour boat operator and guide at Homosassa Springs State Wildlife Park, as well as a Citrus County election official and volunteer firefighter. Over the years, she and Dick took in rescue dogs. Golden retrievers were often found in their home. Ginny is survived by her husband, Richard Fitzgerald, several children and stepchildren, and 10 grandchildren. We extend our belated condolences to the families of our classmates.

**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 bandgsib@verizon.net

**'57**

Who wins? Who is the winner? These questions occur to me upon the receipt of an email and accompanying pictures from **Joseph Paradine**. Pictured is a “partial” collection of model sailboats displayed on Joe’s front lawn. Most of them have sails in the 4- and 5-foot range. He says the model boats are for “serious sailing regattas.” He participates with them in the tri-state area, PA, NJ, and MD. Having shared the message and pictures with another classmate, I was told Joe evidently means to illustrate the adage, “He who has the most toys before he dies is the winner.” Joe, a retired dentist, asked, “What else can an 86-year-old man do with his time?” A necessarily more solemn tact now needs to be taken as six classmates have died since the last issue of this publication. A recent telephone call from his sister informed me of the death of **Donald E. Golden** on Dec. 2, 2021, in Mechanicsburg, PA. After graduation, Donald served two years in the U.S. Army at Fort Benning. He went on to be an organist and choirmaster, teaching and serving a church in Newport News, VA, for 31 years. He is survived by two sisters. Herbert Freiser Moore Jr. died Jan. 12. Before entering college, he served two years in the U.S. Army. Upon graduation, he worked 13 years for E. I. du Pont and 27 years for the Gloucester County Probation Office. **Jack W. Jones** of Reading, PA, died Jan. 14. He was also a U.S. Army veteran, having served during the Korean War. After 25 years as the Inventor Control Officer of Exide Battery Co., he devoted much time to perfecting his racquetball game, and he greatly enjoyed a good game with a good opponent. He is survived by...
his four sons: Kenneth, Keith, Kurt, and Karl. Odette Schwager Adams of Watertown, WI, died Jan. 24. She was a member of the Watertown Moravian Church and the American Association of University Women. She received the Woman of Merit Award. Odette loved music and played the flute in college and in a community band. In the early 1960s, she was a computer programmer who worked on the Apollo program. More recently, she worked for many years tutoring those working on their GED. Odette also served as the Watertown Moravian representative to the Shared Community Missions Group. She is survived by her daughter Jennifer and her son Fred. John D. Bream died Feb. 23. For many years, “Jack” coached and was a member of the board of directors for the Gettysburg Little League and Pop Warner Football Program, and he was president of the board for the Gettysburg Parks and Recreation. After graduating from Gettysburg, Jack remained very active with the College. He spent several years as the assistant men’s basketball coach and supported the football program, as well as other various sports. Jack became the executive director of the Orange & Blue Club and was a founder of the annual Gettysburg Orange & Blue Golf Classic. He is a member of the Gettysburg Athletic Hall of Fame. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Carol B. Burchfield ’58; two daughters, Tamara and Wendy; and a son, Tim. Arthur J. Hendley died March 6 in Amelia Island, FL. The Hendley family of Baltimore had relationships with the College prior to Art’s acceptance of an athletic scholarship. He was a three-sport athlete and set a record for a single-game eight RBIs—which still stands. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta and the U.S. Air Force ROTC. At Gettysburg, he met Jane Bannister, and they were married after graduation. Art was then commissioned in the U.S. Air Force. After active duty of two years, he went into sales with E. I. du Pont in Greensboro, NC, and Atlanta, GA. He continued for 11 years in the Air Force Reserves and was discharged at the rank of captain. He accepted a position with the Murray Biscuit Company and moved to Aiken, SC. There he participated in numerous community activities and became especially active and involved with golf. He led the effort to create a high school golf invitational tournament to encourage young players; the tournament still continues to be held. Having become director of sales for Murray Biscuit, Art formed his own food brokerage business, which he and Jane ran as a team for 35 years until her death in 2015. Art is survived by a son, Wes, and a daughter, Tama. We extend our sympathy to the families of all these classmates.

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

‘58

I am going to my high school reunion in Richmond, VA, at the end of April and looking forward to seeing people I haven’t seen in a lot of years. I received sad news that Eileen Lenore Engstrom Olsen passed away in Pleasant Hill, TN. Here’s some interesting information from her high school years: she was in one of the marching bands that performed at President Dwight Eisenhower’s first inauguration parade in Washington, D.C. Music wasn’t her only interest, as she wrote and illustrated a children’s book, “Thaddeus Tree Frog.” Our condolences to her son and daughter. Another classmate, Stephen B. Stock, died, after having been an active citizen and businessman in York, PA. He was originally from York, and he returned home after serving in the U.S. Air Force. One memory highlighted was that he marched as a clown in the Macy’s Christmas Parade while attending New York U, and in his lifetime, he was fortunate to pursue his favorite hobby of international travel—having traveled to more than 90 countries. Our sympathy to his family. Robert Neff Harcourt passed away in Santa Fe, NM. He had a 55-year relationship with the Institute of American Indian Arts, and he was outstanding in his educational administration, counseling, and social work with the institution. He was awarded a Distinguished Alumni Award from the Gettysburg College Alumni Association, plus several other awards. It was my pleasure to renew a friendship with Bob when I went to Santa Fe for a vacation, and he was kind enough to give me an excellent tour of some places of interest in the city with a lot of background that only a resident would have. I’m sure he’ll be missed by the community and his family. Sadly, we recognize the passing of classmate Allen K. Tomlinson from East Greenville, PA. A fellow political science major, who after a tour in Europe with the U.S. Army, he went on to graduate from Dickinson School of Law (now Penn State Dickinson Law) and later became a lawyer. He was active in his hometown community church and service organizations, as well as his profession. His outdoor interests were many and led to his becoming a talented underwater photographer. Peggy Long Buehler is remembered as a lifelong expert on gardening, dogs, horses (she was an equestrian, having competed at the PA National Horse Show), and politics. She was an astute businesswoman. She was a reporter for the Gettysburg Times, and I remember her attending many reunions and staying in touch with College activities. Our prayers and condolences are with the family members. Complete obituaries are online for further information. Please let me hear from you. Your activities are of interest to all, and it’s the main way we keep in touch.

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

‘59

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.

1960

Hope your world has opened up a bit as the COVID-19 pandemic cases. We have braved visits to NYC (and Brooklyn) but...
havent’t yet traveled to other countries. That’s the next step! Dave Mattheiss and Cathie just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Feb. 22, 2022. Their three children have given them eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. They live near their oldest daughter and her husband in Newport Beach, CA, and at 18 years in residence, it’s the longest they have lived anywhere. Dave’s work with Liberty Mutual took them from Baltimore and Atlanta to Tucson and San Diego. Travel is still part of their lives, visiting their children and grandchildren in TX, LA, MI, MO, and CT. We warned our children years ago that wherever they settled we would visit, and that has taken us to Bolivia, Germany, Colombia, and Mexico—all great adventures! Linda Confessore and I have a mutual friend in Quogue, NY, so I’m able to hear what she is doing before she wrote to me. She was the building committee chair for Quogue’s new public library, a 10-year project. “The entire cost, $6.5 million—except for one New York state grant—was paid by donations from residents. In 1897, 20 ladies contributed a dollar and a book each on the shelves in the general store to start a library. They ran out of space, and the Post family (not the cereal) siblings donated land, then a two-room building and more books for a physical plant in memory of their father. All subsequent additions were built with donations. ... With the help of a fundraising consultant, I found it fun to solicit donors but gobsmacked when they said yes! We restored the original library, which still existed within the structure, into a soundproofed quiet reading space, puzzle, and writing space with the fireplace now working.” Well done, Linda! And Tom tells me your late book fines are quite tiny! I can’t quite give up librarianship—I’m still stocking three Little Free Libraries and doing a volunteer shift each week at our public library, sorting donations and weeded books for sale or disposal. Do you have a Little Free Library in your neighborhood? Tell me about it.

**Pat (Carr) Layton**

301 Powell Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801
410-202-6049 (cell)
rodlay@comcast.net

**'61**

**Linda (Winters) ROCKEFELLER**

20 Canal Run East
Washington Crossing, PA 18977
215-493-5817
nflapeire@gmail.com

Dear classmates, I hope this column finds you well and enjoying nicer weather. I have some sad news to begin with, as it seems time is truly passing. Ann (Munshower) Arnold passed away in Modesto, CA, on Dec. 12, 2021. At Gettysburg, Ann earned a degree in history and met her future husband, Ed Arnold. After graduation, Ann enrolled in the U of Wisconsin to pursue her master’s degree in education. For much of her life, Ann taught school. She also enjoyed gardening and reading and was a skilled weaver. She and Ed loved traveling to Hawaii and spending time with their family. Ann is survived by her husband, her son Mark (Angelique), and her granddaughter Maile. Christine (Conley) Pappas passed away in Richmond, VA, on Oct. 11, 2021. The day Chris graduated from Gettysburg, she married George Pappas, her college sweetheart. In spite of suffering a stroke at age 27, Chris earned her Ph.D. in early childhood literacy from Ohio State U and went on to be a professor of education. When she retired from the U of Illinois at Chicago, she threw a dance party for friends and family to celebrate. I was good friends with Chris and her roommate, Jeanne (Cowan) Walker, and I will always remember our fun times. Mary-Helen (Corbett) Ferkett passed away on Feb. 6, eight months after being diagnosed with cancer. After graduating from Gettysburg, Holly received her master’s degree in library science from the U of Pittsburgh and worked as the Pleasant Hills Public Library children’s librarian before serving as library director for 17 years. Holly’s interests were animals (especially birds), wildflowers, raising and releasing monarch butterflies, and baking cutout cookies. She also loved reading and was a skilled Scrabble player. Holly is survived by her children Pamela (Robert), Marla (Alan), Ross (Brigid), Kyle (Jayne), Kirk (Amy), and 11 grandchildren. Carl Vincent Hunt passed away on July 2, 2021. At Gettysburg, Carl was a good friend, soft spoken, reflective, and a pleasure to be around.
I need to announce the death of Bruce W. Guenther in January. Survived by Sue (Condon) ’64, he graduated with a B.S. in physics and went on to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. in physics from the U of Pittsburgh. Over a 30-year NASA career, he developed satellite instruments that underpin our understanding of Earth’s environmental system, detecting fires, power outages, weather events, pollution, snow and ice, and dangerous red tides, among many other things. While serving many nonprofits, he also started the Silver Spring Presbyterian Child Care Center to provide affordable, high-quality infant and toddler care and an accredited nursery school. Also, Walter P. Kehoe Jr. died in January at his home in Millington, NJ. His G’burg degree was in political science. He was a Phi Delt and a U.S. Navy veteran until his honorable discharge in 1969. He received a master’s degree from Seton Hall U and was employed at Alliance Capital in NYC as the head of human resources until his retirement in 2005. He is survived by his beloved wife of 46 years, Priscilla (Henck) Kehoe. He raised champion Dobermans and loved Labrador retrievers. He enjoyed classic cars and maintained his 1960 Triumph TR3A. He was a Little League coach and faithfully attended his grandkids’ many games. During summers, his joy was spending time with his family at their cottage on Chautauqua Lake. Third, Peter McDowell died in Nov. 2021. After graduation, he earned his master’s degree at Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) and worked in the Carroll County Public Schools system for 30 years as a coach, teacher, counselor, and principal, ending his career as director of secondary schools. His friends remember his faithful daily exercise routine, which he continued up until his illness, talking to neighbors, local policemen, and even the homeless camps in Port Charlotte. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Janet Johnson McDowell ’64, and is survived by his second wife, Susan Doney McDowell. More fuller obituaries for all three of our classmates are online. In addition, we note that Bob Trullinger’s wife, Julia, has died, and Ed Sheaffer’s wife Bonnie died. Ed’s career has made him a sought-after expert in organic veterinary science. He has continued contact with Jerry Weigl. In other news, Barb (Dahm) Walser has been traveling and living in her 40-foot mobile home since 2016. She comes home to FL one month per year to check on things. Don Main (and Carol ’67) stay home in Lancaster, PA, while Don continues his church work—soon finishing a stint on the board of directors of Diakon, a social services church agency in Central PA. Betsy Slaybaugh Reed (and Howard) sent friends a primer on how to stay sane at home during the pandemic. And I apologize to faithful classmate Muriel Sabo, whose newsy email to me is now lost.

