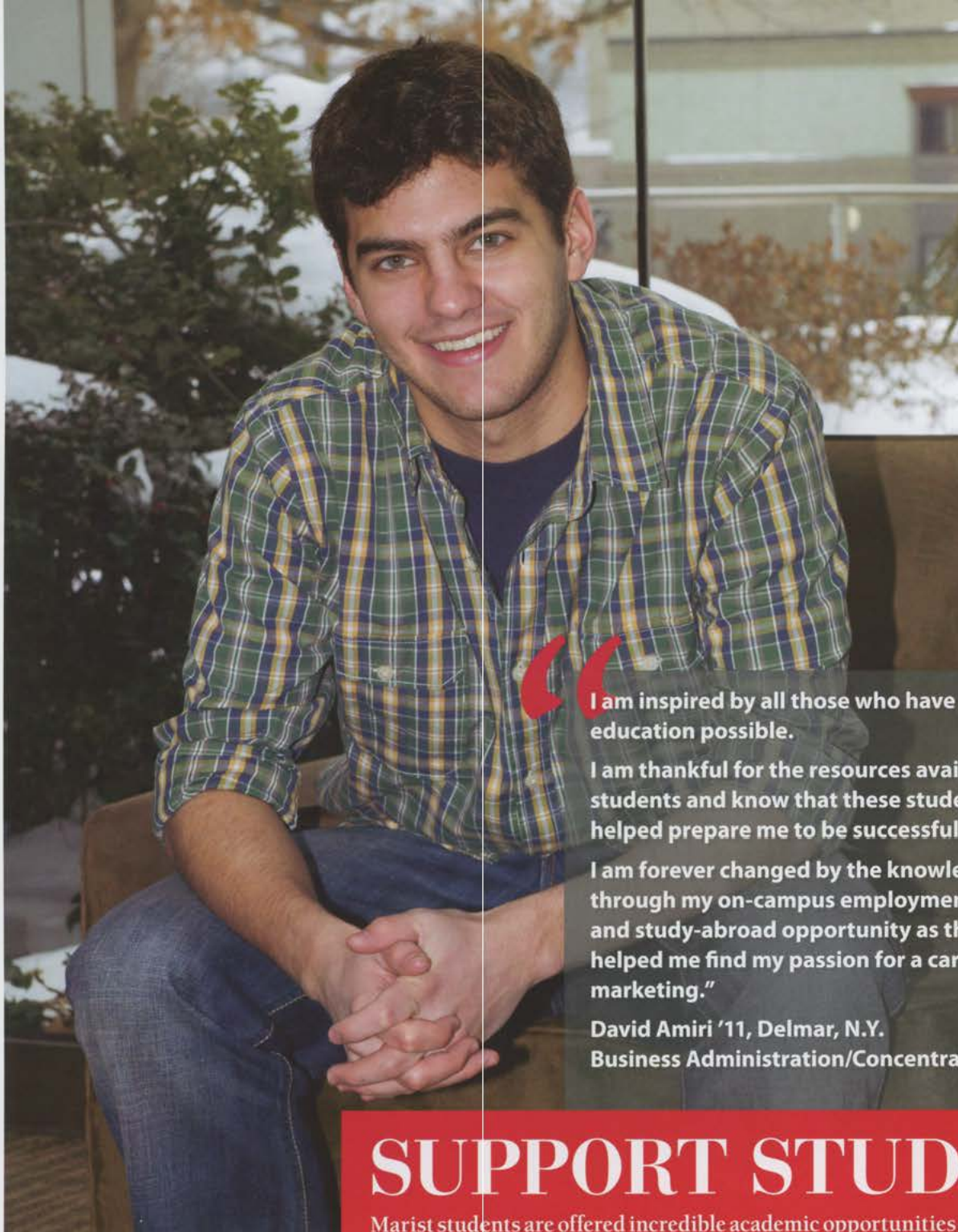


# MARIST

THE MAGAZINE OF MARIST COLLEGE • SUMMER 2011



**The Hancock Center  
Makes Its Debut**



To learn more about David, visit  
[www.marist.edu/alumni/maristfund](http://www.marist.edu/alumni/maristfund)



**I am inspired by all those who have made my Marist education possible.**

**I am thankful for the resources available to Marist students and know that these student services have helped prepare me to be successful in work and life.**

**I am forever changed by the knowledge gained through my on-campus employment, internship, and study-abroad opportunity as these experiences helped me find my passion for a career in sports marketing."**

**David Amiri '11, Delmar, N.Y.**

**Business Administration/Concentration in Marketing**

## SUPPORT STUDENTS

Marist students are offered incredible academic opportunities every year. Countless programs, such as the College's student-centered services, have grown tremendously over the years due to the financial support made available by generous donors.

Supporting these student services takes outstanding resources. It is largely because of support from Marist alumni, parents, and friends that students have the opportunity to study at Marist College.

Please consider making Marist, and students like David, part of your philanthropic priorities this year by giving to the Marist Fund. Students rely on the support of those who believe in their futures.

# SUPPORT THE MARIST FUND

# MARIST

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A stunning new \$35 million building houses the School of Computer Science and Mathematics, the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, the School of Management's investment center, the Marist-IBM Joint Study, the Institute for Data Center Professionals, and Marist International Programs as well as space dedicated to economic development and business incubation.



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#### A Common Passion

Talented students are pursuing their dreams of degrees in computer science and information technology, supported by full scholarships from the National Science Foundation and by the special bond among them.

By Jim Urso '11



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#### The Campaign for Marist

Support from private foundations is a key part of the campaign.



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Marist is dedicated to helping students develop the intellect and character required for enlightened, ethical, and productive lives in the global community of the 21st century.

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Cover photo by Michael Nelson



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#### Coach of the Years

Since Brian Giorgis arrived at Marist nine years ago, the Red Foxes' four NCAA Tournament wins and seven MAAC Tournament championships in an eight-year span have drawn the national spotlight and propelled the women's basketball program into a source of pride for the student body and community.

By Jim Urso '11

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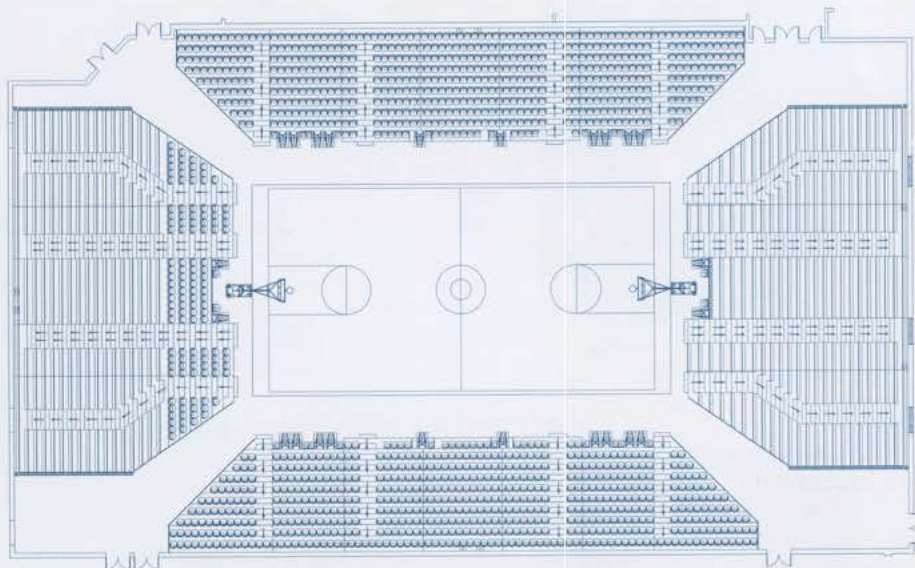
#### Philanthropy

Aaron Marcus called on Marist Athletics and College Advancement to help him surprise his wife, Nancy McAllister '91, with a very special anniversary present.



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## NEWS &amp; NOTES FROM THE CAMPUS



The renovation to the seating areas in the McCann Center Field House will create a "bowl" feel conducive to a loud and exciting collegiate atmosphere.

### The McCann Center Gets a Makeover

The sounds of clanging hammers and electric drills familiar to those who passed Marist's recently completed Hancock Center have faded away. However, the completion of the center didn't signal the end of construction on the Marist College campus.

The Marist Athletics Department broke ground this past spring on a project that will enhance the James J. McCann Recreation Center with an 11,660-square-foot, two-story addition. The estimated \$8.5 million addition will provide new locker rooms and office space for the men's and women's basketball teams, augment the experience for fans in the McCann Field House, and provide more convenient restrooms and lobby space. The project has the same architect as the Hancock Center, the firm of Robert A. M. Stern.

"It says a lot about this institution that even in tough times, we're growing," Director of Athletics Tim Murray says.

Much of the funding for the new addition and renovation came from a substantial donation from the James J. McCann Charitable Trust, which was established through the generosity of local businessman and lifelong Poughkeepsie resident James J. McCann. For more than four decades, the McCann Trust has benefited the Poughkeepsie area through its support for educational, recreational, and cultural activities. The McCann Trust has also provided major support over the years for a number of other significant campus projects including the original McCann Center; the

Lowell Thomas Communications Center; Gartland Athletic Commons; the McCann Baseball Field; and the addition to the McCann Center that opened in 1997.

"These are going to be the premier offices and locker rooms in the league," Murray says. The relocation of the basketball offices will also free office space for other sports.

"It definitely will help us with recruiting," Women's Basketball Head Coach Brian Giorgis says. "It will help in terms of watching film and editing film. It gives us a place to do that where we are not fighting for certain rooms with other sports."

In April, renovation of the lobby, restrooms, and Field House commenced to better accommodate crowds and, in the case of restrooms, reduce long waits. The overhaul of the Field House will create a "bowl" feel conducive to loud noise and an exciting atmosphere.

"The fact that we're changing the seats to a bowl style is more modern and more up to date," men's basketball point guard Devin Price says. "It will bring more energy to the game."

Retractable chair-back seats replacing bleachers on the east and west sides of the basketball court will reduce the amount of available seats. But more bleachers will then be added to the north and south end zones to regain that capacity.

The retractable chair-back seating will offer more hand rails and aisle space to meet current building regulations. "We always



An artist's rendering shows the reception area in the new McCann Center addition.



The project will provide new locker rooms for the men's and women's basketball teams.

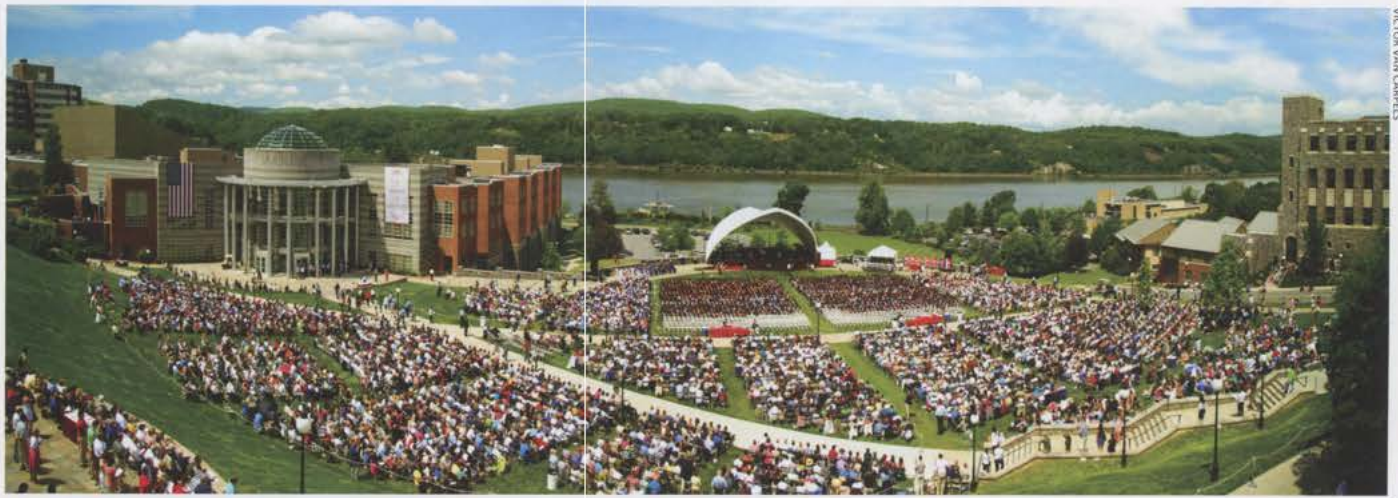
want to make sure people have a safe and comfortable experience when they come to our games," Murray says.

While some schools of Marist's stature have larger arenas, there's a fundamental reason why the capacity of the McCann Field House will remain at 3,200 even with the addition of the chair-backs. "We want to maintain our great collegiate atmosphere night in and night out," Murray says. "We have an outstanding band and dance team, outstanding cheerleaders, and great support from the students, the Red Fox Club, and the community. At our games, everyone in the room is part of the action."

Marist has drawn national attention for its fan support. The NCAA chose Marist as the overall winner in the 2010-11 NCAA Division I "Pack the House" Challenge, beating 177 participating institutions.

Murray hopes the project will be complete when students return to Poughkeepsie in the fall. "It's going to be a really exciting on-campus arena and a tough place to play." ■

—Jim Urso '11 and Philip Terrigno '12



VICTOR VAN CARBELS

Marist College awarded 1,525 degrees at commencement ceremonies May 20 and 21. Above, the ceremony for traditional undergraduates drew an estimated 10,000 guests to the campus green.

### 1,525 Receive Degrees at Commencement Ceremonies

**M**arist College President Dennis J. Murray awarded 1,525 degrees during two graduation ceremonies in May on the campus green.

On Friday, May 20, 115 adult students received bachelor's degrees, while 330 men and women received master's degrees. The following day, 1,080 traditional undergraduates were awarded bachelor's degrees.

Lt. Col. Amy Meeks, associate director of admissions at the United States Military Academy at West Point and a 2002 Marist master's alumna, addressed graduates at the School of Global and Professional Programs Commencement on Friday. She was awarded the Distinguished Alumna Medal.

Michael Korda, editor in chief emeritus for the publishing giant Simon and Schuster,

was the featured speaker at the undergraduate ceremony and was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Korda is the author of the No. 1 best seller *Power* and the best-selling novels *Queenie* and *The Fortune*. He wrote the recently published *Hero: The Life and Legend of Lawrence of Arabia* following extensive research among the Lowell Thomas Papers archived in the Cannavino Library at Marist. ■

### Ellen Hancock Succeeds Robert Dyson as Marist Board Chair

**T**echnology executive Ellen M. Hancock has been elected chair of the Marist College Board of Trustees, succeeding businessman and philanthropist Robert R. Dyson, who held the position for 16 years. Hancock chaired her first meetings of the board on Feb. 4 and 5, 2011.

Hancock joined the Marist board in 1988 and is the first woman to serve as chair. She has been a pioneer in the field of technology, rising to senior executive positions with the IBM Corp., National Semiconductor, and Apple Computers before becoming chief executive officer of Exodus Communications, Inc., then president of Jazz Technologies, Inc. She serves on the corporate boards of Aetna, Inc., and Colgate-Palmolive Co. She also serves as chair of the board of the Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies; is a trustee of the Pacific Council on International Policy and Springboard Enterprises, a women's venture capital catalyst; and is on the advisory board of the nonprofit Rand Corp.

Hancock and her husband, Jason, residents of Ridgefield, Conn., and Los Altos Hills, Calif., were the lead donors for the Hancock Center, a \$35 million, technologically advanced academic and economic



Ellen M. Hancock



Robert R. Dyson

development center in the heart of the College's Hudson River-front campus (see Page 8 for more on the Hancock Center). In announcing her gift for the center, Hancock stressed the importance of combining outstanding faculty with state-of-the-art facilities to create a world-class college.

Dyson is chairman and CEO of the Manhattan-based Dyson-Kissner-Moran Corp. and president of the Dyson Foundation. The longest-serving board chair in Marist history, he led the College through an unprecedented period of growth in academic programs, new facilities, and enhanced national reputation. During his tenure, Marist constructed a new library, a classroom building that is home to the College's School of Liberal Arts, four student residential complexes, a tennis complex, and a riverfront park; added a fitness facility to the James J. McCann Recreation Center; converted a former steel plant into a

center for visual arts and art gallery; and renovated the chapel, residence halls, chemistry labs, and Student Center.

Dyson also played a lead role in the College's current capital campaign, which has raised more than \$141.7 million toward its \$150 million goal, with new endowments for scholarships, faculty chairs, and physical plant improvements. Over the past 16 years, Marist has seen applications double to more than 11,000 for 950 seats in each year's freshman class. Marist also added numerous programs for adult learners and graduate degrees, opened a branch campus in Florence, Italy, and expanded its virtual campus globally through an array of online programs.

"Rob Dyson's leadership has brought us to the point where we have gone from a regionally known college to an internationally recognized institution of higher education that has made a name for itself in using technology to enhance teaching and learning," says Marist President Dennis J. Murray. "To get us to the next phase of our development, there is no one with greater vision for what can be accomplished than Ellen Hancock."

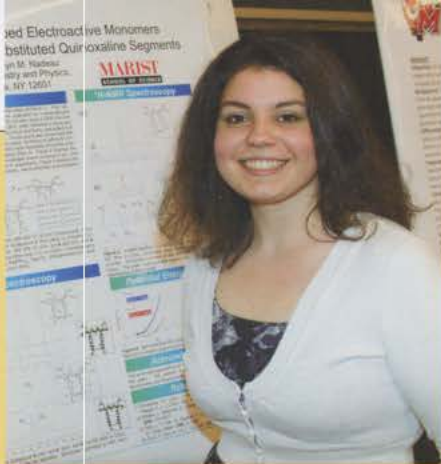
Dyson, who is the second-longest-serving current board member, was appointed a Marist trustee in 1975 and will remain on the board as immediate past chair. ■

## Catherine DeBlase '11 Awarded National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

**M**arist College chemistry major Catherine R. DeBlase, the valedictorian of the Class of 2011, doesn't waste time. As a sophomore in 2009, the chemistry major earned the prestigious Barry Goldwater Scholarship, an honor that typically recognizes college juniors and their scientific research accomplishments. During her final semester at Marist, the Hopewell Junction, N.Y., native garnered another acclaimed reward usually reserved for scholars in the first or second year of graduate studies.

DeBlase was awarded the 2011 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRF) to support her pursuit of a doctoral degree in organic chemistry at Cornell University starting this fall. The 2007 Our Lady of Lourdes graduate became the second Marist undergraduate to receive the highly competitive NSF GRF, which designates the recipient as an NSF Graduate Fellow, is three years in duration, and grants a \$10,500 cost-of-education allowance and an annual stipend of \$30,000.

"I'll never forget two years ago, seeing Dr.



**Catherine DeBlase '11 presents research at Marist's Celebration of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity this past spring in the Hancock Center.**

Jocelyn Nadeau run through Donnelly Hall ecstatic with the news that I was named a Goldwater Scholar, or sitting opposite her as she searched through a list of NSF fellows to inform me, 'You got it,' says DeBlase. "Receiving funding is great, but there is no substitute for sharing successes with administration, peers, and the faculty responsible for your education."

DeBlase began her undergraduate research career the summer following her freshman year, working with Nadeau, an assistant professor of chemistry.

"Cathy's unique ability to write creative

and compelling chemistry research proposals as an undergraduate clearly distinguished her as a strong candidate for both the Goldwater Scholarship and the NSF GRF," says Nadeau. "Her aptitude and enthusiasm for organic chemistry research are undeniable. I know she will hit the ground running in graduate school, determined to solve every research challenge that comes her way."

During the summer of 2009, DeBlase participated in the NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates program at the University of Connecticut, where her work led to a coauthored paper in the scientific research journal *Tetrahedron*. In summer 2010, DeBlase took part in the Research in Science and Engineering program at Rutgers University.

DeBlase was awarded the Andrew A. Molloy Memorial Scholarship in Chemistry in 2010 and the Dr. Andrew A. Molloy '51 Award for Excellence in Chemistry in 2011. She was very much engaged in departmental culture throughout college. She was a laboratory assistant, a chemistry tutor, secretary of the student American Chemical Society, and a regular participant at Open House Weekend and National Chemistry Week events. Her brother, Andrew DeBlase, who graduated in 2009, was also a chemistry department standout and a 2008 Goldwater Scholar. ■ —Jim Urso '11

## Robin Minter '11 Receives Fulbright Scholarship to Study Women's Rugby in India

**F**our years ago, Robin Minter '11 caught the travel bug when she signed on to spend a year in Florence, Italy, as part of Marist's Florence Freshman Experience. Then the Ipswich, Mass., native, who completed her coursework in December, studied in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, this past spring through a School for International Training program on sexuality and gender studies.

Now, Minter is hitting the road again, this time as the recipient of a prestigious Fulbright U.S. Student Program Scholarship.

This fall, Minter will pursue research on the development of women's rugby in India, an undertaking which perfectly fuses her interests in gender issues, the sociology of sport, and photography.

"Sports can be a means of limitation as well as of liberation; it all depends on the perspective you take," says Minter, who majored in communication with a concentration in journalism and minors in global studies and women's studies. "Generally, though, sports create opportunity and are vehicles for empowerment. I want to see how women's rugby, a contact sport which is still slowly being accepted in the Western world, is fitting into India's unique, complex social system."

In her proposal for the ultra-competitive scholarship, Minter claimed the rise in India of women's rugby, customarily a masculine activity, is indicative of a potential recasting

of traditional Indian gender roles. She will document, through the lens of her camera and interviews, the evolution of these changes.

Minter, whose younger sister was adopted from Nagpur, India, also established a personal connection with rugby as a member of Marist's nationally ranked club team.

"I came to college never having touched a rugby ball and have since then watched the sport grow exponentially within the past few years all over the world," says Minter.

During her time at Marist, Minter received recognition for her photography from the National Association of Photoshop Professionals, spearheaded public relations initiatives for the Literary Arts Society,

**Robin Minter '11 is recognized by President Dennis J. Murray at the Baccalaureate ceremony for receiving a Fulbright scholarship.**



participated in the Marist Emerging Leaders Program, and served as lifestyles editor, photography editor, and staff writer for the College's student newspaper, *The Circle*.

As for what happens after her Fulbright grant year in India, Minter is contemplating the pursuit of a master's degree. Her long-term aspirations include employment with an international nonprofit organization engaged in work on gender issues.

The Fulbright Program, administered by the Institute of International Education, is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between people in the United States and in other countries. Annually, the Fulbright Program, which was founded in 1946, provides 8,000 grants to students, scholars, teachers, artists, and scientists in 155 countries. Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement as well as demonstrated leadership potential.

The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments, host institutions, corporations, and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide support. ■

—Jim Urso '11



MATTHEW GILLIS

**Colleen Mountford, president of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ulster County, and her Little Sister, Dominique River-Lyons, visit the Marist College campus.**

## Marist Discounts Tuition for Participants in Big Brothers Big Sisters

If you volunteer for the nonprofit Big Brothers Big Sisters organization in the Hudson River Valley, you now get the rewards of helping others plus something more.

Marist College offers a 25 percent discount on tuition for most of its graduate and adult undergraduate programs and waives application fees for anyone who volunteers as Big Brothers or Big Sisters in three valley counties. Little Brothers and Little Sisters, when they reach college age, are also eligible, as are family members of "Bigs" and "Littles."

Participants in the Big Brothers Big Sisters programs of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties receive the benefits when they register for degree programs offered through Marist's Office of Graduate and Adult Enrollment.

"I love the idea," says Colleen Mountford, president of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ulster County. "Not only does it appeal to volunteers and potential volunteers but also staff, board members and potential board members, former Little Brothers and Little Sisters, and the parents of some of the children we serve. That's a lot of people impacted by this partnership. Our agency will benefit from the volunteers and potential board members who may just need this incentive."

In summer 2010, the newly launched program was the subject of an article on the education blog of the *New York Times* and Time Warner Cable's YNN news service.

Founded in New York City in 1904, Big

Brothers Big Sisters serves a quarter-million children annually through its network of nearly 380 agencies across the country. Open since 1975, the Ulster County chapter served 145 Big/Little pairs in 2010. The children in the program range from age 4 to 18, while the adults are age 19 and up.

Mentors report that they have gotten as much, if not more, from the experience as the child, says Mountford. "For as little as eight hours a month, a mentor can make an impact in a child's life, just being someone to share a child's dreams, to open the child to new experiences and opportunities. And it is usually the simple moments that make the biggest impact."

The program is a win-win: Big Brothers Big Sisters recruits more volunteers to mentor children, and Marist recruits more students. Marist Dean of Graduate and Adult Enrollment Sean-Michael Green hopes to extend the discount to programs in other states. A former Big Brother himself, he volunteers with the Dutchess County branch, is a member of the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ulster County, and served previously on the board of the Pittsburgh chapter.

"The College was founded by Marist Brothers who were guided by the principle of service," says Green. "We are happy we can follow in that tradition by supporting the work of Big Brothers Big Sisters, which serves children and their families."

For more information, call Marist's Office of Graduate and Adult Enrollment at (845) 575-3800 or toll-free at (888) 877-7900 or visit [www.marist.edu/admission/graduate/bigbrothersbigisters](http://www.marist.edu/admission/graduate/bigbrothersbigisters). ■

## Students Shed Light on Nanoparticles

For scientific researchers, combating misperception regarding a topic can often be more daunting than the countless hours of lab study needed to investigate the issue. During the spring 2011 semester, Associate Professor of Environmental Science Zofia Gagnon and seven of her students presented their research on the effects of nanoparticles on organisms, a commonly overlooked phenomenon, to thousands of the most esteemed professionals and graduate students

in the scientific community at the American Association for Advancement in Science (AAAS) annual meeting in Washington.

Nanoparticles are used in medical, industrial, and commercial goods such as washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners, toothbrushes, and toothpaste to eliminate odor-causing bacteria. Although this may seem like a significant advance in creating healthy and sterile environments, concern exists that these particles, which are less than 100 nanometers in size, will enter natural water supplies, and that humans and other organisms will be exposed to them. Because

of their minuscule size, there's no way to eliminate nanoparticles from the water supply. In their toxicological study of crayfish and plants, the students found significant effects of reactive, silver nanoparticles on the organisms, including DNA damage and the accumulation of nanoparticles in the tissue of animals.

"We were hoping that by alerting the scientific community, we could eventually raise the concerns of legislators," says Gagnon.

Students carried out the research outside of their coursework, starting in the summer of 2010 and concluding the following fall. The group gave a poster presentation during a two-hour informal session in which other meeting attendees could offer questions and suggestions about the research. "That kind of exposure to mostly graduate students and professionals in that particular format is a pretty remarkable opportunity," says Dr. Thomas Lynch, chair of the Environmental Science and Policy program at Marist.

For everyone involved, there was a sense that what they were doing was important. "I always ask, 'Who's going to benefit from this?'" said Alison Sardonini '11. "For this project, I know there is a point to my research." ■

—Jim Urso '11

**Left to right, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Interim Dean of the School of Science Neil Fitzgerald joins Renae Comulada, Stephanie Cabey, Associate Professor of Environmental Science Zofia Gagnon, Seth Brittle, Chau Quach, Rachel Serafin, and Allen Clayton, who presented their research on the effects of nanoparticles on organisms at the AAAS nationwide annual meeting in Washington, D.C.**



ALISON SARDONINI



Assistant Director of Field Experience Desmond Murray (left) presented the 2011 Intern of the Year award to Stephanie McDonald '11.

### Celebrating Internships

The Center for Career Services again celebrated the dedication of students serving in internships with its annual Intern of the Year awards this past spring.

Marist College placed approximately 1,200 students in elective credit and required internships during the 2010-11 academic year. Several students also completed internships in conjunction with an international educational experience.

The Intern of the Year Award, given by Marist's Center for Career Services since 1993, recognizes a graduating senior for outstanding achievement in experiential education, which includes internships, co-ops, and student teaching assignments.

Stephanie McDonald '11, who was a dual Spanish and business administration major with an emphasis in finance and a minor in global studies, received the 2011 Marist College Intern of the Year honors. McDonald, of Morris Plains, N.J., received the award on April 28 at the Field Experience Recognition Luncheon in the College's Student Center.

Additional recipients, representing each of Marist's academic schools, were Andrew Wellington, a criminal justice major with a minor in information technology; Jessica Guarino, a psychology/special education major; Cassandra Gilday, a biomedical sciences major with a minor in business; Alexandra Bickel, a history major with a minor in communication arts; Sean Dunn, a computer science major; Helena Williams, a fashion merchandising major; and Courtney Davis, a communication arts major with a minor in business.

Assistant Director of Field Experience Desmond Murray presented the awards before an audience of employers and Marist faculty, staff, and students.

McDonald has been a Dean's List student

for all of her semesters at Marist and studied abroad in Madrid, Spain. She participated in three internships: BASF in Florham Park, N.J.; AXA Advisors in Poughkeepsie; and Fusion Media in Brewster, N.Y. McDonald was a member of the College's Dean's Circle and Honors Program and served as president of Alpha Psi Omega Honor Society and vice president of the Marist College Council on Theatre Arts. She received a Marist College Presidential Scholarship, the Dr. Raymond F. Weiss '49 Memorial Scholarship, and the Jennifer L. Dressel '91 Memorial Scholarship for her work in Marist theatre.

Also at the luncheon, Stephen Cole, executive director of the Center for Career Services, presented the 2011 Marist College Intern Employer of the Year Award to *Hudson Valley Business Journal*.

Past recipients of the employer award have been New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, MTV Networks, Target, Morgan Stanley, Maggy London International, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department, the Center for Enhanced Performance at U.S. Military Academy, St. Francis Hospital, IBM, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, the American Cancer Society, Central Hudson Gas and Electric, Northwestern Mutual Life, Paine Webber, and Madison Square Garden.

Allison E. Burke '11, a business administration/marketing and sports communication major, was the recipient of the 2010 New York State Cooperative and Experiential Education Association Student of the Year Award. It was the first year that a student at Marist received this award.