I hope she and others will try again with a promised better result! In April 2021, Sharon Plowman received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Measurement and Evaluation Council of SHAPE America (the Society of Health and Physical Educators). This year, the sixth edition of her textbook—“Exercise Physiology for Health, Fitness and Performance”—will be published by Wolters Kluwer. Finally, by the time you read this column, Lanie (Hartzell) ’64 and I will have moved to a Continuing Care Retirement Center in Wilmington, NC. Trinity Landing is on the intracoastal waterway, where we’ll enjoy “resort-style amenities.” Getting older isn’t too bad when someone else is taking care of all the hard work—pickleball, yes, home repairs, no. And about that reunion which was and then wasn’t and almost was—know that Dave Radin and I tried and will keep on until we get to see you in person again! Count on it.

Rev. Dr. John R. Nagle
2115-102 Lossen Loop
Wilmington, NC 28409
919-467-6375
jrnagle@nc.rr.com

‘66

Dave Pomfret died on Nov. 10, 2021, in Champlain, VA. A chapter president of Theta Chi while at G’burg, he was a dog trainer of note and manager of the Upland Hunting Operation at the Blandfield
Plantation in Caret, VA. Bill Hurni passed away on Dec. 5, 2021. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha, he was a researcher at Merck and had an impressive career in pharmaceutical development with many patents. He was a very active man with many interests, a fitness maniac on his bicycle, a longtime single sideband radio hobbyist, and an avid sports car enthusiast since his undergraduate days. Rev. Jim Rissmiller passed away on Dec. 20, 2021, in Greensboro, NC. While at G’burg, Jim was a member of Theta Chi. He transferred to Hampden-Sydney College, where he graduated cum laude. He received his Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Theology from Union Presbyterian Seminary. He was an active Presbyterian pastor until his retirement in 2011. He remained active in church affairs until his death.

Tom de la Vergne
587 Sheffield Drive
Springfield, PA 19064
610-543-4983
tomdel@aol.com

'67 ☀

I have received word of the passing of Susan Margaret (Zimmerman) Wagner, 76, of Dover on Sunday, March 13, at UPMC Memorial in York, PA. She was the widow of Kenneth E. Wagner. Susan was born Jan. 21, 1946, in Philadelphia and was the daughter of the late Harry F. and Margaret (Stumpf) Zimmerman. After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1967 from Gettysburg College, she received her Master of Education in 2002 from Penn State. She taught English at Central York High School. Susan loved gardening, reading, animals, and rooting for the Boston Red Sox, New England Patriots, and Tom Brady. She was a member of Trinity UCC in York and the Vikings Club. Susan enjoyed the company of close friends, family, and following the academic and athletic achievements of her grandchildren. Some of our class members attended the wedding celebration in Philadelphia, PA, in late April of Chuck and Barbara Widger’s daughter, Ashley Widger, and her husband, Jon Kaplow. Those in attendance included Scott Higgins, Lew Manges and his wife Maxine, Lee Cummings and his wife Nancy, Larry Luessen and his wife Lynn, and Craig Lord '68 and his wife Rosemary. Several of us also met and spent time with Dave Roth and his wife Jeanne. My endeavor as class correspondent would be a lot more fun if more of you would send me updates about your life and family. I hope to see many of you in June to celebrate our 55th Gettysburg College Reunion.

Larry Luessen
RR 1 Box 503
Roseland, VA 22967-9201
540-645-3760
bluessen69@gmail.com

‘68 ☀

Linda (Wilberger) Egan retired in June after 15 years as minister of music at Pohick Episcopal Church in Lorton, VA. Pohick is a colonial church in its third building completed in 1774. George Washington was a parishioner and faithful attender for over 20 years and, as a vestryman, was responsible for finding the current location and convincing the vestry to move to it. The music position is full time, with an active music program of six musical groups and a beautiful Fritz Noack organ (see pohick.org). Linda has played the organ and received compensation to do so since she was 16. Now her husband—a retired architect—and Linda are traveling, doing the four-year course, Education for Ministry (he as mentor, she as a second-time first-year student), and generally enjoying life and volunteering. Their son, Ben, has settled in Virginia Beach after finishing at Old Dominion U, where he was a music business major. He is well known as a DJ and as leader of Ben and Friends band there and in Richmond, VA, and promotes other musicians. Linda drove over to Aiken one day from Clemson, where they were visiting family, and we had a very enjoyable gabfest.

Susan (Walsky) Gray
113 Balsam Lane
Aiken, SC 29803-2713
803-641-4344
susanwalsky@gmail.com

1 Gettysburg College Class of 1968

‘69

I’m afraid I can only pass on sad news. We lost two more classmates in late 2021: Norman R. Eavenson Jr. and Joel Springer. A widely respected basketball scout known for his affability, objectivity, wits, and his always-present blue chair, Norm passed away in Nov. 2021 due to complications arising from COVID-19. Those in the basketball world knew Norm as “one of the most well-respected and admired scouts in the business, a decades-long presence at amateur gyms all over the mid-Atlantic region, with more than five dozen Division I schools subscribing to his reports. He was kind, friendly, and unflappable, always bringing along his binder with printed-out rosters ready for him to take notes on with a blue or black pen—seated, almost always, in his trademark blue folding chair.” A friend described Norm as “sort of a Renaissance man. He was into sports. He was into music; he was into politics and collecting…. he had all these other interests.” After Joel graduated from Gettysburg, he went on to earn his Master of Divinity degree in 1973 from the Lutheran Theological Seminary (now United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg). He co-chaired the 35th, 40th, 45th, and 50th reunions for his graduating class. From 1973 to 1986, he was a Lutheran minister in York and western Pennsylvania. After returning to York in 1986, Joel worked as a freelance photographer and taught photography at Bradley Academy for Arts and at York College of Pennsylvania. Upon retirement, he became involved in the York Town Craft Guild, served on the Gettysburg College of Pennsylvania. Upon retirement, he became involved in the York Town Craft Guild, served on the Gettysburg College Board of Trustees, was an active member of the Gettysburg College Alumni Board, and was a key contributor to the development of the Gettysburg College Foundation. In recognition of his dedication and service, Joel was awarded the 2017 Alumnus of the Year Award by the Gettysburg College Alumni Association.

'69
Thanks so much to Jim Yonai for sending me a copy of the Yonai holiday newsletter! In Dec. 2021, Jim said things hadn’t changed much in the past year. He is now the past president of the Rotary Club of Syracuse, NY. He and his wife, Bobbi Campbell ’73, have become “power users” when it comes to attending meetings via Zoom. They also compete in cribbage tournaments. Bobbi completed 13 years of a successful kidney transplant. We lost two classmates this year. John A. Lucas II passed away in January. He received his Master of Science degree in computer science from Penn State in ’75. John had a long and varied career. He was employed as a polymer chemist at Thiokol Chemical Corporation; as a course developer, writer, instructional designer, electronic library consultant, and system analyst at Digital Equipment Corporation; as a system analyst and architect at Compaq Computer Corporation; and as an IT system architect and global electronic records manager at Hewlett Packard Enterprise. John was a member of the American Chemical Society, the Association of Computing Machinery, The Americas’ SAP Users’ Group, and the Association of Record Managers and Administrators International. He retired on Jan. 6, 2012. He was also a Life Member of the American Association of Individual Investors, a member of the National Genealogical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and other local genealogical chapters. John’s interests included gardening, science fiction and fantasy, music, photography, and railroads. John is survived by his wife, Beth; their daughter, Stephanie Lucas; their son, Alexander, and his wife, Renee DeBoard-Lucas; and two grandchildren. John (Jack) Sampson passed away in Nov. 2021. He is survived by one brother, Thomas A. Sampson III. Jack was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and worked in hospitality and club management for many years, including the Mercer American Legion, the Naples Dinner Theatre, and the Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts. He was a longtime member of the Cove Yacht Club in Naples, FL. He supported Christmas for Children and Gettysburg College. He had a profound knowledge of American and European history, especially the Civil War and Napoleon’s campaigns. I’m looking forward to seeing everyone at our long-awaited 50th reunion. Please come!