Alumni are encouraged to contact the Center for Career Services at (845) 575-3547 or [career.services@marist.edu](mailto:career.services@marist.edu) to explore how an internship program would benefit their companies. ■



Christopher M. DelGiorno '88

### Christopher DelGiorno '88 Named Vice President for College Advancement

Christopher M. DelGiorno '88 has been named vice president for college advancement at Marist. He brings more than 20 years of experience in higher education and nonprofits and a thorough understanding of fund raising, major gifts, donor relations, and alumni affairs.

DelGiorno joins Marist from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa., where he served as executive director of leadership gifts. In this role, he led a team of 15, including 11 regional directors engaged in a nationwide effort to build meaningful relationships with Bucknell alumni, parents, and friends and secure vital leadership and principal gift support for key university priorities in the context of the university's current \$400 million campaign.

Previously, he served as director of recruitment and professional development and senior major gifts officer at the University of Pennsylvania. Earlier, he was director of development at the Ronald McDonald House of Southern New Jersey and managing coordinator for the Philadelphia Education Fund's College Access Program.

He began his career as an assistant director of admissions at Marist. He received a B.A. in communications from Marist and a Master of Liberal Arts degree in nonprofit leadership from the University of Pennsylvania, where he also earned a certificate in fund raising. ■





Some 2,000 guests attended the two shows, which were produced by Fashion Program students and faculty led by Director Radley Cramer.

### Silver Needle Event Marks Its 25th Year

Even the standing room was sold out at the 25th annual Silver Needle Fashion Show Awards evening event on May 5 at the Mid-Hudson Civic Center in Poughkeepsie. Some 2,000 guests attended the afternoon and evening shows, which were produced entirely by Marist Fashion Program students and faculty, led by Fashion Program Director Radley Cramer.

The Fashion faculty presented President Dennis J. Murray with a Silver Needle award to honor his continued support and enthusiasm for the Fashion Program.

The student awards went to Madeline Sasso for Senior Design Collection; Lauren Duncan for Senior Design Portfolio; Monica Tung for Outstanding Senior Finale



The winning senior design collection (above) was by Madeline Sasso (left).

Garment; and Courtney Andrews, Saasha Coleman, and Kelly Dier for Senior Merchandising Capping Group Award.

Judges were Mark DeZao, executive vice president of Easy Spirit Design and Direct, Nine West Footwear Corp./The Jones Group; Michelle Gondolini, owner/designer, RMC, USA; Dominique

Pino Santiago '99, owner/designer, Dominique Daniella; Rina Stone, creative director, *InStyle* magazine; and April Uchitel, executive vice president of global strategy for Diane von Furstenberg.

Sponsors of the show included Macy's, Maggy London, the Jones Group, the TJX Companies, Inc, Capelli, New York, and Ross. ■

### Accelerated Programs Available Year-Round

Need three college credits but don't have time for the traditional 15-week class? No problem: Marist offers 10-week courses online during the summer. No time for a 10-week course? Try Marist's four-week online courses offered during the December winter break. Have prior college credits but no bachelor's degree? Through Marist's Organizational Leadership and Communication (OLC) program, you can earn a B.S. degree in as little as two years attending classes one night per week. There are also fully online program options for adults who need even more flexibility.

The 10-week and four-week summer and winter options cover the same material as a traditional semester-long class. "Students from

other schools can enroll in these classes with permission of their home institution, and they are a great way to get extra credits completed or strengthen a graduate application from wherever a student may be," says Dr. Lauren Mountry, dean of the School of Global and Professional Programs. The offerings include topics such as Introduction to Psychology, Information and Computer Literacy, Introduction to Literature, and Principles of Macroeconomics. For a complete list of the courses offered this coming December, visit [www.marist.edu/gpp/winter](http://www.marist.edu/gpp/winter).

A new cohort of the OLC program begins this fall. OLC classes meet the same night each week from 6 to 10 p.m. for two years, with the same cohort continuing together throughout

the two years. Courses are taken sequentially, one at a time, in six-week modules. For more information visit [www.marist.edu/gpp/olc](http://www.marist.edu/gpp/olc).

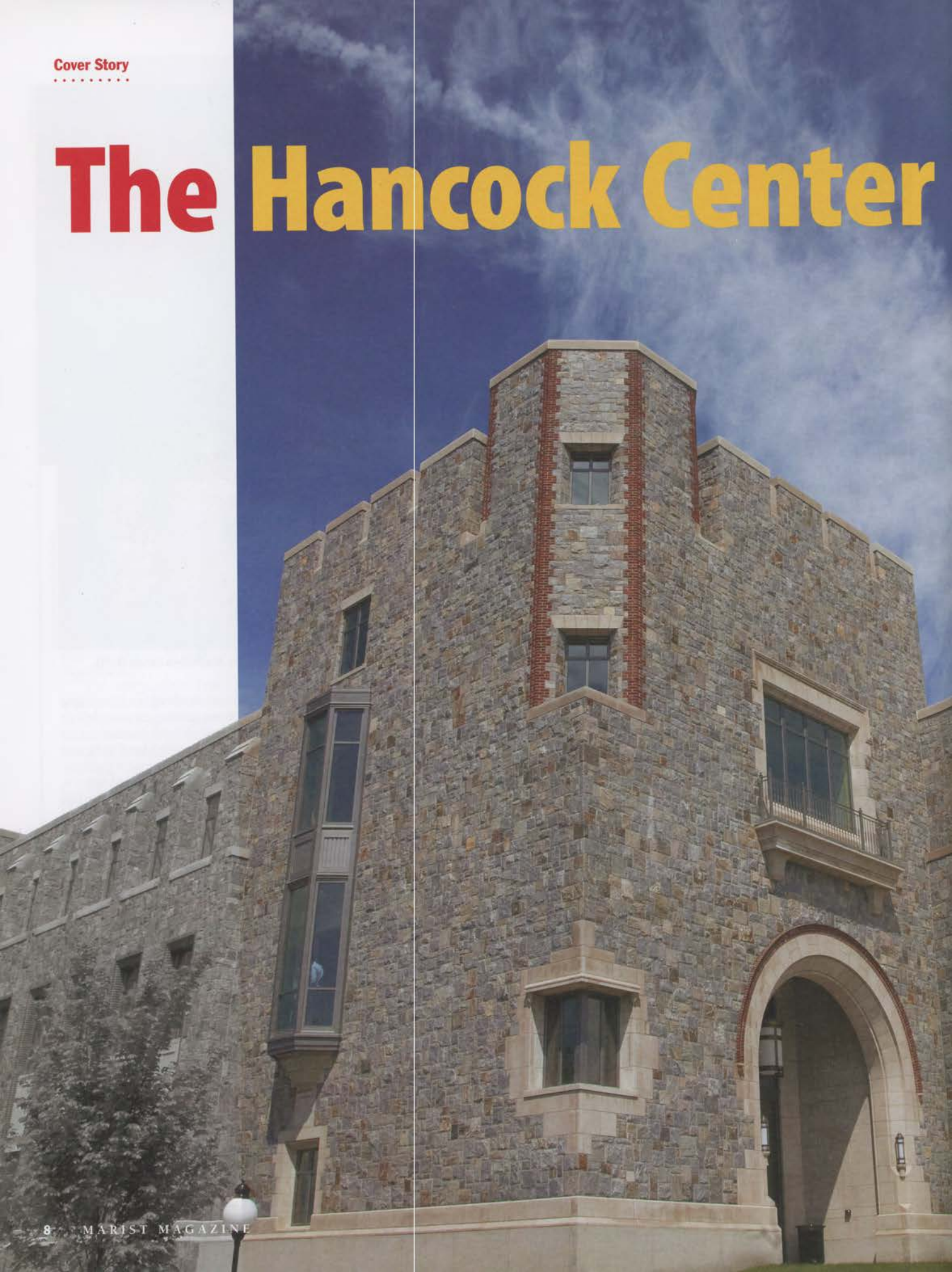
The OLC program as well as other unique academic and certificate offerings can be customized for employers who would like to offer programs on site to their employees. For more information, contact Dr. Lauren Mountry, dean of the School of Global and Professional Programs, at (845) 575-3202 or [lauren.mountry@marist.edu](mailto:lauren.mountry@marist.edu). ■



To hear students comment on their experiences in four-week courses, scan the QR code or visit [www.marist.edu/gpp/winter](http://www.marist.edu/gpp/winter).

Cover Story

# The Hancock Center



# Makes Its Debut

**A stunning new \$35 million building houses the School of Computer Science and Mathematics, the Marist Institute for Public Opinion, the School of Management's investment center, the Marist-IBM Joint Study, the Institute for Data Center Professionals, and Marist International Programs as well as space dedicated to economic development and business incubation.**

Completed this past spring, the building was designed by the firm of renowned architect Robert A. M. Stern, dean of the Yale School of Architecture.



Ellen and Jason Hancock cut the ribbon opening the Hancock Center.

**T**he Hudson River is not the only scene-stealer on the Marist College campus green anymore. The river had to compete with Marist's majestic new Hancock Center as the backdrop for Marist's 65th commencement this past May.

The four-level Hancock Center, situated on a bluff overlooking the Hudson, houses the School of Computer Science and Mathematics, the nationally renowned Marist Institute for Public Opinion, the School of Management's high-tech Student Investment Center, the Marist-IBM Joint Study, the Institute for Data Center Professionals, Marist International Programs, and the College's academic administration. Several of the offices and laboratories in the new building have been designed for use by entrepreneurs for economic development and business incubation. The Hancock Center also features a National Science Foundation-funded enter-

prise computing research laboratory, two additional computer labs, 30 faculty offices, seven classrooms, six seminar rooms, an executive presentation center, a student lounge, a coffee shop, and an outdoor patio.

Completed this past spring and dedicated May 6, the \$35 million center was designed by the firm of architect Robert A. M. Stern, dean of the Yale School of Architecture. Stern and his team were inspired by Marist's three historic buildings, which were part of the Bech estate upon which the current campus was built. The buildings were designed by Detlef Lienau, an influential architect of the latter half of the 19th century and one of the original 29 founders of the American Institute of Architects. The Hancock Center's façade is reminiscent of the red brick and grey stone that distinguished Lienau's work.

Approximately 57,000 square feet, the new building was designed to be sensitive to the environment. It has a green roof and an energy-efficient lighting system and was constructed using sustainable building prac-



# The Hancock Center Makes Its Debut

*continued*



**The Hancock Center received major support from the State of New York and the Empire State Development Corp. to advance technology-based initiatives that will economically benefit the region and the state.**

tices and materials.

"The Hancock Center was designed to help fulfill Marist's goal of infusing information technology into all of our academic disciplines," says President Dennis J. Murray. "This world-class structure completes Marist's academic quadrangle and will take its place as one of the premier academic buildings in America."

The center is fully paid for, with nearly 60 percent of its cost underwritten by fund-raising efforts and the balance provided through institutional funding. The building was supported by a leadership gift from Ellen Hancock, chair of Marist's Board of Trustees, and her husband,

Jason. She has been a pioneer in the field of technology, rising to senior executive positions with IBM, National Semiconductor Corp., and Apple Computers before becoming chief executive officer of Exodus Communications, Inc., and then president of Jazz Technologies, Inc. She serves on the corporate board of Aetna, Inc., and Colgate-Palmolive Co.

In addition to Jason and Ellen Hancock's lead gift, a number of other significant gifts were received to advance construction of the building. The Jeannette F. Schlobach Charitable Trust, under the leadership of its trustee Mark V. Dennis, C.P.A., awarded a \$3 million grant

to create the state-of-the-art Student Investment Center on the building's first floor. The Booth Ferris Foundation, the Louis Greenspan Memorial Trust, and a foundation that chooses to be anonymous also provided generous grants.

As a high-tech hub for applied research and business incubation, the Hancock Center has received major support from the State of New York and the Empire State Development Corp. to advance technology-based initiatives that will economically benefit the region and the state. This includes a \$5 million grant secured by New York State Sen. Steve Saland.

Among the Hancock Center's features is a 1,000-square-foot datacenter that is partially funded by a \$696,931 grant from the National Science Foundation. This gives students and faculty a dedicated laboratory with advanced infrastructure and computing resources while also supporting applied-research projects with industry and academic partners in a wide variety of areas.

Individuals contributing to the new center include Immediate Past Chair of the Board Robert R. Dyson, who supported the furnishing of the new board room, and Vice Chair of the Board Ross Mauri '80, who underwrote a computer laboratory.



**The building, dedicated May 6, sits on a bluff overlooking the Hudson River.**



The façade reflects the red brick and grey stone that distinguished the architecture of Detlef Lienau, who designed Marist's historic buildings.



## The Hancock Center Makes Its Debut

continued

The first alumnus to support the project was the late Anthony J. Kondysar '69, who was inspired by the center's vision and the impact it would have on Marist. His wife, Mary Ellen, made an additional contribution in memory of her husband, a prominent local businessman who attended Marist as an adult student.

Suresh Kothapalli '91M, Rajesh Kothapalli '92M, and Vinod Kottapalli '94M are graduates of Marist's M.S. in Computer Science Software Development program, and their generous gift supports the Student Research and Collaboration Room, which at their request is dedicated to their parents, Rangaraju and Suseela Kothapalli.

Also supporting special rooms in the center are Dean of Computer Science Roger Norton and his wife, Cheryl, and Joshua '00 and Carolyn Matheus '02; Dr. Carolyn Matheus is a member of Marist's computer science faculty. ■



Students gather at the café beyond the student lounge.



Designed to be sensitive to the environment, the center has energy-efficient lighting and was constructed using sustainable building materials.

## Beauty and Brains: The Hancock Center

BY ANDREW PAULSEN '12

**Y**ou would be hard-pressed to find a student who is not enjoying our newest addition to the campus. Students love the new building and the assets it brings to Marist for a wide variety of reasons; from the stunning student lounge and coffee shop to the truly remarkable views of the campus and the Hudson River Valley, the Hancock Center adds many features to Marist that were previously thought unimaginable.

"The Hancock Center is a reflection of the evolution of the campus, demonstrating that the College has its eye towards the future," says April Bourlier '12, executive vice president of the Student Government Association.