Marsha L. Barger Farinholt
409 Klee Mill Road
Sykesville, MD 21784
410-552-8059
robfarin@verizon.net

1970

Greetings, all! It’s likely that when you are reading this column it will be some weeks after our reunion. For those who were not able to attend, you were missed. I know many of our classmates were finally able this spring to check off long-postponed foreign and domestic travel items on their bucket lists; many also were able to enjoy family graduations and family reunions—transitions, changes, and new excitementsexperience! Bob Fink wrote to us after the last alumni magazine: “I was sad to see the passing of Mary Margaret Stewart in the recent alumni magazine. I agree with the comments from my apartment-mate in 1971, Bob Klein, that she was a “remarkable person and scholar.” I was very involved in the College Moratorium and all that led up to that event. I took on researching the College’s financial status, and through an old friend from high school, I interviewed the advancement director at Wesleyan College. I chose that because at that time it had the largest endowment per undergraduate student in the nation. He gave me a two-hour tutorial on endowments and college budgeting that I brought to the Moratorium discussions. My guess is that is what led to my being invited to become one of the four student members (Bob Klein was one of the other students) on a new Trustee Long-Range Planning and Development Committee in September 1969 that met and worked for two years. Mary Margaret Stewart—she always asked us to use her first name and not professor or doctor—was one of the four faculty members, and it was through this involvement that I got to know her well outside of the classroom. She was a great listener but also forceful in her opinions on the role of faculty and students in future governance of the College. I then also got to know her as a scholar and teacher when I did an independent study project during the first January Term. I remember enjoying hours of conversations in her office linking the books of Charles Dickens with the events in England at the same time. I lost track of Bob Klein. Could you forward my email address to him and then he could decide if he would want to reach out to me? If you could do the same for Fred Hough, that would be great. Bob, Fred, and I lived together off campus during the 1970-1971 academic year. I retired as an academic dean at Johnson & Wales U last May, and we moved a short distance to a townhouse right on a large lake south of Boston. We enjoy the pair of bald eagles that also live here and are jealous of their fishing ability that we get to observe close up occasionally.” Demonstrating another example of the lasting connections we make at G’burg, I heard from some of my Delta Gamma friends—Beth Parr-White and Peg Schoenbrodt Sheer: “This spring, we were finally able to ‘un-postpone’ a trip to visit our pledge trainer (and to celebrate milestone birthdays) Emily Foster in Charleston, SC. Our group was originally much larger, but life and its challenges pared down the group size. Driving together for nine hours, Peg, Beth, and Jane Engel Gallagher were able to meet up at a house on Palm Island, SC, with the flight travelers Linda Wiggins Curtis, Janet Ritter Wheeler, and Pat Henry. We spent a wonderful five days together in
perfect weather, hanging out, catching up, and seeing Charleston. It was wonderful to reconnect as naturally as if we were still together on campus—that’s the magic of great friends across the years!” Sadly, we mourn the passing of two classmates and dedicated family members: **Barry L. Jacoby** (Dec. 20, 2021, in Harrisburg, PA) and **Jonathan P. Krum** (Jan. 20 in Knoxville, TN). Barry was a 1967 graduate of Biglerville High School. He was an avid pool player and golfer, playing in the Blue Mountain APA Pool League and Bridges golf league. Jon graduated from Palisades High School, joined the ROTC while at Gettysburg College, and served in the Vietnam War as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. His professional career began at Bethlehem Steel, and he eventually retired from Alstom SA. You can view their full obituaries online.

Susan Niblette “Nibs” Donahue
11906 Yellow Rush Pass
Columbia, MD 21044
202-439-7750
gainaday@gmail.com
Twitter: @Gainaday

Gettysburg College Class of 1971 Reunion

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‘72

**Bruce Winnacott** shared a memory of our classmate, **Bill Mackenzie**, who passed away last year. Bruce remembered the first semester during freshman year. Bill stayed up with me all night, the night before my mathematics final, helping me review (Bill was a mathematics major). **Greg Heyl**, Bill, and I have gotten together yearly for a long weekend of playing pinochle and shooting the bull for about the past 25 to 35 years (with the exception of COVID-19). We certainly are going to miss Bill and the camaraderie that we shared. Sadly, we give thanks for the life of **Richard H. Demarest**, who died Jan. 28. He was the youngest child of six; raised in Metuchen, NJ; graduated from Gettysburg; and received his master’s degree from the U of South Carolina. He retired from DHEC after 22 years. Richard was active in the arts, acting at Workshop Theatre, and singing in multiple groups and choirs. He is survived by his partner of many years, Gene Mitchell; a sister; and two brothers.

Chad Pilling
4220 Morris Road
Hatboro, PA 19040
267-566-0206
pillingcb@gmail.com

‘73

Dear classmates, it is with great sadness that I report the passing of two classmates. The Rev. Dr. **Jerome Vincent Guss Jr.** was born on April 10, 1951, and passed away on Nov. 14, 2021, in the city of Prague. Guss was about to embark on a Danube River cruise with his partner, Marian Wunder, when he succumbed to cardiac arrest. Guss worked for 20 years as the director of chaplaincy at Alexandria Hospital and in the same capacity at Virginia Hospital Center and Falcons Landing. In 2010, Guss became the director of bioethics at Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles, CA. Guss received his Master of Divinity from the Lutheran Theological Seminary (now United Lutheran Seminary) in Gettysburg, PA, and his Doctor of Ministry from the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary (now Virginia Theological Seminary) in Alexandria, VA. Guss was an active member of Augustana Lutheran Church in Washington, D.C. He enjoyed serving as visiting pastor at both Augustana and at Peace Lutheran Church in Alexandria, VA. He also participated in a special program at Georgetown U teaching bioethics to medical students. He is survived by his loving partner of 28 years; her daughters, Erika and Alissa; his brothers, David, Paul, and Cedric Guss; his sister-in-law, V. Freeman Guss; and his nephew, Thomas. **Thomas Moore “Tom” Meachum**, age 70, of Westminster, MD, died peacefully Saturday, March 12 at his home, surrounded by his family, after courageously fighting a rare cancer. Born Oct. 3, 1951 in Washington, D.C., he was the son of Roy Neal Meachum Jr. and Patricia Lou (Moore) Meachum. He graduated from Gettysburg College as a brother of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity and obtained his J.D. from U of Baltimore School of Law. Tom was a dedicated attorney and partner at Carney, Kelehan, Bresler, Bennett & Scherr, LLP for the past 26 years, where he was managing partner of the Westminster office. Prior to joining the firm, he worked for the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland and the Howard County Office of Law. Over his lifetime, he was a community servant and served on the board of directors for multiple nonprofits, including The Arc of Howard County, Howard County Chamber of Commerce, Association of Community Services, and, most recently, the Boys & Girls Club of Westminster. Tom was an avid golfer, bird watcher, history buff, fervorous reader, and ‘60s-and-’70s music enthusiast. Above all, he enjoyed spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife of almost 22 years, Kari Marie Ebeling; his children, Mitchel Ebeling, Elizabeth Ebeling, Emma Ebeling, and Christopher Meachum; and his siblings, Roy Meachum III, Susan Meachum (John Stonesifer), and Michael Meachum. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews. Tom lived an extraordinary life filled with grace, patience, and a stoic air of strength that was an example to all those lucky enough to know him. **John C. Everett** joined the Institute for Defense Analyses as an adjunct technical editor, Forces and Resources Division of IDA’s systems and Analyses Center. IFA is a nonprofit corporation that answers U.S. security and science policy questions with objective analysis utilizing scientific technical and analytic. I had the pleasure of hearing from **Bruce Matthews**. Bruce and I first met freshman year in Rice Hall, and we enjoyed lots of dorm merriment together. As he wrote to me, “[It] doesn’t feel like 50 years, does it?"
Jeff Hankinson told me about a very special weekend at the College in April when more than 50 brothers of Phi Delta Theta from various classes and from all across the country came together to honor an old Phi Delt brother, Mark Shames ’73. The Mark Shames Pre-Law Scholarship at Gettysburg College was awarded for the first time to current Gettysburg student Kyle Sweeney ’23. Jeff and his wife Mary Therese joined classmates Scott Kintzing, Bob Maiocco, Ken Bruchey, Frank Rock, Tom Lopardo, Tom Green, and Bill Heyman for the weekend, which included a golf outing on Friday and the scholarship ceremony with College President Bob Iuliano on Saturday. Barb Belletti Shames ’71 was present for the weekend and was serenaded by the group as part of the tribute to her late husband.

Ed Vonderschmidt, Jeff Cook, and Nancy Lorenson Cook ’75 were also present. In the words of Betsy Diehl of the College Advancement Office, “It was an inspiring experience to be around such a close-knit group of alumni who have such a strong, ongoing connection through all these years.” This special occasion coincided with the Phi Delt reunion weekend that occurs every three to four years. Jeff Hankinson is semi-retired, practicing dentistry 20 hours a week, and his wife has two part-time jobs following her retirement after 43 years with the VA. They enjoy traveling. Instead of their planned trip to New Zealand this year, they took a five-week trip down the East Coast, visiting VA, SC, and FL. Their son Stephen, 33, is getting married this year. Jeff enjoys being a trail master, developing and maintaining a rail trail in his town of Summit, NJ (summitparkline.org). He continues to be the facility trustee for his local swim and tennis club, and he enjoys biking, hiking, and playing golf. During Reunion Weekend, he connected with Paul Hetrick, who was his dental school roommate. Jeff and Paul and their families have enjoyed spending time together in Hilton Head, SC. Barb Turner White and her husband Bruce attended a Gettysburg men’s lacrosse game in the spring at a local Centennial Conference team field. At the game, they overheard a spectator in front of them saying he graduated in 1974, and it was Barry Letts. Barb enjoyed catching up with Barry, who played lacrosse at Gettysburg. I’d love to hear from those of you who live abroad or out in the West. Please be in touch so I can share your stories.

Nan (Messinger) Lansinger
249 S. Ithan Avenue
Rosemont, PA 19010
nlansinger@gmail.com

‘75

The only class of 1975 update I have is a correction to the email for Tom Abrassart, which appeared in our most recent column. You can find Tom via email at cpatpa@gmail.com. I hope to hear from more classmates over the next year as we much too rapidly approach age 70 and our 50th class reunion. I did receive a welcome email from one of my FIJI fraternity brethren, Paul Hetrick ’74. Paul retired from his Elizabethtown, PA, dental practice in Dec. 2018. While he admits he would no longer make weight in the 118-pound class he started at as a college wrestler, he is still spry enough to chase around his five grandkids: three girls, ages 10, 9, and 6, plus two boys ages 10 and 8, who are active in soccer, basketball, flag football, dance, and gymnastics. With his son Mike and his wife Jess in Enola, PA, and his daughter Lauren and her husband Alex in Camp Hill, PA, Paul and his wife Deb moved to Mechanicsburg, PA, in March 2019. Over the years Paul (Rocky) has stayed in touch with Skip Shoemaker ’73 and Dave O’Bryan ’92, as well as Jeff Hankinson ’74, who was his dental school roommate at Penn. More recently, Paul has reconnected with two fraternity brothers in the area, Phil Dolson ’76, a lifelong Mechanicsburg resident, and Dave Reese, a fellow retired wrestler and dentist.