The Hancock Center continues the Marist vision of constructing a campus that encourages the use of technology across all disciplines to prepare students for the future. All students will utilize technology in whatever field they enter after graduation: business majors can get hands-on learning in the new investment room, computer science and information technology

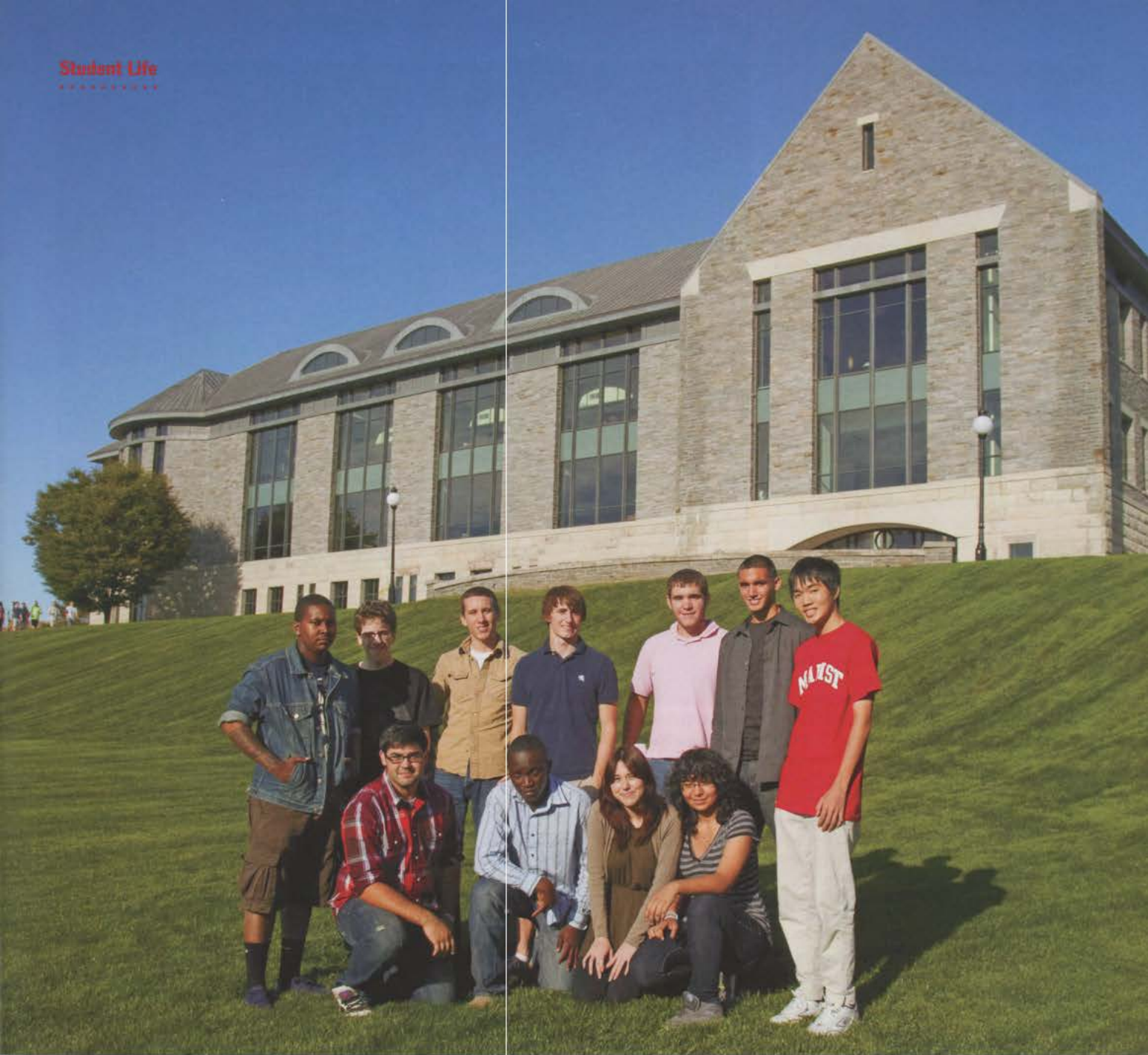
majors can take advantage of the state-of-the-art computing facilities that the Hancock Center offers, and communication, political science, and other majors can conduct surveys for the Marist Poll that will headline the news of today and tomorrow. There are also numerous spaces throughout the building to facilitate collaboration among students and faculty to conduct research and develop presentations that will bring Marist to new heights. And, perhaps most important, it's all encased in one of the most exquisite buildings on any college campus, worldwide.

The Hancock Center also fits into the heritage of the College by supporting excellence in education, one of the ideals the Marist Brothers brought to the Hudson River Valley over a century ago. I personally can only anticipate what the future holds for Marist because of the Hancock Center, but I have faith that it will help transform our school into one of the premier academic institutions in America, if not the world.

*Andrew Paulsen '12 is student body president.*



Andrew Paulsen '12, student body president for 2011-12, speaks at the building dedication.



MICHAEL NELSON

# A Common Passion

**Talented students are pursuing their dreams of degrees in computer science and information technology, supported by full scholarships from the National Science Foundation and by the special bond among them.**

BY JIM URSO '11

**A**s class commences on a fall afternoon in the Dyson Center, Director of the Academic Learning Center Jane Fiore passes out materials to her Self-Management class. One handout reads, “The 11 rules that Bill Gates believes students should, but typically do not, learn in college.” Software mogul Gates’s opinion is particularly relevant to this class, which boasts some of the most impressive students in Marist’s School of Computer Science and Mathematics. “Life is not fair, get used to it,” reads Rule No. 1.

## A Common Passion

continued

Student James Arama could relate. A native of Kenya, Africa, Arama has overcome poverty, divorce, and geographic displacement in pursuit of his dreams.

Arama is one of 12 recipients of prestigious academic scholarships awarded by Marist College in spring 2010. The full scholarships, sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), were designated for students expressing financial need and planning to study computer science or information technology systems. The 12 first-year students hailed from Hawaii, California, Florida, Minnesota, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and New York. The NSF funding will carry this cohort of students through their graduation in 2014.

"The significant amount of funding allows Marist to recruit very talented and diverse students from around the country, and to help us increase the diversity of our college, which is an integral element of our strategic plan," President Dennis J. Murray says.

The diversity of the NSF scholarship recipients has united them in a unique way. Associate Professor of Computer Science Ron Coleman, who serves as the students' primary advisor and their instructor in Computer Science I and Computer Science II, says the amity amongst the group is an interesting paradox. "They are similar in diversity," he says. "They are bonded by the sheer fact that many of them are very different from many of the students at Marist. This is the most ethnically diverse class I've ever had at Marist." The NSF scholarship recipients shared a four-day orientation course, a statistics course, two introductory gaming design and development courses, and the Self-Management course. The nine men in the group also lived near each other, on the ground floor of Leo Hall.

For Arama, living in a small dorm room in Leo was until quite recently a deviation from reality. As a child, he dreamed big, even though his life was limited to a poverty-stricken community. "I wanted to do everything," he says. "I just wasn't sure what 'everything' was." When he was 14 years old, his family won an immigration lottery and, with financial assistance from his community in Kenya, moved to the United States. They now live in Rochester, Minn.

However, the Aramas would not make the voyage to America together. Arama's father would leave first and attempt to establish a workable living situation. "It was difficult not having a father to see us grow up, but we got over that," Arama says. "And yes sometimes I thought we would never come to America given the cost it took to obtain a visa and a plane ticket for a whole entire family in a government filled with corruption."

Arama's father's resilience inspired him to be the best he could at whatever he chose to do, a path that would reveal itself upon his entrance to high school in America. Although technology use was supremely limited in Arama's



MICHAEL NELSON

**Twelve first-year students from across the United States received prestigious full academic scholarships from Marist, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Clockwise, from top, are Morgan MacHuta, Jason Wong, Gabriela Rosales, James Arama, Jonathan Shudra, Martin Mena, Justin Svegliato, Mark Logan, De'Ron Billups, Garrett Sutcliffe, and Julio Cabrera. Not pictured is Stuti Bhatt.**

hometown, he was undeterred by his lack of experience compared to his American counterparts. "When I came here and saw the amount of access to technology, I was like, 'Yeah, I could learn this.'" For him, "everything" was beginning to take shape.

After his introduction to computer programming during his sophomore year of high school, Arama became involved with the Black Data Processing Association and the Youth Computer Training Program, which teach advanced Web programming to high school students, with a focus on minorities. Not long after, Arama was competing at the National Programming Competition where he experienced the transformative nature of working with a cohesive group of talented individuals. "I uncovered my potential by being around students who had common passion and drive, and together we won the National Programming Competition," he says.

Upon the recommendation of a club mentor, Arama decided to apply for a computer science scholarship which would soon place him in a new group of students with a common passion and drive. Even in the midst of watching his parents' divorce and his brother's difficult adjustment to American culture, he remained focused and finished his application. "I realized sitting around and feeling bad about it wasn't going to do me any good," he says. "I wanted to prove to my two broth-

ers that if you work hard in life, great things can happen."

This past year, when he wasn't busy with course work or clubs, Arama and fellow scholarship recipients Jason Wong of Honolulu, Hawaii, Martin Mena of Croydon, Pa., and Justin Svegliato of Massapequa Park, N.Y., worked in the Web Development subdivision of the Information Technology office, where they updated and enhanced the official Marist Web site. Gates's 10th rule, "Television is not real life; in real life, people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs," also seems to resonate with these students. "I chose to do this job because it will provide valuable experience for when I apply for internships down the road," says Mena. All of the scholarship recipients are involved with the Computer Society, and many also take part in activities not related to computer science.

Arama, Wong, Mena, and Svegliato worked for Melissa Egan, assistant director of enterprise computing-web. Although there was a steep learning curve for the computer coding aspect of the job, Egan says it wasn't long before these students were finishing her sentences. "I couldn't have gotten luckier," Egan says. "They are anxious to program everything they can."

Self-Management does not teach computer programming or gaming design but as the class begins, the camaraderie among the scholarship awardees is discernible. "They are wonderful,"



says Fiore, who serves as a secondary advisor. "They are all very funny, bright, interesting, and an overall pleasure to teach. Just being a freshman is a huge transition. All freshman students come from the culture of their family to the culture of Marist, and that's an even bigger change for more diverse students."

The relationship she has with her students is not just about teaching. She is also a mentor, guide, and friend. The students share anecdotes about their days, both funny and serious, and Fiore and the class provide feedback. Gabriela Rosales of Hawthorne, Calif., sits in the back and nonchalantly plays with the hair of Stuti Bhatt of South Yarmouth, Mass. Morgan MacHuta of Honolulu responds to a question about values. Classmate Mena excitedly agrees with her. "That's exactly what I wanted to say, but you said it perfectly."

In computer science fields, women are a minority, according to Coleman, and the three women within this scholarship cohort are the most he's had in his introductory programming course at Marist. MacHuta admits she does think about the gender gap. "If anything, it's more of a motivator," she says. "It's something that encourages me to try harder and prove myself to be just as competent and able."

MacHuta must also confront the vast cultural differences between her native Hawaii and New York. Luckily, Wong is also from Honolulu, and the two can laugh about common misconceptions about their home culture.

According to Corinne Schell '83, director of external recruitment and outreach, it is not uncommon for students who hail from more remote locations to experience an easier transition to college than some students who come from neighboring states. The latter group, Schell says, does not always expect the changes that come with the shift. Schell, who recruited eventual NSF scholarship recipients in Hawaii and California, says that the size of the school and the support services available play a vital role in securing the confidence of families, which is essential in the adjustment of students from distant hometowns. This confidence is not gained only during recruitment trips and campus tours; it is nurtured throughout students' time at the College. "Other administrators and I have maintained contact with families of these students," Schell says.

The palpable fellowship among the scholars can be traced back to the spring of 2010, many months before Move-In Day, when each of the scholarship finalists visited Marist. Each worked fervidly to impress professors and college officials by asking intelligent questions and contributing to conversations. As they sat in the Cabaret, the parents and students waited anxiously for announcement of the scholarship winners.

**The Self-Management class, taught by Academic Learning Center Director Jane Fiore, exposes students to a practical self-management model that enables them to increase academic and personal achievement in a college environment.**

When the announcement came, each of the finalists experienced different emotions. All of the emotions, however, were positive. "My mom was in tears," remembers Mark Logan of Bradenton, Fla. "It was the most relieving feeling in the world," says Mena. "Shocking," recalls Julio Cabrera of Miami, Fla. Bonded by the experience, a foundation for friendship was built.

**T**o provide the scholarships, Marist first had to secure funding from the NSF. Coleman was instrumental in preparing the grant application. "We really had to explain in a compelling way why we believe we are suited to fulfill the requirements of the grant," says Coleman. "We use video game development and simulations as a means to introduce students to computing, as opposed to the more traditional way, which is more business- or enterprise-oriented computing." Aside from this fresh strategy for introductory computing, the proposal also included partnerships with companies such as IBM, Verizon, Aetna, Pepsi, and other industry mentors. Students benefit from these partnerships by receiving highly sought internships. "These projects and internship opportunities are a proven path to employment, with many of our students receiving top offers well before they graduate," says Roger Norton, dean of the School of Computer Science and Mathematics. After Marist was awarded the grant in 2008, Coleman spent time in 2009 traveling to recruit students and designing the program.

The group's "similar diversity" is perfectly represented by their unique interests within and outside the field of computer science. Like Arama, Cabrera also dreams of one day starting his own business. He became interested in computer programming upon learning about hacking and computer security in high school. He admits he does miss home at times, but takes solace in the fact that by receiving his education he's doing the right thing for his family, who hope to move out of Florida one

day. "I miss them, but if I go back to Miami I cannot provide a future for my family," he says. "I know I'm doing the right thing, and that makes me feel comfortable."

Many of the students are interested in studying abroad. MacHuta hopes to combine her skills in computer science with her affinity for Japanese culture and language. Garrett Sutcliffe of Newburgh, N.Y., and Wong are interested in video game development. Svegliato is thinking about postgraduate study in physics, and De'Ron Billups of Los Angeles, Calif., is taking up computer hardware. Many are looking into the five-year master's programs available within the School of Computer Science. Others are considering obtaining a master's in business administration.

These interests complement each other well and will do so to a larger extent when students begin classes in Marist's new Hancock Center in the fall of 2011. Home to the School of Computer Science and Mathematics, the center also will provide a collaborative workspace for joint projects as well as laboratories offering access to advanced IBM server technologies and Cisco networking systems. As Fiore looks out the second-floor window of Dyson to admire a beautiful sunset over the Hudson, the students are transfixed by the Hancock Center and all the possibilities it will unveil.

Each student recognizes that opportunities are worthless unless he or she can capitalize on them. Arama even suffers some guilt over the chances afforded to him. "Yes I do have some guilt because I feel like there were some kids back home who, if they were ever given a chance to come to America, would excel really well in whatever they do." Billups emphasizes the fact that just because he's been awarded a scholarship, it doesn't mean he has no more to accomplish. "It's harder to keep it than it is to get it," he says. The notion reflects another of Gates's rules: "The world will expect you to accomplish something before you feel good about yourself." ■



FRAN HUTTON '10

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT

# Support from Private Foundations a Key Part of the

Support from private foundations has been an important component of the Campaign for Marist, with more than \$9.6 million recorded thus far. The following are some highlights of the College's success in achieving grants to underwrite capital projects, scholarship funds, and endowments.

Marist was awarded a \$150,000 gift from the Booth Ferris Foundation of New York City to support construction of the recently opened Hancock Center. The **Booth Ferris Foundation** has a long history of supporting academic programming and facilities at leading colleges and universities, with an emphasis on ones that advance teaching and learning in the sciences and technology, such as the Hancock Center.

The **James J. McCann Charitable Trust** has contributed \$160,000 in scholarship support to continue its exceptional commitment to making a Marist education accessible to local students. For the past four decades, the McCann Trust has been a leader in helping Marist undergraduates to finance their education through the McCann Scholars program. Its generosity has enabled several hundred students to attain their Marist degrees. In addition, the trust has provided scholarships to Master of Public Administration students who are in public service positions in Dutchess County.

Marist's Nelly Goletti Theatre will be undergoing a major renovation with the help of a \$200,000 grant from the **Frank A. Fusco and Nelly Goletti Fusco Foundation**. Upgraded seating and higher-end décor will distinguish this well-used venue for musical and theatrical performances as well as lectures and college events. Improvements are also in store for the stage area. The theatre is named for the European pianist and headlining entertainer whose 300 musical compositions and career-related materials are preserved in the Nelly Goletti Music Collection in the Marist College archives. The foundation was established by Ms. Goletti's husband, the late Frank Fusco.

The **Louis Greenspan Charitable Trust** has made three grants to Marist amounting to \$315,000. Included is \$150,000 for the Louis Greenspan Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded to undergraduates residing in the mid-Hudson region; a \$65,000 grant for the construction of the Hancock Center; and a \$100,000 grant for the McCann Center's renovation project. The late Lou Greenspan was associated with Marist College for nearly four decades, beginning in 1957 when Bro. Nilus

## Dear Friends of Marist,

The Campaign for Marist continues to make impressive strides towards our ambitious goal of \$150 million. Currently more than \$141.7 million has been raised in support of key institutional priorities, ranging from endowed scholarships that make the dream of a Marist education possible for students with financial need to leading-edge facilities like the incredibly impressive new Hancock Center featured on this issue's cover.

The campaign is significantly enhancing and enriching the Marist experience for all of our students, faculty, and staff in ways both big and small. The resources that it is attracting will help solidify Marist's position as one of America's truly exceptional liberal arts colleges and ensure its continued success in an increasingly competitive marketplace.

As we approach the final 18 months of this landmark effort, there is both much to celebrate and much yet to accomplish. In fact, our hope is not just to reach but exceed our formidable goal. To the literally thousands of Marist alumni, parents, and friends who have already supported the campaign, I want to extend my deep appreciation and gratitude for your important contributions.

For those who have not yet participated, I urge you to consider how you might like to become involved in this tremendously exciting effort and assume a vital role of your own in securing Marist's successful future. Indeed, each and every gift we receive during the campaign brings us one step closer to realizing the extraordinary promise of this remarkable institution.



Tim Brier '69, Chair  
The Campaign for Marist



Tim Brier '69

Donnelly first contacted him to search out building materials so that the Brothers could afford to undertake campus construction. Among the projects he worked on at Marist was the original construction of the McCann Center.

At the recommendation of Chief Public Affairs Officer Tim Massie, the **Dyson Foundation** committed \$100,000 to establish the Marjorie H. Clark Lecture on Ethics and the Law. Marjorie Clark was a legal assistant at Hughes Hubbard, the law firm of distinguished jurist Charles Evans Hughes. Justice Hughes served as governor of New York, secretary of state under two presidents, and chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Mrs. Clark served as the chief assistant to Justice Hughes's son-in-law, William T. Gossett, who was vice president and general counsel of the Ford Motor Co., and she held positions with several other firms in Manhattan and New Jersey during a career that spanned more than six decades.

The **Dr. Edwin A. Ulrich Trust** has continued its longtime support of Marist College by providing \$130,000 since the start of the campaign to support business and fine arts students with scholarships and outstanding music students with stipends for private voice and instrument

lessons. The trust was established by and is named for a successful local businessman who had a passion for art and music and was an early benefactor of Marist.

A dedicated supporter of Marist, the **Richard and Gertrude Weinger Foundation** has contributed \$20,000 to augment the library collection dedicated to its founders. Comprised of more than a thousand books, as well as numerous reference and electronic resource materials, the Richard and Gertrude Weinger Collection in Judaic Studies is dispersed throughout Marist's library holdings in history, literature, cultural studies, religion, sociology, anthropology, political science, global studies, Holocaust studies, art, and philosophy. The grants are made in honor of retired U.S. Naval officer Paul X. Rinn '68 for his heroic service.

Marist received a \$23,150 challenge grant from the **John Ben Snow Memorial Trust** of Syracuse, N.Y., and the College raised an equal amount from other foundations and individuals for a total of \$46,300 to support the installation of a new digital editing platform in the Lowell Thomas Communications Center. The School of Communication and the Arts now has the Avid Unity Media Network, an industry-leading, collaborative, shared-storage network

# Campaign for Marist

and digital-video-editing system. Established in 1948 by newspaper industry leader John Ben Snow, the John Ben Snow Foundation has long supported the College's communication programs.

Marist is being supported by the **Lavelle Fund for the Blind**, a charitable foundation that administers a scholarship program to aid financially needy tri-state residents who are legally blind. The College has received nearly \$22,000 in scholarship assistance which is being shared by two visually impaired Marist students. Longtime Marist board member Bro. Jim Kearney serves as a trustee of the Lavelle Fund.

Marist was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the **Hearst Foundation** to establish the William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship Fund. The Hearst Fund supports students from under-represented populations who show exceptional academic and leadership potential. It is awarded annually to a first-year student and provides \$5,000 in scholarship funds for the year, after which Marist provides the same level of support for the remaining years of the student's Marist career. It was founded in 1945 by the newspaper publishing magnate and influential politician William Randolph Hearst.

The **J.M. McDonald Foundation** provided a \$50,000 grant in support of the construction of Tenney Stadium at Leonidoff Field. The stadium serves Marist's Division IAA men's football team and men's and women's Division I soccer and lacrosse teams. It seats more than 5,000 fans in both grandstand and field seating and includes an all-weather playing field, 200-seat press box, athletic training room, and team and officials' dressing rooms. J.M. McDonald, who established the foundation in 1952, contributed greatly to the development of the modern retail chain store concept.

Marist was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the **Margaret A. Cargill Foundation** to support its Department of Environmental Science and Policy. Marist was part of a select group of institutions invited to apply for the foundation's inaugural round of grant making. A relatively new foundation, it was established after the passing of Margaret A. Cargill, a granddaughter of the founder of Cargill, Inc., the global agribusiness concern. The foundation is carrying on support for the causes that Margaret A. Cargill anonymously donated to during her lifetime, including the arts, animal welfare, and—as in the case of Marist's grant—environmental research and conservation. ■



Dr. George B. Hooper

## A Legacy of Supporting Students

This past February, the Marist community was saddened to learn within a matter of 48 hours that two professors emeriti had passed away—Dr. George B. Hooper, 86, of the School of Science, and Dr. Eugene H. Melan, 84, of the School of Management.

Both men were remembered for their commitment to excellence as teachers and scholars and for the professional influence they had on countless students. They also showed unassuming generosity by supporting some of Marist's most promising students through scholarships that carried their names.

Among the recent recipients of the Dr. George B. Hooper Science Scholarship are Nichole Boisvert '09, a biomedical science major and recent Fulbright Scholar who is now studying at Georgetown Medical School, and Andrew DeBlase '09, a chemistry major and Goldwater Scholar who is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Yale. The first Eugene Melan Scholarship in Business Leadership was awarded to Jesse Shea '10, whose promise is unfolding as a Financial Leadership Development Program analyst at Johnson & Johnson, a Fortune 200 company.

George Hooper arrived at Marist in 1960 and was among the very first lay faculty to serve the College. He taught biology at Marist for 31 years and served many years as chair of the then Division of Science. Rising to the rank of full professor, he was named a Marist College Heritage Professor by the board of trustees.

Renowned among colleagues and students for his research with *Drosophila* (fruit flies)—and for his trademark bow tie—Dr. Hooper held a Ph.D. from Princeton University in evolutionary biology and pursued a lifelong interest in genetics.

At the time of his retirement, many of Dr. Hooper's colleagues, former students, and friends honored him by making contributions to endow a scholarship in his name. For nearly 20 years, some of Marist's top science students



Dr. Eugene H. Melan

have been recognized and supported through the Hooper Scholarship. Over the years, Dr. Hooper and his wife, Kay, took a special interest in helping this endowment grow.

Born in Philadelphia and raised in New Jersey, George Hooper received his bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University in 1949 and completed his doctorate at Princeton in 1956. He served in the Korean War and before joining Marist taught at Princeton and Bard College. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed camping, hiking, and fly fishing. He also taught fly tying in the Poughkeepsie area and wrote a handbook on the subject.

Internationally known for his work in the areas of systems thinking and quality control, Dr. Melan came to Marist in 1988 after an illustrious career at IBM. Named a Distinguished Professor of Business in 1993, he taught undergraduate and graduate business courses for 18 years until his retirement in 2006 and also led the business internship program to a higher level of opportunity for Marist students.

Supporting the belief that Marist's reputation is advanced by top-quality business graduates, Dr. Melan established a significant endowment to identify and develop students from the School of Management who have the potential to become outstanding business leaders. The College named the initiative the Eugene Melan Scholarship in Business Leadership, and the annual recipient receives a generous scholarship and the opportunity to interact with some of the country's leading business executives.

Dr. Melan served in the U.S. Navy, including a tour in China, and returned home to complete B.A. and M.S. degrees at New York University and an M.A. at Union College. During his career with IBM, which he started in 1954, he was responsible for operations in England, France, and Germany. In the latter part of his career, he managed departments for computer reliability in Poughkeepsie and Kingston.

Throughout the course of his careers at IBM and Marist, he wrote more than 20 technical papers and two books and was responsible for six patents. At the age of 78, Eugene Melan earned a doctorate from the University of Lancaster, one of the United Kingdom's top research institutions. ■



Since Brian Giorgis arrived at Marist nine years ago, the Red Foxes' four NCAA Tournament wins and seven MAAC Tournament championships in an eight-year span have drawn the national spotlight and propelled a previously struggling women's basketball program into a source of pride for the student body and community.

# Coach of the Years

In 1939, an aspiring coach and devout Catholic took a teaching position at a Catholic high school in Englewood, N.J. Although Vince Lombardi's background was mainly in football, his first coaching position at St. Cecilia High School was in basketball. Lombardi resorted to checking books out of the library to learn about the sport. Soon, he reversed the luck of the struggling basketball program. Lombardi would eventually become the archetype to which most coaches would dream to be compared, putting a previously besieged franchise on the map while driving it deep into the hearts of Green Bay's citizens. Lombardi's Packers won five NFL championships in seven years, appropriately renaming the city "Title Town."

In the late 1970s, an enthusiastic kid and devout Catholic took a teaching post at a Catholic high school in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Aside from his teaching duties, he was soon coaching a whole host of sports, some of which he had no knowledge of. During his quarter-century tenure at Our Lady of Lourdes High School, Brian Giorgis coached baseball, softball, basketball, golf, tennis, and volleyball en route to becoming the only coach in state history to take four teams in separate sports to the state Final Four, and his softball squad captured the state crown in 1990.

"It's unbelievable. I have never seen anyone who's up for the challenge and has the ability," says Peter Lyons, a tennis coach at Lourdes

who worked with Giorgis from 1998 to 2002. "He's so analytical; it's on a different level than anyone I've ever seen. No matter what sport, he can find the weakness in the opposing team. He sees things that many people don't see."

Since Giorgis arrived at Marist nine years ago, the Red Foxes' four NCAA Tournament wins and seven Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Tournament championships in an eight-year span have drawn the national spotlight and propelled a previously struggling program into a prominent source of pride for the student body and community. The Red Foxes have effectively become the "Title Town" of the MAAC. And with Giorgis inking a new contract to remain at Marist until at least 2017, the chances of a MAAC women's basketball trophy being displayed in another school's gymnasium in the coming years seem pretty slim. He was inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame in 2010, and in 2011 he was named MAAC Coach of the Year for the fifth time in his career at Marist.

So who is the guy behind all this, the coach who can request that Bruce Springsteen's "Born to Run" be added to the Marist Band's repertoire and have it done almost immediately? What drives the man whose Lombardi-esque roars pierce the James J. McCann Recreation Center as clearly as his chuckles on the team bus during *Legally Blonde*? And most importantly, what keeps him at the mid-major powerhouse he created? For the 55-year-old Giorgis, his goals haven't changed much since his arrival. Behind the greatness is a man motivated by loyalty to his community and gratefulness

for his players, colleagues, and friends. "I'm just a creature of habit," Giorgis says. "I'm not one of those people who are always looking for the step-up, the next thing. I am about being happy and looking forward to going to work every day."

Giorgis cites both of his parents as a source of inspiration, his mother, Agnes, for raising six children, all born within six years, to be good Catholic people; and his father, John, for working full-time as an engineer for General Electric but still managing to find sufficient time for his children. "They sacrificed so much in their lives to make sure we had things," says Giorgis, who was raised in Syracuse, N.Y. His parents always maintained a sense of balance, a manner Giorgis maintains today with his teams. Although John and Agnes Giorgis supported their children's interests, their kids would not automatically receive a new baseball glove or cleats each spring. The balance in the household taught the kids the value of things, and by the time he hit college, the lesson was ingrained. Giorgis knew he wasn't going for a "four-year party." He was aiming to do the things necessary so he could succeed.

Early in his childhood, Giorgis, much like Lombardi, thought of becoming a priest. However, he soon began to enjoy going to the playground to impersonate his favorite New York Knicks star, Willis Reed. And although he never joined the seminary, the Catholic faith

**The tenth-seeded Red Foxes upset seventh-seeded Iowa State 74-64 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament at Duke University's Cameron Indoor Stadium.**

BY JIM URSO '11

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARIST ATHLETICS



## Coach of the Years

continued

remains his foundation, "even though sometimes it doesn't look it, and we can fail, and I start screaming at our kids," he says. "It's my life." Close friend and former colleague Paul Latino remembers Giorgis's insistence on attending Mass during team road trips.

A three-sport athlete in high school, Giorgis played soccer and baseball but describes basketball as the sport he was always playing. He earned honorable mention all-county honors, but the team he captained during his senior year finished with just 2 wins and 16 losses. However, his coach maintained a positive attitude, a manner that profoundly influenced the soon-to-be teacher.

Giorgis played soccer and baseball at the State University of New York at Cortland while studying health education. While he always wanted to teach, Giorgis's experience with sports almost led him onto the field of play. His skills as a baseball pitcher put him on a path to the major leagues. He earned a tryout for the Pittsburgh Pirates, but the road ended when he threw out his arm.

Giorgis earned his bachelor's degree in health education in 1977, shortly after his parents moved to South Euclid, an eastern suburb of Cleveland. After graduating from Cortland, Giorgis moved to his family's new home. Then, aside from taking a leave of absence to earn his master's degree in health education from Virginia Tech University in 1982, Giorgis made Lourdes his home for 25 years.

When he arrived at Lourdes, one of the first people he met was Latino, a physical education teacher and future football coach also fresh out of college. Latino's family virtually adopt-

ed Giorgis, and the two remain close friends. According to Latino, Giorgis's success is rooted in his intense work ethic. "He could've done it in any sport he coached," Latino says. "He outworks everybody." Bill Dahncke, another close friend and colleague, remembers approaching Giorgis outside the high school teaching a group of neighborhood kids how to dribble a soccer ball. "He was doing it as intensely as you see him coaching the [Marist] girls today." For years, friends would get a kick out of playing golf with Giorgis, who, according to Dahncke, could make most bad golfers look respectable. "But now we can't laugh at him anymore, because he got good at it. If he's going to do something, he puts everything into it."