Steve Detweiler
3107 Stonebridge Road
Louisville, KY 40241
502-551-4419
stevedet.ky@gmail.com

‘74

This is the year most of us are turning the big 7-0. Happy birthday to all! Let me know if you gather with other Gettysburg friends to celebrate your milestone birthdays. It’s been fun for me to participate in a few “video birthday greetings” for Class of ’74 friends turning 70. Since 2022 is our College’s 190th anniversary, we can start thinking about 10 years from now when the College will turn 200 years old. Let’s remember 2032 and plan to celebrate! Of course, in less than two years—2024—we will celebrate the 50th reunion of our class. Please reserve early June 2024 so we can have a great turnout for our 50th.

Steve “Triff” Trifletti
124 Long Pond Road
Plymouth, MA 02360
508-746-1464 (work)
508-746-9205 (fax)
fst@plymouthlaw.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1973

Dang.” Here’s hoping that many of us will attend our 50th class reunion and echo Bruce’s sentiments. From Bruce: “After a stint in Washington, D.C., as founding president of the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, I returned to Michigan, where I served out the rest of my working years as executive director of the North Country Trail Association, the nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, in building, maintaining, and telling the story of the North Country National Scenic Trail. I retired 3 1/2 years ago, and Linda and I live on the banks of the Flat River in Lowell, MI, and summering on Raquette Lake in NY’s Adirondacks. I’ve got three albums of my music published—not sure whether there’s another one left in me. The website is here if you’re interested: reverbnation.com/brucematthews. We’ve got eight wonderful grandkids with another on the way, and a Brittany bird dog that may as well be one.” Keep sending your updates, and I will include your news in the next issue! Our 50th class reunion is scheduled for June 1-4, 2023. Please save the date and join us on campus.

Steve “Triff” Trifletti
124 Long Pond Road
Plymouth, MA 02360
508-746-1464 (work)
508-746-9205 (fax)
fst@plymouthlaw.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1973
'76

Debra-Lynne (Stean) Terrill contacted me recently to share that she has returned to lecturing after a COVID-19 hiatus. She and her husband Clark live in Southern California on the beach and enjoy sand between their toes daily. Her 6-foot, 7-inch grandson is on the nationally competitive U of Southern California volleyball team.

Dr. Gregory Natello has joined Dr. Mehmet Oz in his efforts with the NFL Alumni Association for the inaugural 2021 Wellness Challenge. This challenge “aims to inspire pro-football greats to pursue a healthy lifestyle after their on-field career closes,” as well as inspiring others to speak about obesity. You can read more online. I am looking for my replacement as correspondent for the Class of 1976. I have enjoyed hearing from each of you. Thank you.

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

I hope those of you who made it back for our 45th reunion had a fun time. I was sorry to miss it. I would love to hear from you all. Please send news!

Katie Jackson Rossmann
3853 Lewiston Place
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-591-0317
katiejrs56@gmail.com

'78

Grace (Warman) Polan
5712 Bradley Boulevard
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-807-6798
gracepolan@gmail.com

'79

Since she retired from teaching music in 2015, Ann Nogatch Phillips has been coaching a variety of sports for Special Olympics Lancaster County, including powerlifting, snowshoeing, and swimming. She will be coaching Team Pennsylvania swimmers at the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando, FL.

Jeff Martini and fellow actor Pat Halon are the new owners of the Teatro Variedades, a cultural landmark located in the historic town of Puerto Penasco in Sonora, Mexico. Known to Arizona natives as Rocky Point, the town is a frequent vacation spot for beach lovers from all over the Southwest. They hope to bring the area live theater this fall. In April, artist Maria Cristina Ferran Jadick had another successful solo mixed media exhibition, “Into Resilience” at G Contemporary in Houston, TX.

Trevor Huth retired in May 2020. He and his wife Betsy modified a Sprinter van into a camper to travel throughout the states. While out in the West, they hiked two Colorado 14ers. In 2021, the couple took a guided hiking tour in the Hornstrandir Nature Reserve in upper northwest Iceland. Last fall, Trevor and Jim Partridge both ran the Buffalo Creek Half Marathon in Cabot, PA. Jim retired in March after 35 years as a physical therapist. He continues to serve as an elder at City Reformed Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh and participate in the East Winds Symphonic Band. Jim and his wife, Tracy, have been married 39 years.

Susan Santos Carey is in her 28th year at the U of Maryland Medical Center, where she works in the department of clinical practice and professional development, providing continuing education for 4,000 nurses. During COVID-19, she and other nonclinical staff stepped in to help their short-staffed nursing colleagues, putting on scrubs and helping to feed patients, run specimens to the lab, and restock equipment.

Sue and her husband Glenn volunteer for Lab Rescue of the Potomac, adopting older Labrador retrievers. Sue is still an avid follower of rowing, as she competitively rowed for a couple of years with the Baltimore Rowing Club, where she met Glenn. David Stein, outgoing board chair of the United Way of Smith County (Tyler, TX), led its 2021-2022 campaign, which surpassed $2 million for the first time since 2007. Dick Hollyday actually retired in May after more than 35 years as an IT professional. He and his wife Janet have moved to Old Saybrook, CT, on the mouth of the Connecticut River. He believes a boat may be in his future! And, finally, Rachelle Shapiro Magill writes that she now has a 3-year-old grandson living in Maryland who is the apple of her eye. Rachelle was married in 2018 to David Haynes. Still a case manager for elder services in MA, Rachelle doesn’t see retirement on the horizon yet. She has enjoyed numerous Zoom lectures during COVID-19 from The Eisenhower Institute and from our alma mater. Says Rachelle, “Gettysburg is still teaching me a lot after all these years.” What a perfect way to sign off!

Dianne Lappe Cooney
14 Byre Lane
Wallingford, PA 19086
484-684-9321
cooney.dianne@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1979

1980

Last November, friends Alex Wilkie, Mark Hite, Larry Patterson, and Ian Lindevald journeyed to NH to celebrate the life of former classmate Doug Ley, who passed away the previous June. The occasion was the rollout of a new beer named in his honor by Frogg Brewing of Marlborough, NH. About 50 people attended the celebration of his remarkable life, which included teaching at Franklin Pierce College, organizing for his local union, and serving in the NH House of Representatives. Accompanying them were...
Karen Irwin Hite ’82 and Janet Hambleton Wilkie ’81. Betty Rider will serve as Elizabethtown College’s transitional president. Rider, who has served as provost and senior vice president of academic affairs since 2016, will assume presidential responsibilities and duties of moving the institution forward through the 2022-2023 academic year. Congratulations, Betty! David Shaffer sold the technology company he built in 1998 in Sept. 2020 and remained at the company full time for the remainder of 2020. He is now free wheelin’ with some consulting jobs here and there. Dave reports that he spent time last year with many Phi Sig fraternity brothers, including Scott and Nancy (Jewel) Erickson, Mike Mackey ’82, and David Thorpe ’82. His short-term travel includes trips to Nashville, Isle of Palms, Tampa, and Iowa. Jeff Martinini is filling his retirement days in Arizona with acting gigs. He has appeared in seven films, five commercials, 20 stage plays, and two virtual productions streamed worldwide by Broadway on Demand. He has received numerous stage and film acting award nominations and enjoys his niche as “that old guy that can remember lines and knows not to look directly at the camera.” Delma Rivera reported that she has retired after serving as diversity specialist at Central York School District for 16 years. In June, she was named the Ms. Senior PA America. Congrats! She has also been spending time on renovations for her home in Puerto Rico, where she plans on spending much more time. It’s hard to believe that Stacy (Naus) Deuel and Jeff Deuel have been in the Seattle area for 20 years already! During the COVID-19 pandemic, their son Cameron and his wife Maddie presented them with their first grandchild—Noelle, who is 19 months old. Their daughter Allie is also nearby. Both of their children have ties to the Pacific Northwest, so they are there to stay. They enjoy seeing many classmates when they travel back east and always look forward to visitors coming to Seattle. Jeff is CEO of a community bank in the area, and this year he is celebrating 40 years in banking. Stacy is busy with volunteer work, traveling with Jeff, and helping her mom, Sonia (Newlyn) Naus ’53, who also lives on Mercer Island. They will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary this coming New Year’s Eve.

Janet Wiley Mulderreig 7115 York Road Baltimore, MD 21212 jwileymulderreig@gmail.com 410-598-5944

Gettysburg College Class of 1980

‘81

By the time you read this column, we will have just celebrated our 40th reunion. Time certainly flies by! I’m hoping that I will have lots of news for our next column.

Linda Pickford Monkoski 2029 Carmel Drive Jamison, PA 18929 215-920-7881 lindapraitt@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1982

‘82

Kelly Woods Lynch 90 Springs Avenue Gettysburg, PA 17325 kelly.lynh@yahoo.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1982

‘83

Elaine Hesser 2394 N. Main Street, Unit A Salinas, CA 93906 831-442-0977 emgiuliano@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1983

‘84

Greetings to my fellow 1984 classmates! The years are rolling right along. It’s hard to believe we are as far into 2022 as we are. I hope life is well for you. I would love to hear from you about how things are in your world. Since our last column, I had heard from the College regarding the death of Drew Gibbs, one of our classmates who began with us in 1980 but transferred and finished his undergraduate degree elsewhere. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with his family and those he taught and coached. Well done, Coach Gibbs! You can find his obituary online.

David Schaefer 676 Windsor Drive Westminster, MD 21158 443-789-1271 davidschaefer62@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1984

‘85

Kathy Reese Laing 1812 Hanover Avenue Richmond, VA 23220 klaingrova@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1985

‘86

Dear classmates, I begin this column with great sadness as I report that our classmate, Andy Coen, passed away on April 15 after a fierce battle with early onset Alzheimer’s disease. Andy leaves behind his wife Laura, to whom he was married for 22 years, and three children: Molly, Nolan, and Finn. Andy had an amazing career as the head football coach at Lehigh U for 13 years before retiring in 2018. In 2019, he was inducted into the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation, Hall of Fame. Andy was a two-time Patriot League Coach of the Year, where he guided the Mountain Hawks to 85 victories and five Patriot League titles. He was also a three-time finalist for the Eddie Robinson Award. Prior to his time at Lehigh, Andy was the offensive coordinator at the U of Pennsylvania, offensive coordinator at Lehigh, offensive coordinator at Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, a grad assistant offensive line coach at the U of Minnesota, and a grad assistant offensive line coach at James Madison U. He began his career as an assistant offensive line coach at Widener U. While at Gettysburg, Andy was a Phi Delta Theta and was a four-year starter for the Gettysburg College football team. From the first varsity game
against Mercyhurst College in the fall of 1982 until his season-ending injury in the fall of 1985, Andy started as an offensive guard and never missed a game. After his injury, Andy stayed involved with the team, showing leadership as a student-coach on the sidelines, as the 1985 Bullets went on to qualify for the NCAA Championship, advancing to the final four and finishing the season ranked third in the NCAA poll. Andy will forever be known as TanMan and will forever be missed.

Jennifer Harris
103 New Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
319-270-2160
lizlaforte@lovesac.com

Liz LaForte Schulte
103 New Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
319-270-2160
lizlaforte@lovesac.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1986

‘87

Class of 1987 reports: Paul Palumbo lives in Chicago with his wife Lisa and middle-school daughter Vivian. His wife is an attorney and enjoys debating with Paul about his beloved White Sox. Paul lives a mile away from Wrigley Field, where he often goes to root against the Cubs. Paul retired from the FBI after 30 years and accepted another federal law enforcement position as the assistant inspector general for investigations at the Railroad Retirement Board Office of the Inspector General. Whew! That is a mouthful. The RRB is located in Chicago and administers all benefits to American rail workers and their families. Paul oversees offices in both Chicago and Philadelphia. Jennifer Harris Jacobus lives in Toms River, NJ, and is the vice president for sales for Glendenning Mortgage Corp. Her three children are Hannah (28), Madison (24), and Harrison (19). Harrison will be attending school in Vermont. Jennifer just missed crossing paths with Dave and Janis Vosburgh Richards while her family recently vacationed in Captiva, FL. Dave and Janis celebrated their 32nd anniversary in April on the island of Sanibel, FL. The Richards are excited about planning their second daughter’s wedding in 2023. Celeste Powers recently gathered with her former Gettysburg roomies in Chicago, where Amy Noonan lives. Clare Marino Girton (husband Darrin ‘86), Suzanne Blanchette Dugan, and Stacie Daubert Purcell joined Celeste while visiting Amy. Celeste and Stacie had to persist through travel delays—much longer than waiting on a bagel at the Bullet Hole—in getting to Chicago but reported it was all worthwhile in the end. The ladies rallied for a fun weekend much like they used to rally for the many social outings while living together at Gettysburg. Hope Carter Kowalewski met up last summer with her Rice Hall roomies at the NJ home of Caroline Roos Sergison (husband David Sergison). Christine Long Barry made the trip along with Amy Littig Broda (husband Gerry Broda) and Lesley Longo McGovern (husband Harold McGovern ‘86). Hope shared a great photo of the group that gathered. Caroline and her husband joined Hope and her husband for several U.S. Army West Point men’s soccer matches to cheer on Hope’s son, Carter Kowalewski, and the Army team. Betsy (Fixter) and Rich Bosek continue to reside in Charlotte, NC, but spend their summers on Long Beach Island, NJ. They are true empty nesters, except in the summer when the beach house is a big gathering spot. Their daughter Lindsay is married (October 2019—pre-pandemic!) and living in Northern VA, and their son Connor is living in Denver, CO. Lindsay (James Madison U ’16) works in corporate communications for Charles Schwab. Connor (Clemson U ’18) works in the advisory practice for KPMG. Rich is still with Wells Fargo Securities, and he recently gathered with Greg Edelson and Ray Hopkins in Sage Valley, SC, for a golf weekend. The Boseks see Greg and Julie (Jordan) Edelson ’86 frequently as they also live in Charlotte. Their youngest son Jack ’21 recently graduated from Gettysburg. Jack was a valued member of the swim team during his years at G’burg. He finished his career as team captain and is a school record holder as well as being named All-American—love the legacy stories! By the time this magazine is circulated, we suspect that the Reunion might have taken place already. Andrea and Kipp Good have shared that they will miss their 35th reunion this year. They were in Gettysburg two weeks earlier to celebrate the graduation of their son Byron R. Good ’22. Inger Inset, Andrea, and Kipp also attended Family Weekend last October and had a wonderful time experiencing all Gettysburg has to offer, and they are looking forward to attending the next Alumni Weekend with Byron. For everyone else, please share your fun Reunion memories for the next class communication. If you didn’t make it back in June, tell us what you are up to for the next printing. You can attend the 40th Reunion to get an even better Reunion handout. Please email or text either of us or both of us. Our contact details are below.

How many ‘87 class members married ‘86 Gettysburg graduates? Hint: At least two.

David and Janis (Vosburgh) Richards ’87
208 E. Park Road
Havertown, PA 19083
267-693-2978; 484-557-8175
davidrichards@richardsapex.com
janis_richards@yahoo.com

‘88

I did receive a message from an unknown phone number telling me that William Mitchell passed away in Dec. 2021. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega. I searched for his obituary, but I don’t know where he lived and am unable to verify his death. If any of our classmates are able to share more information about William, please send me a note, and I can share information in the next edition of our Class Notes.

Carol (Whiting) Gordon
1605 Troy’s Court
Crofton, MD 21114
410-507-9247
jayandcarol1009@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1988
‘89

Barbara “Lynn” Lehman Tonini is excited to announce that she started a nonprofit in 2021: Aging Out Institute (AOI). Thanks to generous funding, the organization was able to give out a total of $400,000 to various organizations that Do Great Work supporting youth aging out of foster care as part of the 2021 AOI Awards Program. The website is agingoutinstitute.org.

Patty Hunter Lovett
9000 Copenhaver Drive
Potomac, MD 20854
301-838-4533
pattylovett@verizon.net

‘89 Gettysburg College Class of 1989

‘90

Hi, everyone! It was so good to hear from Artie Messineo, who wrote that he and his wife Terri recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary, and they’ve been living in Warwick, NY, for the past 22 years. The couple has three children: Morgan (28), who is a school counselor in Buffalo NY; AJ (26), who is in his last year at Delaware Law School; and Michael (22), who is finishing his first year at Catholic Law School in Washington, D.C. Artie owns his law practice, Messineo Law LLC, in Montvale, NJ. The firm handles all aspects of legal matters in NJ, NY, and CT. Artie’s sons have expressed an interest in working with him when they’ve passed the bar! The Messineo family spends quality time together over the summers in Bolton Landing, NY, on Lake George, where they have recently restored a cottage that had been in their family for several years. It sounds fantastic, Artie, and please keep in touch. As some of you may have read in the Winter 2022 issue, classmate Julie Dufresne Deardorff sadly lost her husband of 31 years, Don ’89, on Oct. 22, 2021. Julie, please know our hearts and prayers are with you and your family during this very difficult time. A scholarship in Don’s name has been established for English majors at Cedarville U, where Don joyfully taught literature and writing for 25 years. Messages and online condolences may be conveyed to the family at mccolaughfuneralhome.com. Take care, everyone, and stay well.

Amy Tarallo Mikuta
313 Birmingham Avenue, #2
Carolina Beach, NC 28428
603-548-4706
aetarallo@gmail.com

‘90 Gettysburg College Class of 1990

‘91

Melissa (Mitchell) Morris, a school psychologist in Maryland, has written “God Speaks… Listen: Hearing God’s Words through 52 Weeks of Devotions,” which is available on Amazon. Michelle Lynette Hughes is the newest member of the Gettysburg College Alumni Board of Trustees. Joe Varady was inducted into the 2022 Pennsylvania Karate Hall of Fame. Joe, who earned his black belt in Cuong Nhu at Gettysburg College under the tutelage of Biology professor and karate Sensei Kay Etheridge in 1990, is now a 7th degree Grandmaster and the author of three book and video series: The Art and Science of Staff Fighting, The Art and Science of Stick Fighting, and The Art and Science of Self Defense.

Michelle Lynette A. Hughes
P.O. Box 220453
Chantilly, VA 20153-0453
703-969-6180
mhughes1969@yahoo.com

‘91 Gettysburg College Class of 1991

‘92

Gina Gabriele
61 Jane Street
New York, NY 10014
415-271-3209
gina.gabriele@gmail.com

‘92 Gettysburg College Class of 1992

‘93

Meredith Klinger Hicks checked in, letting us know that last winter she was promoted to director at her company, CGI Federal, where she manages a Microsoft Low Code Practice. She currently lives in the Washington, D.C., area with her husband and three cats. This spring, Christine Adams presented her ongoing work, “Lake Waramaug and the Generations of People Who Made It Their Own” with the Gunn Historical Museum located in Washington, CT. Later this spring, she hosted the Poetry Cafe at the Montclair Literary Festival, presenting the work of several notable poets.

David Krug Nelson
140 Country Club Lane
Gettysburg, PA 17325
717-253-5517
davidknelson@mac.com

‘93 Gettysburg College Class of 1993

‘94

B.J. Jones
140 W. 69th Street, 107C
New York, NY 10023
baj1814@aol.com

‘94 Gettysburg College Class of 1994

‘95

Becky Schneider Keller
576 Peachtree Lane
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
kellercb@sbcglobal.net

‘95 Gettysburg College Class of 1995

‘96

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.

‘96 Gettysburg College Class of 1996

‘97

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.

‘97 Gettysburg College Class of 1997
'98

helen DeVinney
8125 Mississippi Road
Laurel, MD 20724
bdevinney@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1998

'Sue Bottone
1219 Minnehaha Trail
Manasquan, NJ 08736
862-485-0194
susan.bottone@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 1999

2000

Mary Kate (Harlan) Fischer passed away in February. Born in Philadelphia, PA, she was the daughter of George and Kathleen Harlan. She was employed with Harlan Corporation and worked alongside her father. Mary Kate enjoyed her summers in Stone Harbor, NJ. Our thoughts are with her family at this time.

Rick Deutsch is a senior creative director at Nickelodeon in New York City. Recently, he oversaw the creative promotions and social content for the Blues Clues 25th Anniversary Campaign, including the viral video “A Message from Steve,” which awarded his team “Best Brand Tweet of 2021” and two Webby Awards. Congrats, Rick! Tara Mahoney married William Warkentin (a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps on April 23. Dana Schaefer was a bridesmaid! Tara and her new husband now live in Oceanside, CA, where Tara works as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at the Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton. Congrats, Tara! On April 24, Jeremy Bair was elected 1st Vice District Governor of the District 22W Lions Clubs. The five-county area of Western Maryland has 54 Lions Clubs with 1,650 members. The convention was held in Gettysburg, PA at the Wyndham. Vice District Governor Jeremy will assist in leading the district, while spreading the message of community service in Lions Club. I hope the Class of 2000 is doing great!

Torrey (Stifel) Kist
torreykist@yahoo.com

Gettysburg College Class of 2000

'01

Mary Fichtner Lawrie
mary.fichtner@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 2001

'02

Please send any news you’d like included in the magazine to me, and I’d be happy to include it!