"As much as Brian loved to teach, he was also a great learner," says Judy Maher, a guidance counselor who worked at Lourdes throughout Giorgis's entire tenure. One of his foremost lessons came in a sermon given by Father Michael Dibble. The sermon focused on not taking things for granted, a lesson Giorgis imparts to his players today.

"Is being down nine to Fairfield in the second half on the road as bad as some other people have it?" Giorgis asked his team on Feb. 6 during a road game against the Stags, a game which the Red Foxes would come back and win 54-52, by far their closest MAAC contest of the season. His message carries substantial weight because the veteran coach practices what he preaches. He gets the team involved with charity initiatives such as the Special Olympics, Kids' Day Out, and the Friends of Jaclyn Foundation. On Feb. 18, Giorgis emotionally expressed his appreciation for Rachele Fitz '10 at a luncheon preceding her jersey retirement.

On March 7, following a 63-45 win over Loyola to clinch Marist's sixth consecutive MAAC title, more tears fell from his eyes as he thanked his players and fans.

For Giorgis, his gratitude for his positive situation at Lourdes almost kept him from joining Marist. During the 19 seasons he coached the girls' basketball team at Lourdes, he racked up a whopping 451 wins and just 44 losses. During his final season, his team ranked fourth in a *USA Today* national poll. "It wasn't until the nun over there said, 'Why don't you try it? If it doesn't work, you'll have your job back,' that he was happy enough to come here," says Marist Director of Athletics Tim Murray.

In the end, Giorgis's familiarity with the Red Foxes may have brought him to Marist; two of his former players, Kristin Keller '05 and Maureen Magarity '03/'05M, were already on the roster. Latino remembers visiting the McCann Center with Giorgis to watch his former players. "We saw the empty bleachers, the struggles," Latino says. "I think Brian knew he could do something about it."

For the 2002-2003 campaign, Giorgis took over a program that had just lost its fourth- and fifth-leading scorers in program history to graduation the prior year. Under Giorgis the team improved its win total from 11 to 13. The Red Foxes also earned their first win in a MAAC Tournament game in school history with a first-round triumph over Loyola. "We joked during the first year that he might lose more games during his first year than in his high school career all together," says Magarity.

The following season, the jokes ended. After being picked to finish seventh in the conference, Marist won the MAAC title and made its first trip to the NCAA Tournament. "Even though he had no college coaching experience, we knew it would be a matter of time," says Magarity, who played for Giorgis during his first two seasons at Marist. Upon graduation, she became an assistant coach for the Red Foxes.

While it was apparent things were going to change, no one could have assumed the role women's college basketball would soon play in the community. Many of the fans who regularly fill the McCann Center were loyal followers of Giorgis's success at Lourdes. "I've never played in an atmosphere like this before," says sophomore guard Leanne Ockenden. Even Giorgis didn't expect to make Marist women's basketball into a local phenomenon. "I guess you kind of dream that stuff," he says. "I just wanted to try to make people better."

In March the NCAA announced that Marist was chosen the overall winner in the 2010-11

**Marist's recent dominance in the MAAC conference is undeniable. During this season's quest, the Red Foxes beat conference opponents by well over 20 points per game en route to an undefeated conference record, the second time in Giorgis's tenure that his team has won every MAAC game in a season.**

**"He's so analytical; it's on a different level than anyone I've ever seen. No matter what sport, he can find the weakness in the opposing team. He sees things that many people don't see."**





**The team won its sixth straight Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championship with a 63-45 win over second-seeded Loyola at the Webster Bank Arena at Harbor Yard.**

NCAA Division I "Pack the House" Challenge. Marist beat out 177 participating institutions including schools from 32 conferences and sell-out crowds by Army, Baylor, Duke, Gonzaga, Louisville, Michigan State, Navy, Oregon, and Pacific; the College hosted a sell-out crowd of 3,200 fans at its game on Feb. 4 vs. Niagara. Marist, which averaged 2,260 fans at its women's games this season, is the only school in the country to sell out its "Pack the House" game four years in a row.

The Red Foxes' allure isn't simply about wins and losses; Giorgis has instituted a culture of class that the fans can be proud of. "I just can't get enough of this team," says Dr. Craig Fisher, who is the faculty advisor for the team. "I think people really love the girls because not only do they perform on the court, they do well in the classroom and exude a great deal of respect for their opponent and gratefulness for their community." According to the annual "Academic Progress/Graduation Success Rate Study of Division I NCAA Women's and Men's Basketball Tournament Teams" conducted by the Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sports at the University of Central Florida, the Marist women's basketball team was one of just 19 teams out of 64 in this year's NCAA Tournament to graduate 100 percent of its players. Using NCAA statistics, the institute reviewed six-year graduation rates for the freshman classes that entered college from the 2000-01 through 2003-04 school years.

The team is a class act also because of the people Giorgis brings in, with each individual contributing to the team dynamic. "I kind of look at myself like Grandpa," Giorgis says. "Fortunately I have staff that our kids identify with and love to death." Part of Giorgis's genius is enlisting a group of assistants whom players can identify with.

"He's always had a lot of his former players on staff," says Magarity. "I think that's important too. We [former players] know him; we know how tough he can be. I think that it's good for the girls to have someone to go to

just to talk." For Magarity, who is now head women's basketball coach at the University of New Hampshire, Giorgis's method of recruiting the person first made an impression. "At our mid-major level, you're not going to get blue-chip players," she says. "He taught me you have to bring in kids who are going to be the face of your program on campus and get out into the community."

Erica Allenspach '11 became the new face of the Red Foxes after the graduation in 2010 of Rachele Fitz, Marist's all-time leading scorer and rebounder. At the beginning of the season, Allenspach faced some difficulty taking the reins, but Giorgis was able to ease the transition. "After every missed shot, I was thinking too much," Allenspach says. "Coach sat me down and said just keep being aggressive." It's safe to say Giorgis got through. En route to the 2011 MAAC Tournament MVP award, Allenspach averaged nearly 24 points per game, hitting 24 of 33 shots over three games, including 12-for-15 from three-point range. She was also named MAAC Player of the Year, an award won by a Marist player each of the past four seasons.

At the root of his work ethic and drive is his genuine caring for his players. "As much as it doesn't look like it sometimes, you think about them constantly," he says. "You worry about what they're doing, [you worry about] some people who are down. You're really hurt when you don't play somebody as much as they'd like to."

Giorgis, who is unmarried, says he is "absolutely" still open to the idea of starting his own family. However, he has no complaints about his current status; it's merely a reason to value the relationships with players even more. "They're much more like my family than I am theirs," he says. "Whenever people ask me whether I have kids, I reply the same way: 'I have 14 who I get to give back at the end of the year.'"

Marist's recent dominance in the MAAC conference is undeniable. During this season's quest, the Red Foxes beat conference opponents by well over 20 points per game en route to an undefeated conference record, the second time in Giorgis's tenure that his team has won every

MAAC game in a season. Of course, Giorgis never takes success for granted. While wins against teams from larger conferences may boost the Red Foxes' notoriety, continuously beating conference opponents is a more formidable challenge than it may appear. Defeating Marist can make the whole season of a rival. When the team is on the national stage, "it's an incredible experience," Giorgis says, "and it keeps getting harder because people are getting tired of seeing us there."

The program's recent national recognition includes stints in the AP and ESPN top 25 polls, mentions in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *Sports Illustrated*, and a trip to the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 in 2007. The team held the longest winning streak in the nation at 27 games before losing to Duke 71-66 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

But great coaches know that accolades aren't everything. "The spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel are the things that endure," said Vince Lombardi. "These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur."

For Giorgis, motivation is not derived from the praise that comes with excellence, but from helping others achieve greatness. "Are we the 25th best team in the country?" Giorgis asked soon after Marist cracked the national rankings earlier this season. "I don't know; people pick that. I know one thing; it's not why we do what we do." ■



**En route to the 2011 MAAC Tournament MVP award, Erica Allenspach '11 averaged nearly 24 points per game, hitting 24 of 33 shots over three games, including 12-for-15 from three-point range. She was also named MAAC Player of the Year.**



Left to right, Director of Athletics Tim Murray joins football mentoring program participants Tommy Reilly '12 and his mentor, Jim Daly '72, and Thomas "Smokey" McKiernan '68 and his mentee, Calvin McCoy '12, at the annual spring football game in Tenney Stadium.

## Team Players

Former Marist football players mentor student-athletes on careers.

**C**alvin McCoy '12 spent the entire summer of 2010 looking for an internship. He called on the connections of family members and friends, but nevertheless came up empty.

On Sept. 25, McCoy suited up for Marist's third football game of the season. The junior from the Bronx rushed for two touchdowns, including a 76-yard TD burst in a 45-29 loss to Morehead State. Though the two scores marked the first of McCoy's collegiate career, the day would be remembered for another reason.

After the game, McCoy, a business-finance major with minors in economics and philosophy, was introduced to Thomas "Smokey" McKiernan '68, one of the founding members of Marist's football program. After graduating, McKiernan became a successful commodities trader, a life McCoy dreamed of. Thanks to this conversation, McCoy is spending this summer working for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, a financial and commodity derivative exchange.

McKiernan's mentorship with McCoy is the result of the newly established football mentoring program, a creative recruiting tool that benefits the career development of upperclassman football players. The program pairs junior and senior football players like McCoy with mentors like McKiernan.

"He was a very nice young man who could articulate his ideas," McKiernan says of McCoy. "I was impressed that his parents cared enough about his education to send him to a good prep school. He talked about Marist, [how he] liked it very much, and how he loved playing football at Marist."

"It just blew me out the water," McCoy says. "I just wanted a foot in the door. He just placed me in the door."

For an aspiring financial professional, McKiernan's help may have come at just the right time. "Because of the economic circumstances on Wall

BY JIM URSO '11

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## In the mid-1960s, a group of young kids on a Poughkeepsie campus decided they wanted to play some football. Although no team existed, how hard could it be to start their own?

Street, jobs and internships are harder to come by than they have been in the past," says Sean Keating '87, who also helped McCoy land the internship. Keating, who is managing director and head of the New York office for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group, got his own start in the financial industry after being introduced to McKiernan by Jim Daly '72, former director of admission and former president of the Alumni Association.

More than just an internship, McCoy gained a mentor and a friend. McKiernan said he would check in regularly with McCoy this summer.

"It really helps these kids to talk to people who share that common bond," says Marist Head Coach Jim Parady. "I want the kids to wait until their junior and senior years and prove that they can be successful in the classroom first. I want them to earn this opportunity." Well worth the hard work, the relationships integrate sport and education, an ideal rooted in the formation of Marist football nearly a half century ago.

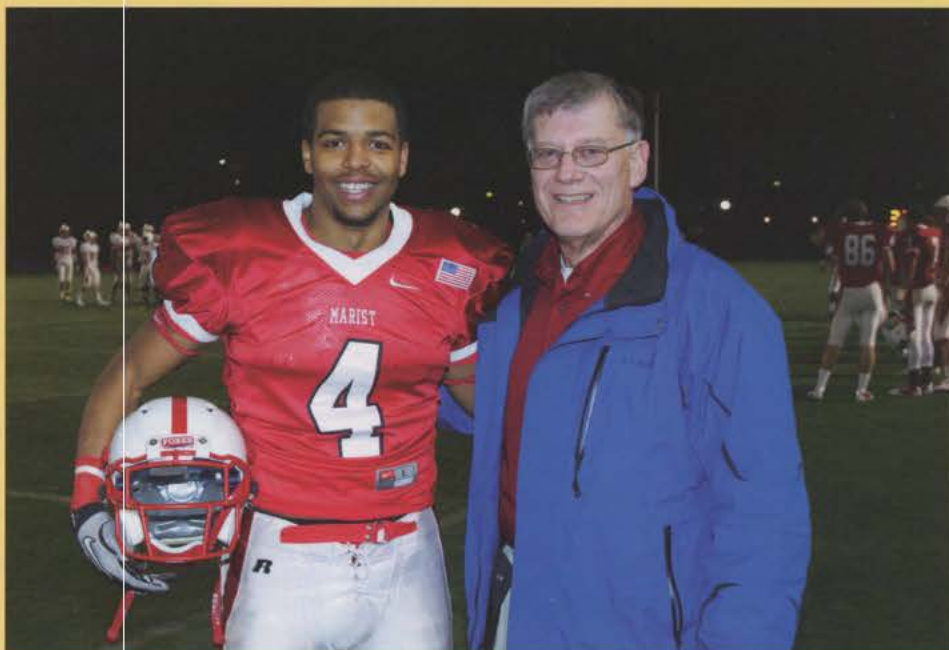
In the mid-1960s, a group of young kids on a Poughkeepsie campus decided they wanted to play some football. Although no team existed, how hard could it be to start their own?

"Thank God we were 19 and 20 instead of 40 or 41, because we were crazy enough to actually think we could do it," says Tom Taylor '66.

Although they were unable to attain funding from the school, they nevertheless established an independent club team called the "Marist Vikings" in 1965. Far before a new stadium and Nike attire, the Vikings were practicing under floodlights nailed to trees and recruiting players from local pubs. They employed their own coach, raised their own money, and made lengthy trips in a panel truck to pick up leftover equipment that no one else wanted. "Although I couldn't put the program on the budget," says former Marist President Dr. Richard Foy '50, "I was a young president and the culture of this place was 'you don't wait for old people to tell you what you can do.' I told them to try it because I knew it would be a great learning experience."

Over the next 13 seasons, the Vikings became one of the most powerful teams of its era at the club level. Under Coach Ron Levine, Marist went 65-31-3 in the Eastern Collegiate Club Football League. The entrepreneurial dimension of the team's creation was as vital to the development of student-athletes as the on-field competition.

By the new millennium, the Marist football program had long since received funding from the school, but another dilemma would threaten its existence. Many schools of Marist's stature had abolished football because of Title IX compliance issues as well as its expensive nature. "That 'roll up your sleeves, grab the wheelbarrows and shovels' attitude is truly indicative of the culture of the place. Back then, people were literally building buildings in order to keep the institution functioning," says McKiernan, who spent years on Marist's Board of Trustees and fought on behalf



Kevin Fitzpatrick '12 welcomes his mentor, Jack Eberth '69, at the annual spring game.

of the program he helped build.

In 2009, Marist decided to keep its football program and join the Pioneer Football League, a non-scholarship football-only conference with schools from coast to coast. "The core belief in non-scholarship football, playing and practicing without a direct full-ride scholarship, shows an indication of character building in my estimation," McKiernan says. "It shows these guys are playing for the thrill of competition as opposed to scholarship football."

Without scholarships, though, the Athletic Department needed to create incentives for prospective students and their families. "The only way we were going to separate ourselves was to do something different," says Taylor, a longtime advocate for Marist football. Taylor played guard and linebacker on the Vikings' first squad and currently serves as offensive line coach and recruiting coordinator for the football team.