Catherine (Dietrich) Pulse
cath1dietrich@hotmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 2002

'03

Joseph Tucker, senior expert for the Greater Horn of Africa, testified on Feb. 1 at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee’s hearing on “Sudan’s Imperiled Transition: U.S. Policy in the Wake of the October 25th Coup.” His expert testimony as prepared can be found on foreign.senate.gov. Christine Paige Caufield-Noll, 41, of Glen Burnie, MD, died Jan. 14 after a fall in her home. Born Nov. 1, 1980, in Media, PA, she was the daughter of William and Sharon (Rubadou) Caufield of Huntingdon, PA. In addition to her parents, she is survived by her husband, Christian A. Noll, whom she married July 1, 2006, in Havre de Grace, MD; an uncle; aunt; and a number of cousins. She graduated from Unionville High School in Chester County, PA, Gettysburg College, and the U of Pittsburgh, where she earned a master’s degree in library and information sciences. She was a medical information specialist at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD, and was previously a medical librarian at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore. She was kind and gentle, quietly advocating for environmental and justice issues. She volunteered at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, was an animal lover, an avid gardener, and a Baltimore Ravens fan. A celebration of life service will be scheduled at a later date. Donations, if desired, may be made to a local animal shelter or library. Please continue to share updates. Thanks so much!

Jennifer O’Hara Roche
jennoh25@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 2003

'04

Katie Orlando
22 Odena Avenue, #3
Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064
katterorlando@yahoo.com

Gettysburg College Class of 2004

'05

I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather after a cold slog this winter. It is great to hear from everyone in our class, so please continue to send updates!

Holly Woodhead
1010 Riva Ridge Drive
Great Falls, VA 22066
holly.woodhead@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 2005

'06

Monique Matthews Gore
63 W. Middle Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325
410-493-0020
monique.matthews@gmail.com

Gettysburg College Class of 2006
'07

Katie Stango successfully defended her dissertation and graduated with a doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies in Dec. 2021 from the U of Vermont. She recently moved to Boston after accepting a position at Endicott College. Currently serving in his seventh year on the Gettysburg Borough Council, Wesley Heyser was recently elected by his peers to serve as the council’s president. In this role, he leads the seven-member council that governs the Borough of Gettysburg. Matea Migic was married on March 5 in London, United Kingdom. Congrats to our many classmates who recently welcomed little ones: Michelle (Veresink) Richmond and her husband Derek welcomed their second child, a son named Garrett Theodore, on Nov. 16, 2021. Garrett weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces, and was 20 inches long. He joins 3-year-old big brother Wyatt. Michelle serves as the senior manager of membership at the nonprofit ArtsQuest in Bethlehem, PA. Joe and Maura (Downey) Chongpinitchai had another baby boy, joining Leo and Anthony. Sebastian Downey Chongpinitchai was born on March 14—future G’burg class of 2040! Rob and Lauren (Scott) Brassell welcomed a new baby to the family on March 2—Margaret “Maggie” James Brassell. The Brassell family and Rob The Wickmans moved to Buffalo, NY, after Wilson, to the world on Dec. 1, 2021 (mom’s birthday!) at 2:09 a.m. Katie (Neff) Robinson and her husband Andy welcomed their second son, Henry James, on Aug. 22, 2021. He joins 3-year-old big brother John. The Robinsons are moving to Dover, MA, in summer 2022! Tom Paone and his wife Amanda are so happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Juliet Paone. Emma was born on Jan. 21, 2021. She weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 inches long. Brian Parker and wife Liz welcomed their fifth child, Timothy Peter Parker, on Aug. 25, 2021. His three brothers and sister absolutely adore him! And last, but certainly not least, Jamie Burgess and his wife Lane welcomed a second daughter, Margery “Mimi” Thompson Burgess, on Feb. 23, 2022, at 4:50 p.m. Mimi weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long. She bleeds orange and blue, and she simply cannot wait to experience Midnight Madness at Servo.

Maggie (Peck) Aronson wrote that she and her husband Seth Aronson welcomed a baby boy, Noah Jared Aronson, on Jan. 31. Noah’s 3-year-old sister, Ellie, is very excited about her baby brother and to be a big sis! Julie Lindenman Jervis wrote that she and her husband Dayne Jervis welcomed a baby girl named Olivia Marie Jervis on Feb. 1. They look forward to her first visit to Gettysburg! Chad R. Lingenfelder, Esq., married Chelsea Lynn Hauler on June 27, 2021, in Millsboro, DE. Chelsea’s grandfather, Thomas Schaffer, is a graduate of Gettysburg College’s Class of 1959. Chad is an attorney in private practice in Seaford, DE, and has practices in both Delaware and Maryland. It is with sadness that I share that Bridge McElroy passed away last November. I knew Bridget from the cross country and track and field teams, where she was a terrific teammate to so many of us. Bridget was a strong and dedicated runner, and she had an amazing cheering voice. Krystie (Klahn) Wilfong, Bridget’s roommate, sent me this story from sophomore year about how she captured her favorite picture of Bridget: “Bridget used to stay up really late writing papers. She did this even though she had a 9 a.m. class to report to in the morning. I had an 8 a.m. Italian class, which I attended every day of the week, so I was always gone before Bridget woke up and then usually back to the room after Bridget had left for class. One time, I returned from Italian class to find Bridget still fast asleep in bed. I said ‘Bridgie, it’s 9 a.m. Shouldn’t you be in class?’ Bridget jumped out of bed so high and fast; I couldn’t believe it. Rushing to get changed to leave, Bridget put on her jeans backwards and just stood there a moment trying to figure out what was wrong. I took it as a perfect opportunity to capture this moment on camera. To make it even better, Bridget was wearing a G’burg College T-shirt. It’s one of my favorite pictures of my dearest friend.”

Katie Stango

'08

Amy Butcher wrote to tell us about her new book, “Mothertrucker: Finding Joy on the Loneliest Road in America,” a book that interrogates the realities of female fear, abusive relationships, and America’s quiet epidemic of intimate partner violence set against the geography of remote, northern Alaska. It was released by Little A Books in Nov. 2021 and earned notable praise from Publishers Weekly, Kirkus Reviews, The Wall Street Journal, “Good Morning America,” CBS News, the Chicago Review of Books, the Oxford Review of Books, and Booklist, among others. It was also named an Editor’s Pick in Memoir and Biographies by Amazon. Amy currently directs the Creative Writing Program at Ohio Wesleyan U.

Katie Stango

'09

Jennifer Amols Brett

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After first getting married in Aug. 2020, Andrew Mearns and his wife, Ali Eustis, finally got to celebrate on Jan. 30 in front of their families—including the Gettysburg family of course. They met in Atlanta while Andrew was working for Georgia Tech and were engaged in June 2019, so it was a long time coming. Andrew and Ali now live in Alexandria. Gettysburgians in the wedding party included Nick Oristian, Katherine (Mersch) Yealy, and the best man, Bjarne Bartlett. Also in attendance were Jenny (Frielle) Lay, Julie Ivers, Matt Toich, Caitlin (Kaltenbach) Curcio, Charlie Curcio ’11, Mike Mattaini ’13, Laura (Bembridge) Mattaini ’13, Chris Carter ’13, and Alice Mitnick ’15.

Taylor Plank
130 Mine Road
Hershey, PA 17033
taylorplank@yahoo.com

Emily Francisco continues to work on permanent collection projects and installations in her role as curatorial assistant in modern and contemporary art at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. In fall 2021, she started her Ph.D. in art history at the University of Delaware, where her research focuses on issues of gender, race, and class in the history of American sculpture. Emily and her partner have also been fostering dogs throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and recently adopted a small senior one-eyed dachshund-chihuahua mix named Sir Richard. Kasey Varner recently moved to Philadelphia, where she works for a brand marketing agency focusing on higher education clients. After earning her master’s degree in marketing from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, she’s enjoying the continuation her new role provides from the work she did with the College. She’s also happy to reconnect with other Gettysburgians in the city. Outside of work, she is a member of the BOLD Council, volunteers with the Philadelphia Alumni Club, and enjoys traveling, reading, and learning new skills with her friends. Rex Yin recently transitioned from the Cambodian Association of Greater Philadelphia to the Mayor’s Office of Children & Families – SPARK Quality Support Center, overseeing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging initiatives to Philadelphia’s early childhood education programs. He completed his master’s degree in education from Eastern University in Dec. 2021 and is now pursuing a master’s degree in public policy at Temple University. Yin also serves on numerous boards involved in community development, LGBTQ+ community healing, political advocacy, and philanthropy. Beyond his professional work, he is an avid home cook, a city explorer, and dragon boat racer.

Christianna Jo (Evans) Smith
2031 Bainbridge Street, Apt. 2
Philadelphia, PA 19103
610-960-4782
jo.evans29@gmail.com

Elise (Sondheim) Zabradka married Kyle Zabradka on Sept. 17, 2021, in Weekapaug, RI. They met during First-Year Orientation during their first year at Gettysburg! Shannon Brobst is an economist by day and aerialist by night. She has been taking fire bending and aerial silks classes at the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts, where she performs intricate routines and drops from 40 feet in the air. She was recently invited to perform at the Franklin Institute for the “Spectacular Spectacular” circus theme night.

Jesse DeMartino
245 E. 40th Street, Apt. 32F
New York, NY 10016
908-418-8794
jesse demartino @icloud.com

Lindsey Gieger
Boston, MA
862-222-4978
lindseygieger@gmail.com
The Class of 2017 is staying busy on the academic front: **Greg Dachille** is completing a second master’s degree in instructional design development and evaluation with a certificate of advanced study in designing digital instruction from Syracuse U. **Katerina Krohn** graduated from Temple Law School and is working as an assistant district attorney at the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office. **Piper O’Keefe** received her master’s degree in global affairs and public policy at Yale’s Jackson Institute of Global Affairs. **Lizzy Butler** graduated from Wilson College with a master’s degree in education. Finally, **Raichl Davenport** is completing a teaching fellowship with a program called Independent Schools Teaching Fellowship through William Penn Charter School. Raichl is also working on a master’s degree in education with the teaching certification program at Rosemont College. If that didn’t keep Raichl busy enough, she is also an artist. Her brand’s name is AfroLove Philly, and she creates visual art with printed fabrics. Her art tells stories of Black joy, Black beauty, and Black history, using themes of Afrofuturism, environmentalism, and social justice. She has participated in a charity auction, where she refurbished and redesigned two pieces of furniture, as well as several art festivals. Check out her work at afrolovephilly.com and on Instagram @ Afrolove_philly! Also, this year is our five-year reunion (Oct. 14-16), and I’m looking forward to welcoming everyone back to Gettysburg. See you in October!

**Brooke Gutschick**  
300 N. Washington Street, Box 430  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
301-310-6135  
brooke.m.gutschick@gmail.com  
[Gettysburg College Class of 2017](#)

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**Laura Carr** in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.

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**Rebekah “Bekah” Hurwitz**  
301-219-5503  
huwre01@alumni.gettysburg.edu

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**James Miller** reached the summit of Mount Everest in May. He is the 25th male American under the age of 25 to do so. And while we can’t confirm it, we are curious to see if he is the first Gettysburgian to reach the summit.

**Libby Walker**  
905 Lilac Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-2608  
412-528-9113  
libby.walker1@gmail.com

[Gettysburg College Class of 2020](#)

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**Katie Mercer**  
2201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22201  
717-682-3807  
gfiorrance@gmail.com

[Gettysburg College Class of 2021](#)

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**Hi, Class of 2021!** Our classmates have been up to some incredible things since our graduation last May! Several classmates are doing Teach for America programs. **Alison Gouveia** teaches middle school science in Providence, RI. **Lili Mischke** teaches middle school science in Charlotte, NC. **Katie Troy** teaches middle school Spanish in Charlotte, NC. **Anita Woofenden** teaches high school language arts in Providence, RI. **Maddie Miller** spent last summer in Glacier National Park as staff accountant for the Pursuit Collection in St. Mary’s Village. She now works full time at Winter Park Resort in CO as a recruitment and training specialist. **Aidan Kennedy** was a deputy campaign manager for the Elizabeth Bennett-Parker for Delegate campaign in Virginia. He assisted in day-to-day operations of the campaign, including canvassing, social media, and fundraising. Once Delegate Bennett-Parker secured the delegate seat for the 45th district, Aidan stayed on the team as a legislative assistant for the 2022 Virginia Session. He is now starting a new full-time job as a political research associate for a D.C.-based consulting firm. **Alexandra Yiambilis** started veterinary school at Cornell U College of Veterinary Medicine. She is interested in critical care and internal medicine and works as a student assistant in the ER, where she is working on a research project with medical oncology. **Katie Mercer** is studying for a master’s degree in science in the control of infectious diseases at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. For her dissertation, Katie is working with Oxfam to analyze the impact of hand-washing stations in refugee camps of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Bangladesh, and Ethiopia. I would love to hear from you, so please reach out with any news. Wishing you all the best!

**Grace Torrance**  
2201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, VA 22201  
717-682-3807  
gfiorrance@gmail.com

[Gettysburg College Class of 2021](#)

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

2. Classmates attended a memorial of sorts for our friend Douglas Ley ’80, who passed away unexpectedly last June. From back left: Ian Lindevald ’80, Larry Patterson ’80, Janet (Hambleton) Wilkie ’81, and Alex Wilkie ’80.

3. Some of our class members attended the wedding celebration of Chuck ’67 and Barbara Widger’s daughter, Ashley Widger, and her husband Jon Kaplow in Philadelphia, PA, in late April. Those in attendance included Scott Higgins ’67, Lew Manges ’67 and wife Maxine, Lee Cummings ’67 and wife Nancy, Larry Luessen ’67 and wife Lynn, and Craig Lord ’68 and wife Rosemary. Several of us also met and spent time with Dave Roth ’67 and his wife Jeanne. The attached shows (left to right): Lee Cummings ’67, Larry Luessen ’67, Scott Higgins ’67, Lew Manges ’67, Chuck Widger ’67, and Craig Lord ’68.

4. James Miller ’20 was the 25th male American under the age of 25 to summit Mt. Everest in May.

5. Friends since Gettysburg College days, Trevor Huth (left) and Jim Partridge (right), class of ’79, look quite fit after completing the Pittsburgh Half Marathon in fall 2021.


7. Fred Bikle Hoenniger ’52 is shown at his 91st Birthday on Feb. 22, 2022.
IN MEMORIAM

ALL DATES ARE 2022 UNLESS NOTED

'40  Hazel Detwiler Bowers, March 13
'46  Margaret Buoy Wood, March 7
'47  Marilyn Senior Brookes, March 25
      Paul F. Kramp Jr., Dec. 21*
'48  Mary Jane Heckman Shumberger, Dec. 15*
      Edith Y. Thoburn, Nov. 20*
'49  Henry W. Looock Jr., May 2
      Doris Stetler Cooney, Feb. 1
'50  Anderson O’Day, Jan. 3
'51  John R. Galbraith, Jan. 1
      Lou Hammann, Feb. 17
      John R. Jones Jr., Jan. 5
      Cornelius C. Knorr Sr., March 23
'52  John R. Cervio, Nov. 29*
      Jeanne Beaver Daubert, Feb. 13
      Earl M. Fritz, Nov. 7*
      Elizabeth Wohlfarth Leidy, Jan. 14
      Lee E. Snook, Dec. 23*
      Lois Kerstetter Snook, April 28*
'53  Franklin R. Forte, Jan. 16
      Mary Harsch, Nov. 9*
      Dale F. Kleinfelter, April 1
      Chloe McCombs Longacre, April 9
      Robert T. Manley, Nov. 29*
      Betty Jean Stockwell Rieders, March 1
      Jack E. Stouffer, Dec. 5*
'54  Donald K. Adickes, May 1*
      Roger P. Bray, May 1
      William A. Corcoran, July 9*
      Samuel J. Evangelista, Nov. 16*
      Susan Gotwald Lose, Jan. 2
      Richard B. Macomber, Dec. 23*
      Benjamin C. Snyder, Nov. 20*
'55  Virginia Hausmann Fitzgerald, Dec. 11*
      Robert H. Landino, Dec. 4*
      Josephine Hajjar Ross, April 24
'56  John Bausert, Dec. 11*
      John F. Henderson, Aug. 22*
      Carolyn Snyder Lott, May 7
      L. Guy Mehl, Feb. 3
      Gerald L. Spangler, Dec. 3*
'57  Odette Schwager Adams, Jan. 29
      John D. Bream, Feb. 23
      Donald E. Golden, Dec. 2*
      Joseph J. Harrell, April 18
      Arthur J. Hendley, March 6
      Jack W. Jones, Jan. 14
      John D. Little, July 20*
      Herbert Moore Jr., Jan. 12
'58  Marguerite Long Bucher, April 18
      Robert J. Drennen, April 20
      Robert N. Harcourt, Jan. 9
      Eileen Lenore Engstrom Olsen
      Stephen B. Stock, Jan. 14
      Allen K. Tomljinson, April 14
'59  James F. Grathwohl, Jan. 28
      Dawn Burg Musser, Jan. 10
'61  Raymond H. Lee, April 30
      G. Gordon Kissner, Nov. 23*
      M. Kathryn Sweney, April 2
      David H. Zieger, Dec. 21*
'62  John J. Fleming III, April 2
      Julia La Rose Othote, Jan. 22
'63  Ann (Munshower) Arnold, Dec. 12*
      Mary-Helen (Corbett) Ferkett, Feb. 6
      Carl Vincent Hunt, July 2*
      Christine Conley Pappas, Oct. 11*
      Robert L. Taylor, Dec. 14*
'65  Allan M. Brown, March 10
      Bruce W. Guenther, Jan. 18
      Walter P. Kehoe Jr., Jan. 6
      Peter B. McDowell, Nov. 21*
'66  Kenneth D. Harrison, March 31
'67  Susan Zimmerman Wagner, March 13
'69  Stephen H. Brandt, Jan. 14
      Norman R. Eavenson Jr., Nov. 14*
      George T. Thomson III, March 28
'70  John A. Lucas II, Jan. 18
      John E. Sampson, Nov. 16*
'71  Jonathan P. Krum, Jan. 20
      Barry L. Jacoby, Dec. 20*
'72  Richard H. Demarest, Jan. 28
'73  Jerome M. Guss, Nov. 14*
      Thomas M. Meachum, March 12

'77  Richard L. Gennaro, Nov. 9*
'80  Francis X. Maher, April 15
'84  Drew Gibbs, Nov. 16*
'86  Andrew T. Coen, April 15
'00  Mary K. Harlan, Feb. 5
'03  Christine P. Caufield-Noll, Jan. 14

* denotes 2021
LOUIS J. HAMMANN ’51

Louis J. Hammann, M.Div., M.A., and Ph.D., passed away on Feb. 16, 2022, after a brief stay in hospice care. Lou was a dynamic presence in the classroom and across campus. He helped transform the College’s Religious Studies Department from a Lutheran-based theology department into a religious studies program with a long intellectual reach. Lou’s “Religion: From the Center to the Fringe,” perhaps his most famous course, taught generations of Gettysburgians what true open-mindedness looked like and how to find wisdom in unlikely places. Lou believed deeply in the liberal arts, interdisciplinarity, real political action, and the sustaining value of teaching and learning.

Lou’s story began in Baltimore, Maryland, where in 1929 he was born into a working-class family. Fish-mongering was his father’s trade, and it was to be his son’s life path, too, until a friend told him about Gettysburg College. Lou attended Baltimore City College, a college preparatory school with a liberal arts focus. After becoming the first in his family to graduate high school, Lou set his sights on becoming the first in his family to graduate from college. At Gettysburg, Lou studied Latin as a classics major, with minors in philosophy and psychology, graduating in 1951. He was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa before he left for Yale Divinity School, where he earned the Master of Divinity Degree. Lou became a clergyman in the United Church of Christ, but traditional religion did not fit his rebel mold.

In 1956, Lou returned to Gettysburg and began teaching full-time, while completing both an M.A. and Ph.D. at Temple University. Lou’s scholarly output included numerous conference papers, articles, and books. But the classroom was his place. Lou taught more than 20 different courses during his career and took pride in never teaching the same class the same way twice. Outside the College, Lou championed American democracy. His multiple arrests for protesting for campaign finance reform were honors he embraced. Lou’s honest political commitment brought speakers like Doris “Granny D” Haddock and editor and writer Lewis H. Lapham to campus.

Soccer coach, scholar, mentor, teacher, father, and husband, Lou Hamman left his mark on Gettysburg College in so many positive ways that it is impossible to collect them all.

Courtesy of the Office of the Provost

JOHN D. BREAM ’57

John D. “Jack” Bream, 87, of Gettysburg, passed away on Feb. 23, 2022. Born in Gettysburg on July 23, 1934, he was the son of the late Henry T. (1922) and Louise D. Bream. After graduating from Gettysburg College in 1957, Jack remained very active with the College. He spent several years as the assistant men’s basketball coach, supporting the football program as well as other various sports. Jack was the first executive director of the Orange & Blue Club and was the founder of the annual Gettysburg College Orange & Blue Golf Classic. He is a Gettysburg College Athletic Department Hall of Fame member. He is also a member of the Adams County and South Eastern arm of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame, a longtime member of the Gettysburg Lions Club, Good Samaritan Club, and The Shrine.