"They are hearing from successful people who have done very well," Bob Finn '66 says of the mentees. "The program adds a personal touch to the football program; it provides a connection they're comfortable with." Finn, who along with Dan Hickey '66 runs Poughkeepsie insurance agency Hickey-Finn & Co., speaks with football players about what they should and should not be doing to better their chances in a competitive job market.

Finn bolstered his own chances at employment while attending Marist by virtually becoming the CEO of a business. And that business was Marist football. In 1964, Finn, who was working as a resident assistant, overheard a few guys deliberating about the best way to start a football program. "I said, 'Hey, you guys are going about

this the wrong way,'" says Finn. "They let me put my two cents in then, and 47 years later, I'm still putting my two cents in." Finn became the team's manager, gaining experience in raising money, hiring coaches, scheduling teams, marketing, and branding. "It was the greatest course I could have ever taken," he says. After taking a corporate job for a year following graduation, Finn quit to start his own business. "Go do it," Finn said to himself.

Now he's imparting advice to Marist football players like Nic Zivic '10. Finn set up Zivic with preliminary interviews with various companies, eliminating much of the stress and time involved in the job search. Zivic met with company representatives on campus and, after a few interviews, landed a job with a firm near his hometown. "Working with Bob really made me feel comfortable and gave me a sense of calm during this otherwise scary time for most graduates," says Zivic. "The mentor program worked for me just like it was designed to, and I can see it helping out many fellow Red Foxes in the years to come."

Finn says the strong connection among football alumni allows such an initiative to thrive. Jack Eberth '69 is another football alumnus who shares this connection. As a major gifts officer for Marist's Office of College Advancement, Eberth has worked with Parady to connect roughly 60 football players with football alumni in their field of interest since the program's inception. Eberth remembers Foy telling the football players to "create their own little sandbox to play in." Now, many alumni whose connection to Marist is rooted in their experiences building and playing in that sandbox are giving back, ensuring the entanglement of learning and football remains intact. ■

## 1952

Francis J. Reilly's wife, Johanna, teaches religion at St. Bernard School in Uncasville, Conn. Daughter Eileen McGrath is teaching Irish dance in County Cork and elsewhere. Daughter Meghann is in the New Canaan, Conn., school system. Daughter Caitlin works in a group home, Camp Horizon, in South Windham, Conn. Frank is enjoying retirement from teaching at Windham High School in Willimantic, Conn.

## 1953

Rev. Richard Tinker recently retired and is "feeling pretty good."

## 1954

Bro. Martin Ruane, FMS, made a gift to the Marist Fund in loving memory of his sister, Norma Ruane, who passed away on Aug. 2, 2010.

## 1957

Patrick Gallagher has been appointed interim director of Campus Safety and Police for Moravian College. He is also heavily involved in providing expert witness services in police civil cases. In September, he testified in three courts on police shootings and was deposed in another excessive-force case. Patrick and his wife reside in Springtown in Bucks County, Pa.

## 1964

Rene Roy celebrated a golden jubilee as a Marist Brother in summer 2010.

## 1965

Ronald Streck has been a member of the board of directors of the Red Fox Club since 2007.



## 1966

Walter Behrman and his wife, Lois, welcomed their second grandson, William Louis Monaghan, born Feb. 10, 2010. Their older grandson, Michael, is 5. Daughter Allison and her family moved to Litchfield, N.H. Daughter Michelle is a guidance counselor in Liberty, N.Y. Lois retired in October 2009. The journal *Theology and Science* published an article by John Hart in its November 2010 issue. "Cosmic Commons: Contact and Community" discusses the theological, ethical, economic, and ecological implications of terrestrial-extraterrestrial intelligent life. Manuscripts John has in progress are "Cosmic Commons: Cosmic Contact, Cosmic Charter" and "Praxis Ethics: Community on Common Ground." Pete Nesteroke and his wife, Sandy, are happily retired and living on the Russian River, 77 miles from San



Michael Feddeck '66 has been promoted to the rank of Knight Grand Cross of the Equestrian Order for the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. The ceremony took place in New York City at Saint Patrick's Cathedral and was followed by a formal dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Above, Archbishop of New York Timothy Dolan greets Mike's daughters, Catherine (left) and Annemarie, at the Waldorf.

Francisco; he says they are living the good life "as long as we take our meds and pay our monthly health care bill. Rock on." Alan Schultz continues to be a flight instructor at River Aviation in Kingston, N.Y. Tom Troland was the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of Mid-States Distributing, a

rural retailing chain, in Minneapolis this past spring.

## 1967

Ron Bedard retired in 2002 after 32 years of service to the state of Connecticut, 13 years of which he was chief fiscal officer for the Governor's Office. Ron and his wife have retired to Sun City Festival in Buckeye, Ariz., and love it. They have two grandchildren and another on the way as well as three great stepchildren. Bob Johnson's daughter, Jennifer, was writer and co-executive producer of *Chase*, a dramatic series on NBC about a team of U.S. marshals that hunt America's most dangerous fugitives. "Jennifer has worked very hard to get to this day, and we are all very proud," says Bob. Rupert Ross recently relocated to Lakewood, Colo. Dr. George Searles had a busy year in 2010. He published the fifth edition of his widely used textbook, *Workplace Communications: The Basics* (Pearson), along with five new poems in literary quarterlies. In addition, he achieved a longtime goal by running the Boston Marathon. He continues to teach English, journalism, and Latin at Mohawk Valley Community College and creative writing on Pratt Institute's upstate campus in Utica, N.Y. Allan Wichn has a new grandson, Nicholas Allan Belt Field.

## Remembering Bro. Joseph L. R. Belanger, FMS, '48

Bro. Joseph L. R. Belanger, FMS, '48, passed away April 21, 2010, at the age of 84. A pillar of Marist College, Brother Joe was a master teacher, scholar, intellectual, and innovator who served and resided at Marist for more than 50 years.

Bro. Joseph Lucien Roland Belanger was born July 11, 1925, in Lawrence, Mass., and took his first vows as a Marist Brother on July 26, 1944. He was awarded a bachelor's degree in English with honors from Marist in 1948 and earned an M.A. in English from St. John's University and an M.A. in French from Middlebury College. A medievalist who focused on French epics, Brother Joe was awarded a Ph.D. in French from New York University in 1970.

Brother Joe joined Marist's faculty in 1959 and was made a full professor by 1975. While his principal courses were in French language, literature, and civilization, throughout the years he also taught English, French literature in translation, American literature, world literature, Greek mythology, occidental mythology, global studies, and college writing. He was also very engaged with the Science of Man, Marist's innovative three-year degree honors program.

Brother Joe retired from full-time teaching in May 1997 and was subsequently named professor emeritus of French. In recognition of

his contributions throughout Marist's history, he was designated a Marist College Heritage Professor in 2004. Known for excellence in the classroom, Brother Joe received the Trustees Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1993.

Brother Joe's influence extended beyond the classroom. He helped shape the College through service on many faculty and college committees and assisted with the founding of the Modern Languages Department and the French major. He initiated the campus's first theatre efforts. In 1961, he began a 30-year commitment to the Foreign Film Program, which is still offered at Marist.

### Bro. Joseph L. R. Belanger, FMS, '48



Among Brother Joe's most significant legacies is his founding in 1963 of the Marist Abroad Program, which transformed hundreds of students' lives and helped bolster Marist's reputation for academic excellence through its high standards. Almost 50 years later, Marist's International Studies Program supports Brother Joe's commitment to encouraging students to think in new ways and value global awareness. He himself went around the globe twice and made 30 trips to Europe. In 1996, at age 71, he traveled to Xiamen, China, to teach English for about a year.

Ever mindful of the College's Catholic heritage and the enduring influence of the Marist Brothers, the College's founders, Brother Joe established the St. Marcellin Champagnat Endowment for Catholic Activities. In another measure to promote understanding about the College's heritage, Brother Joe collaborated with the President's Office in developing and installing permanent plaques around the campus to highlight Marist founders and the history of early buildings.

A devotee of Edgar Morin, Brother Joe voluntarily translated two books by the internationally known French philosopher and sociologist. He took on this last project in his early 80s and despite health challenges completed the translation and its revisions. In 2009, shortly before Brother's death, French major David Donoghue '64 founded the Brother Joseph L. R. Belanger, FMS '48 Scholarship to honor his former professor and mentor. ■

# Strength in Numbers

## Years of Friendship Sustain Eight from the Class of 1970

A reception at Marist during Homecoming Weekend in October 2010 celebrated the 40th anniversary of the graduation of the Class of 1970. But eight members of the class had already toasted the occasion; they met earlier in the year at the Desmond Hotel in Albany, N.Y., traveling from their homes throughout the state. The gathering marked not only the 40th anniversary of their commencement but also the 40th consecutive year that the men had reunited.

More than once a year the eight men get together, now with their spouses. Three of the spouses were nurses at Saint Francis Hospital, across Route 9 from Marist, when the men were in college. All of them listen patiently as their husbands tell the same stories each time they meet. There is always an annual picnic, but in addition they go to each other's family parties, weddings, and funerals.

The powerful bond they share began at Marist, where they came together in an environment that fostered community and a positive spirit, says Fred Apers, the only one of the eight who lives in the Hudson Valley. They support each other in everything, he says. "If we need to accomplish something, we call each other."

The entire group consists of Fred Apers, Joseph Arcieri, Peter Varol, Richard Rossi, Matt Kiszewski, Richard Scott, Ray Campbell, and



Eight men from the Class of 1970 have reunited annually for the past 40 years. Left to right, seated, are Joseph Arcieri, Richard McGee, Peter Varol, Richard Rossi, and Matt Kiszewski; standing are (left to right) Richard Scott, Ray Campbell, and Fred Apers.

Richard McGee.

"We really believe that we are a special group that has benefited over a lifetime of Marist friendships," says McGee, who recently reflected further on the group:

"So what is the reason our group has prospered over these 40+ years? Well, here are some theories. There is strength in numbers, and that strength has been tried and tested many times over the years as we experienced joys, hardships, deaths, and jubiliations. We have continued to walk that 'bridge over troubled water' together. None of us has ever felt alone. We also keep a sense of fun and good humor in the group, lightening up even the darkest moments. Factoring in that each of us has been blessed with a loving spouse who nurtured and solidified these relationships makes it all the more meaningful. We literally

could not have been the same, or even have been together, without them. They bonded with the group with each new arrival and gave it strength. Their culinary abilities are another thing on the plus side; no one has ever gone away hungry from one of our gatherings. With good friends, good food, the love of a good woman, and a Red Fox victory (at least a few), I think we have hit upon the secret of our longevity.

"Here's to the Class of 1970! When it comes to making a difference in the quality of our lives, there is nothing quite like a good circle of friends. May these friendships continue to prosper as we experience the unknown and untested waters ahead for each of us." ■

Richard McGee invites former classmates to contact him at [Richard\\_E\\_McGee@newyorklife.com](mailto:Richard_E_McGee@newyorklife.com).

## 1968

Tom Bauer was inducted into the Park Ridge High School Athletics Hall of Fame this past fall for nearly 40 years of coaching high school football. ■ Jeffrey Kegler would like to hear from other members of the Class of 1968. ■ Laszlo Nagy retired as a school administrator. He and his wife, Cindy, split their time between the Hudson Valley and Naples, Fla. He is very active with a lot of tennis, a growing Internet business, Nantucket history presentations, and traveling. ■ Michael Nash has lived in Cincinnati since 1973. He has been retired from the probation department for seven years. Michael and his wife have been married 40 years and have one son and two granddaughters. He enjoys playing golf. ■ Frank Trumbour retired on Jan. 1, 2011.

## 1969

Stephen Johnson retired after 37 years of selling for Xerox, MCI, and Verizon. Stephen and his wife, Sharon, plan to catch up with old friends and travel a bit. Their son, Kevin, contin-

ues his college courses. ■ Vincent Mooney's daughter, Erin, was married to Owen Phipps on Sept. 4, 2010, in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. She is associate director of the Holy Cross Fund.

## 1970

Kevin O'Grady was elected to the city council in Wilmington, N.C. ■ Casimir Podlaski volunteers as a teacher for ProLiteracy America. It is also his 18th year as a mentor in the Bristol, Conn., school system.



## 1971

James Eaton had a TBI operation in 1993 at Berkshire Medical in Massachusetts. He recovered quite well and is now doing construction in Gloversville, N.Y. He misses everyone in Poughkeepsie. ■ William Fil's daughter Cheryl graduated in 2006 from Marist and received a master's in elementary education from Pace University's Manhattan campus. His daughter Laura also graduated from Marist, Class of 2004, and is a second-year resident at Good Samaritan

Hospital in West Islip, N.Y. ■ Robert Kelly's two daughters, Christine and Erin, were both married over the past two years. ■ Robert Miller lost his father at the age of 90 in March 2010. His nephews Jonathan and Ryan joined the U.S. Air Force, and his niece Lauren married this past May. He also welcomed a grandniece, born to his nephew Scott, on Aug. 30, 2010. ■ Joseph Rubino's company, J. M. Rubino Transit Consulting of St. Augustine, was selected to conduct a nationwide research study for the Veterans Administration (VA). The company was contracted by the Transportation Research Board and works alongside Westat, a Washington, D.C.,-area firm. The project involves studying patient transportation at the national network of VA medical

centers and determining best practices. The year 2010 marked the third consecutive year that the company won a national research contract.

## 1972

Bill Carey and his wife, Robin, live in North Carolina. They have four wonderful sons, two beautiful daughters-in-law and two handsome grandsons. ■ Jim Cosentino recently retired after more than 30 years with IBM, including an additional two years as a contract consultant to IBM. He is now fully retired and enjoying life with his wife, Mary, at home in Saugerties, N.Y. They also enjoy spending time on their boat during the summer months. ■ Bryan Glancey is pastor at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Hurlock, Md.

## 1973

Bill Davis was a full-time assistant professor from 1990 to 2000 and has been an adjunct English instructor since 2000. ■ Dan Faison retired from the New York State Division of Parole in February 2010, after 32 years of service. ■ Rich Freccia is a



Joseph Rubino '71

school counselor at Allentown High School in central New Jersey and is president of the Monmouth County (N.J.) School Counselors Association. ■ **Joseph Longobardi** completed his 37th year in education and 20th year as a principal in Pelham, N.Y. ■ **Morna Crites-Moore's** fiber art was featured in the June/July 2010 issue of *Quilting Arts* magazine. To see examples of Morna's art, visit her Web site, [www.mornacrites-moore.com](http://www.mornacrites-moore.com). ■ **Rafael Polo** retired from the federal government in March 2010 and moved to Northville, N.Y. ■ **Kurt Strolis** marked his 26th anniversary with Finkelstein and Partners Esq., in Newburgh, N.Y., as a claims negotiator.

## 1974

**Debra Collier's** son, Ryan, earned an M.A. in history from SUNY Cortland, and her daughter, Megan, earned a B.A. in art history from Queens University of Charlotte. ■ **Francis J. Martin's** wife, Mrs. Gerry K. Martin, passed away on June 15, 2010.