For many years, Jack coached and was a member of the board of directors for Gettysburg Little League, Pop Warner Football Program, and was the president of the board for the Gettysburg Park and Recreation. He was a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Gettysburg.

He was affectionately known as “Mr. Jack” in the Littlestown School District where he spent 35 years as a teacher, coach and administrator. Throughout his life, Jack received many accolades, awards and recognitions for his tireless work in education, his community, and athletics.

In addition to his wife of 64 years, Carol B. Bream, Jack is survived by his three children, Henry T. “Tim” Bream III, Tamara B. Bream, and Wendy Bream Stoner and their families, including four grandchildren and a great-granddaughter. He was predeceased by a brother, Henry T. Bream Jr.

RAYMOND H. LEE ’61

Retired Colonel Raymond H. Lee, 82, of Burtonsville, Maryland, passed away on April 30, 2022. Raymond was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Dec. 26, 1939. He graduated from Central High School and continued on to receive his bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Gettysburg College, and then an M.B.A. from Auburn University. Raymond served in the United States Air Force for 27 years.

During his years of service, Raymond made time for family, travel with his wife, Olivia, and golf. He was also actively involved with the Alumni Board at Gettysburg College and a vital member of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Silver Spring, Maryland. Raymond was also a Life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.
Raymond is preceded in death by two young sons, Raymond Hubert, Jr., and Michael Eugene, as well as his brothers James Edward and John Benjamin. Raymond is survived by his wife Olivia, children Lise Linda, Dorothy, and Robert and their families, including his seven grandchildren.

**DORIS STETLER COONEY, ’49; P’79; GP’06**

Doris Stetler Cooney, 93, passed away on Feb. 1, 2022, at her home in Catonsville, Maryland, following a brief illness. Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of the late Earl Ross Stetler and Helen Mae Kaltenborn. She attended Peabody High School in Pittsburgh, where she competed on many athletic teams. She graduated cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Gettysburg College in 1949.

For much of her adult life, Doris managed her family household as it moved to Lutherville, Hyattsville, Baltimore, Aberdeen, Bethesda, Bel Air, and Silver Spring. From time to time, she worked outside the home, tutoring students unable to attend school and serving as an advertising account executive. Doris actively pursued many avocations into her 90s. She enjoyed gardening, painting (oil and watercolor), sewing, designing floral arrangements, mastering jigsaw puzzles, and making crafts. She was a lover of jazz, sang in many choirs including the Harford Choral Society in the 1960s, and was a longtime subscriber to the Baltimore Symphony. In the 1970s, she earned an associate’s degree in interior design at Harford Community College. She was an avid reader: shortly after they moved to Charlestown Retirement Community in Catonsville in 1988, she and her late husband founded the Philosophes’ Book Group, which continues to meet monthly. In 2009, the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame gave her an award of distinction for volunteer service to the citizens of Maryland. She participated in numerous Road Scholars programs, and the highlight of many summers was a week attending concerts and lectures at the Chautauqua Institution in Jamestown, New York. She was a consummate host and loved entertaining at receptions and dinners in her home. She was her happiest whenever her extended family gathered together.

Doris is survived by two sons and three daughters-in-law: Judith O’Connor Cooney; David S. and Robin Stifler Cooney; and Donald R.’79, P’06 and Dianne R. Lappe Cooney ’79, P’06. She is also survived by six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews with their children and grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, the Rev. C. Douglas Cooney ’49; her son, Douglas Alan Cooney; and her two sisters, Jeanne Stetler Cassell and Janet Stetler Covey ’55. She was the last of her generation in her extended family.

**ANDREW T. COEN ’86**

Andrew T. “Andy” Coen, 57, of Orefield, Pennsylvania, passed away on April 15, 2022, at Lehigh Valley Inpatient Hospice. He was the husband of Laura A. Coen to whom he was married 22 years. Born in Newark, New Jersey, on June 20, 1964, Andy was the son of Grace Coen of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, and the late Kenneth J. Coen.

Andy graduated from Cherry Hill East High School in 1982 and from Gettysburg College in 1986 where he played football. He was the head football coach at Lehigh University for 13 years before retiring in 2018. Coach Coen was a two-time Patriot League Coach of the Year, guiding the Mountain Hawks to 85 victories and five Patriot League titles. He was a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Award on three occasions.

Prior to his tenure at Lehigh University, Coach Coen held the following positions: offensive coordinator at the University of Pennsylvania, offensive coordinator at Lehigh University, offensive coordinator at Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy, grad assistant offensive line coach at the University of Minnesota, grad assistant offensive line coach at James Madison University, and began his career as an assistant offensive line coach at Widener University. In 2019, Coach Coen was inducted into the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame. He was a member of St. Joseph the Worker Roman Catholic Church in Orefield, Pennsylvania.

In addition to his loving wife and mother, Andy is survived by his children, Molly K. Coen, Nolan A. Coen, Finn P. Coen; siblings, Laura Coen, Tom Coen, Lee Ann Gerrato, John Coen, Carolyn McAleer; and their families.
Have you ever wondered what it’s like to be a part of the world’s most anticipated athletic event—*the Olympics*?

*Jennifer Lasher Angell ’90,* an international sports broadcaster, gives us a peek into the production.
Having a front-row seat for Shaun White’s last halfpipe event in the 2022 Winter Olympics may not look like it has much in common with a degree in French, but you’d be surprised.

As a French major at Gettysburg College, I was determined to use my language skills and had been searching for the perfect entry into the international world. In 1992, I got my foot in the door with ESI Production Services, the company responsible for the host broadcast TV production for not only the 1994 World Cup in the United States, but also for the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway, and the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia. A world of opportunity—quite literally—was open to me, and I grabbed the chance to start my career in sports broadcasting.

The Ultimate French Exam

After the Atlanta Olympics in 1996, I was recruited to move to Paris to work on the 1998 World Cup in France. At last, my French skills would be put to the test. Moving at such a young age to live and work in Paris sounds like a dream come true, but it was quite difficult getting settled and learning a whole new vernacular for TV production in French. As soon as everything “clicked,” I was able to enjoy the job—and Paris!

After my first experience in France, I widened my global exposure and went from Vail, Colorado, for the 1999 Vail World Championships, to Sydney, Australia, for the 2000 Summer Olympics, back to the United States for the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah, and on to Korea for the 2002 Korea/Japan World Cup. I found myself using my French with colleagues, but in different parts of the world. It was in those moments that I could see that my career was becoming global.

After moving back to Paris with my husband, Peter, in late 2002, I worked the French Grand Slams for 10 years and was later invited to work tennis events with ESPN. These experiences ultimately led me to new opportunities with a broader skill set, from the Asian Games in 2006 to the World Cup in Russia 12 years later.

From my involvements in these projects, I found I enjoyed putting these international events together. This allowed me to utilize all the skills I had acquired over the years—such as organization, communication, and multitasking—and have continued to build upon them in each destination around the world.

Olympic Firsts

The COVID-19 pandemic caused obvious slowdowns in the industry. However, when things began to reopen, I was in Paris for the Olympic Boxing Qualifications in May and June of 2021, which lead to being back in the truck for the 2021 Summer Games in Tokyo, producing surfing—a first-time sport for the Olympics. Our production team managed to win a bronze “Golden Rings” award that year for the production, an award that promotes and awards excellence in the broadcasting of the Olympic Games!

I stayed on in Tokyo in September 2021 and produced the Paralympic wheelchair basketball and sitting volleyball competitions. These sports were amazing to witness. I can only hope we managed to capture the Paralympic athletes’ awe-inspiring talent and determination with the same sense of wonder that I felt in person.

Up a Mountain

Next up was the 2022 Winter Olympics in China. I traveled to Beijing to produce the snowboard halfpipe (Shaun White’s last event—so emotional!), moguls, aerials, freestyle skiing halfpipe, parallel giant slalom, and the Paralympic snowboard cross and banked slalom competitions.

To me, what makes these roles so compelling is working with a production team with different backgrounds. At the Tokyo Games, I worked with Japanese colleagues, and in Beijing, my production team was Chinese. They have different ways of working and doing television, which is always enlightening to learn about and compare to how an English or American production crew works.

I am so thankful that my determination paid off. I use my French skills daily for both work and pleasure. I live in London with my wonderful husband, Peter, of 18 years, and I get to see some incredible places thanks to my career. After nearly 30 years in the business, I can honestly say that I’ve seen it all—from a front-row seat in the production truck.
MAKING THE MOST OF EACH MOMENT


by Zachary de Besche ’22

Despite the uncertainty of the summer of 2020 as the global COVID-19 pandemic established itself as a seemingly permanent presence in our lives, I knew one thing: I wouldn’t be back on my college campus for at least one semester. However, that one grounding fact further threw into question my situation: If I’m not on campus, what will occupy the time that campus life usually takes up?

In discussions around the dinner table with my family, my grandmother was the one who tossed out the idea with a shrug and a grin. “You could build a tiny house!” she said. The seed of the project had been planted, and I dwelled on it quite a bit in the early days of that summer. I pondered whether I should, or even could, build a tiny house over my final two years of college. I knew that it was an intriguing, exciting project that I had passion for, as it intersects with my environmental studies major, but I could feel the weight of this decision. I knew it would be a big undertaking with potentially an even bigger payoff through the experiences I could gain.

Ultimately, I took the plunge, thinking to myself: If not now, when? The project quickly solidified into a commitment with the option to use it as my environmental studies honors thesis project—which I did!

Building began a few short months later in October 2020, and the speed of progress was astounding. My dad, his parents, and my uncle came to the site every weekend to work nine- to 10-hour days in the first few months of the build, offering their time, tools, supplies, and support—all of which I am forever grateful for.

Even more helpful were my three roommates, Julia Sharapi ’22, Niki Melnick ’23, and Diana Biesecker ’22, who were there almost as often as I was to help with anything and everything. The house would still be a shell of what it is now if it were not for their support.

I’ve also worked many days on my own, which has taught me how resourceful and strong I am. But the days spent on the site with my family, friends, and fellow Gettysburgians were some of the most rewarding, mentally and physically challenging, and fun days in my life.

After graduating in May, I’m taking the house with me wherever I may end up. I’m still working on it, and progress has been slow due to all of the responsibilities of my last semester at Gettysburg College, but I could never have asked for a better way to spend what could’ve been the most uneventful, pandemic-harried two years of my life.

It may be a tiny house, but to me, it offered such a big opportunity—one you only get once in a lifetime. 🏡
We are so excited to welcome you back. This very special Homecoming Weekend is right around the corner. We hope you will celebrate with us. Visit www.gettysburg.edu/homecoming to see a full schedule of events and to register.

Questions? Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-6518.

We hope to see you on campus this fall!
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