## 1975

**Mike Asip's** son, Danny, has moved to the New York City metro area, where he works for the New York Jets. ■ **Pastor Maryann Paradiso Berry** was appointed local director for Diet Free Life ([www.dietfreelife.com](http://www.dietfreelife.com)). She was also listed in *Marquis Who's Who in the World 2011*. ■ **Jim Browning** started a new job in August 2010. He is the coordinator of clinical pastoral education at the hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. ■ **John**



**Wayne Rohde, Bob Brown '70, Gerry Burns '72, and Mike Brown '71 (shown left to right) got together in Key West, Fla., in 2010. "We let 30 years pass, and now we do it every two years," says Gerry.**

**Quattrociocchi** retired in 2008 as a psychologist for the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.



## 1976

**Joe Carey** is still working for New York State after 30 years. He writes that he could have retired but decided to stay a few more years. ■ **William Kudlacik** has completed his 34th year with the New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority. He is director of security/parking/traffic for Meadowlands and Monmouth Park Racetracks.

## 1977

**Daniel Dromm** was elected to the New York City Council in November 2009 with more than 75 percent of the vote. Subsequently he was elected by his colleagues the chair of the New York City Council Committee on Immigration. He represents the 25th Council District in Queens, which includes Jackson Heights, Elmhurst, East Elmhurst, Corona, LeFrak City, and Woodside. He notes that the election marked the first time an openly gay person has been elected to the council from Queens. Prior to his election, he was a New York City public school teacher for 25 years

at PS 199Q in Sunnyside, where he also served as the United Federation of Teachers chapter leader. While at Marist, Danny was co-editor of the *Circle*, president of the theatre guild, and vice president of the Spanish Club. He believes the skills he acquired in journalism and Spanish while at Marist were key to getting him elected to the council. ■ **Jim Kennedy** was appointed to the New York State Rural Health Council by former governor David Paterson. He is chief operations officer for Finger Lakes Community and Migrant Health Center in Penn Yan, N.Y. ■ **Don Ball** is living in sunny California.

## 1978

Virginia Keller's daughter, **Kristin Keller Greiner '05**, had Virginia's first grandchild, Nolan Louis Keller.

## 1979

**Bill Gerlach** has been a vice president at First Niagara for four years and is on the boards of the Home for the Aged and the Salvation Army. ■ **Howard Leitch** is category lead in the strategic sourcing department at PSEG, headquartered in Newark, N.J.



## 1981

**Matthew Cole** delivers Meals on Wheels, feeding hungry people. ■ **C. William DeWinne's** daughter Heather graduated from Texas A & M University and is working with Accenture in Austin as a business

# Serving in Seaford

**A community honors Donald J. Paulson, Sr., '73 for volunteer service.**

**D**onald J. Paulson, Sr., '73 was recognized for community service with an Honorary Patriot Award at the Woodbury (N.Y.) Country Club. The award is given annually to Seaford High School students and community members who represent the spirit and lives of five Seaford High School alumni lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

Donald's son, DJ '09, presented him with the award. DJ was a student winner of the award in 2005.

Donald was cited for his contributions to the Seaford community. He is president of the Seaford

Lions Club, an assistant scoutmaster in Boy Scout Troop 239, and a member of the Seaford Wellness Council, Memorare Knights of Columbus, and the Seaford Historical Society. He also serves on the Seaford 9/11 Memorial Committee.

He was active in the Seaford School District's "Shared Decision Making," coached Seaford Little League and Wantagh/Seaford PAL soccer and softball, and served as an official for the Newbridge swim team.

He also was honored as an "Empire Angel" in 2009 by Blue Cross Blue Shield and by the Long Island Ducks for his community service.

After graduating from Marist, he earned an M.B.A. from St. John's University in 1987. He also holds a professional certificate in project management from George Washington University. He is a manager in the Corporate Marketing Department at Verizon and also an adjunct professor in the Tobin School of Business at St. John's University. ■

**DJ Paulson '09 presented an Honorary Patriot Award to his father, Donald J. Paulson, Sr., '73. The award is given annually to Seaford (N.Y.) High School students and community members who represent the spirit and lives of five Seaford High School alumni lost on Sept. 11, 2001. DJ received the award in 2005.**



**Ron Vuy '74 and Mike Cassidy, two Vikings: from 1965 to 1978, Marist's football program had club status and players were known as the Vikings.**

analyst. Bill's daughter Kim is a sophomore at Baylor University, enrolled in the business/M.I.S. program. ■ **Maureen O'Brien Gunderson's** daughter, Janet, graduated from St. Bonaventure University in May 2010 and married a fellow alumnus in July 2010. Her son, Joe, graduated from the College of New Jersey in May 2007 and is engaged to a fellow alumna. They plan to marry in 2012. ■ **Michael Iantosca** was promoted from senior software engineer to program advisor, corporate staff for IBM Information Development. He was also named product development team lead for IBM Information Development Tools design and development worldwide. Michael is responsible for developing the corporate strategy for IBM product documentation tools and technology and manages the development of software and systems used by the company's 1,500 full-time professional technical writers who publish about a billion words a year, which are translated into more than 45 languages in support of all IBM products and services. ■ **Jim Townsend's** son Stephen, a member of the Marist Class of 2010, is teaching in Washington, D.C., in the Teach For America program. (For more on Steve and Teach For America, please see the story on Page 40.) Jim's son Brian is a member of the Class of 2012 and is on the Marist cross-country team.

## 1982

**Joe Burleski** was presented with the Silver Bearer award by the Boy Scouts of America in June 2010. Joe and his son, Joe III, attended the 2010 National Scout Jamboree in Virginia. Both will be attending the World Scout Jamboree in Sweden in July 2011.

## 1983

Kelley Gould, the daughter of **Kathy Ansbro Gould and Chris Gould '04**, enjoyed her sophomore year at Marist

and is running on the cross-country and track teams. ■ **Claudia Jeremiah's** daughter, Natasha, graduated from Trinity College in the Class of 2010. ■ **Joseph Seminara** retired after 24 years of trading stocks at Merrill Lynch and Mellon Bank. His wife, Cecilia, is a lawyer and they have an 8-year-old son.

## 1984

**Don Eustace** and **Joan Lunn** married on June 16, 2010. ■ **Kathleen Lloyd's** son, Charles, was accepted into Marist's Class of 2015. ■ **Paul Palmer** helped produce ESPN's coverage of the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship from San Antonio, Texas, in April 2010. ■ **Joseph and Lynn DiNapoli Pareti** celebrate their 25th anniversary in 2011. Their sons, Tom and James, are members of the Marist Class of 2014, and their daughter, Marisa, will be a senior in high school. ■ **Theresa Abad Swierzowski's** daughter, Anna, is a sophomore at Marist, studying accounting and business.

## 1985

**Santa Zacheo Byrnes** has been keeping busy. When she isn't helping to manage her family's gourmet shop or running her children hither and yon, you can find her working on her latest romance novel. ■ **Jean Ostrowski Cappiello** started a cookie



The Carmel (N.Y.) Running Club sponsored a 5K in October 2010 at the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park to raise funds for Jimmy Burrows, the son of **Liz Healy and Paul Burrows '83/'83**. Jimmy suffers from facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy. Those present included **Kathy Ansbro Gould '83, Chris Gould '04, Kelley Gould '13, Tom Maroney '84, Declan Maroney, Liz Healy Burrows '83, Paul Burrows '83, Megan Burrows, Jimmy Burrows, Corinne Strange Schell '83, Tim Schell '95, Marist College Cross Country Coach Chuck Williams '00, Tina Angiulli Williams '00, Madison Williams, John Williams, Sarah Nierenberg '11, Gillian Marie, Katie May, Jackie Meiseles '11, Jackie Gamboli '13, and Billy Posch '13.**

company called "The Cookie Tray: Chocolate Chip Cookies for a Cause" ([www.cookie-tray.biz](http://www.cookie-tray.biz)). Each month a different charity is spotlighted and a percentage of each batch of cookies sold is donated to that charity. ■ **Gregory Hart** was invested as a Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre by Cardinal Edward Egan and New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan during a liturgy at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Oct. 2, 2010. ■

**Matthew Kastel** is manager of baseball operations and events for the Maryland Stadium Authority (Oriole Park at Camden Yards). ■ **Anthony Phillips** was promoted to senior vice president at the Northern Trust Co. ■ **Daniel and Laurel Dickson Spuhler's** son, Karl, began attending Vassar College in fall 2010, and their daughter, Rose, began seventh grade at Martin de Porres. ■ **Mark Zangari** has launched [www.dollarwisecar.com](http://www.dollarwisecar.com)

**Katie Stevens, daughter of Clara Francisco Stevens '85, was one of the Top Ten finalists on Season 9 of Fox's American Idol. Since then, Katie, 19, went on tour, graduated from high school, and moved to Los Angeles. She also was invited to be a special guest on Portugal Idol in December 2010; the show flew her over for appearances on that and several other programs. She has been working on an album and is pursuing her music and acting career in Los Angeles. Clara and friends from the Class of 1985 visited backstage with Katie and other Idols at the Webster Bank Arena at Harbor Yard in Bridgeport, Conn., during the 2010 tour (below). Clara says she and her classmates have stayed in close contact ever since Marist and try to get together at least once a year. Clara's son, Ryan, is a senior at Marist and studied abroad in Florence this spring. Left to right, back row: American Idol finalists "Big Mike" Lynche, Casey James, Aaron Kelly, Siobhan Magnus, Lee Dewyze, Tim Urban, and Andrew Garcia; second row: Ellen Stigberg Johnston '85, Chris Murphy O'Hagan '85, Phil Boyle '85, finalist Katie Stevens, Clara Francisco Stevens '85, Sandy Daniels Murphy '85, and finalists Crystal Bowersox and Didi Benami; front row: Dee Zappalo Richter '85, Deb Dutil Boyle '85, and Teresa Rocco Bolte '85.**



tridge.com, a state-of-the-art digital storefront that sells discount ink and toner cartridges. Mark's son, Gerard, who was 11 years old, passed away on July 21, 2010. He asks for the prayers of the Marist College community.

**REUNION**  
**1986**

**Dave Margalotti** is program and operations manager for WNVJ 1160AM (www.wvnj.com), a northern New Jersey news/talk/information station. Dave is also a music consultant for Slacker Personal Radio (www.slacker.com), in charge of programming for soft rock, vocal standards, and big band/swing music stations. **Mike Masterson** has been living on Maui for nearly 15 years. **John McGuinness** and his wife, Maureen, are expecting their third child in the spring of 2011.

**1987**

**James Fedigan** has worked on more than 70 Broadway shows during the past 20 years, serving as production supervisor for the lighting departments. He has also worked on many television specials including the Grammy Awards, Tony Awards, and Emmy Awards. He works closely with Dutchess County Autism Awareness and has raised more than \$100,000 for this cause over the past nine years. James is married to **Allison Telford**. They have three children. **Linda Smith Jager** was named communications director for U.S. Speedskating in November 2010. She served as the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) press officer for the U.S. short track speedskating team at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games. She also works as the USOC press officer for the U.S. biathlon team. **Nicholas Kalogris** has been working for the New York State Division of Parole in support operations for the parole officers for the past six years. He has also worked as a sports board operator for Pamal Broadcasting Ltd. in Beacon, N.Y., for the past eight years, where his duties have ranged from interviewing national and local notables such as New York Mets Great Mookie Wilson and famed sports writer Phil Pepe to sound engineering for talk shows and sports broadcasts, screening calls, and audio engineering for a variety of local talk programming. Some of Nick's work also aired on Sirius/XM Satellite Radio and WABC Radio in New York City. **Carol Lethin** welcomed twin boys, Matthew and Kai, born Sept. 15, 2009. She recently celebrated a mini-reunion with Chris, Sheila, Chrissy,

and Teresa, the F-9ers! **Ron Marz** has been writing comic books for the past 20 years for all the major U.S. publishers, including Marvel, DC, Dark Horse, and Image. **William Tucker** is living and working in Qindao, China, as a headmaster of a bilingual school with more than 500 students in grades K-12. He says he misses the leaves of the Hudson.

**1988**

**Rev. Fr. Timothy Biskupiak, FDP**, married in November 2008. He was ordained a priest of the Trinitarian Catholic Church in 2010. **Christine Petrillo Blaine** was promoted to vice president of Branded Entertainment at Alloy Media & Marketing. She works with Alloy Entertainment editorial content and customizes advertiser-sponsored Web series. **Rocco Cocco, Jr.**, recently moved to Chapel Hill, N.C. He married Sharon Weed in 2009 and welcomed a daughter, Katie Renee, born Jan. 10, 2010. **Thomas and Janice Box Haessler** celebrated their 21st wedding anniversary in June 2011. **Joseph Madden** is vice president of public relations for MetLife's U.S. Business Organization, which encompasses MetLife's employee benefits, auto, home, and retail insurance and protection products divisions, including life insurance, annuities, and retirement products. He also manages public relations for MetLife's Mature Market Institute and recently was responsible for MetLife's Retirement Strategies Group public relations program. **Peter Oppenheim** completed the JFK 50-mile ultra-marathon in November 2010. **Michael Petrucci** was promoted to retail market manager for TD Bank for the Essex County region of New Jersey. He has 23 years of experience in retail banking. **Tom and Nora Bomba Ruede** moved to Jacksonville, Fla., in August 2009.



**Remembering Dr. Roscoe Balch**

**D**r. Roscoe Balch, professor emeritus of history, passed away in Virginia on April 29, 2010, at the age of 87. He was a key member of the History Department faculty for more than three decades (1961 to 1992).

Professor Balch earned a B.B.A. from Seattle University and an M.A. and a Ph.D. from the University of Washington. He was one of the first lay faculty to join Marist College. He played an active role in establishing initial academic policies and the original core curriculum and in later years was chair of the History Department. In 1986, students voted him Professor of the Year. His classes were usually oversubscribed, with students attesting that his vast knowledge of the material and his blend of humor and intellect were two major reasons for the success of his courses.

Dr. Balch had a keen interest in the history of the region and was active in advancing historical preservation and restoration efforts in the mid-Hudson area. He helped to restore Poughkeepsie's historic Union Street neighborhood, and he was a successful advocate for the preservation of Poughkeepsie's 1918 train station, a project that involved his students at Marist. His efforts many years ago paved the way for the train station's more recent, extensive restoration.

In recognition of his academic contributions during Marist's formative years, Dr. Balch was designated a Marist College Heritage Professor in 2004 by vote of the Board of Trustees. ■



**Michael Petrucci '88**

Tom works for the Suddath Co. and Nora works at Ponte Vedra High School. Their children are now 12 and 15 and both play lacrosse.

**1989**

**Carol-Ann Catucci Kinane** recently began her 20th year as a special educator in the Huntington (N.Y.) Union Free School District. Carol-Ann is married to **Michael Kinane**. **Michael Kinane**, assistant to the president for advancement at SUNY College at Old Westbury, took part for the fifth consecutive year as a moderator during the Fair Media Council's annual "Connection Day." The conference brings the media together with the public for a day of dialogue on issues related to journalism, community news, and other local issues. Michael was featured alongside panelists Donna Pisciotta, production director at Fox5/My9, Sandra Thomas, vice president of commu-

**Alumni of soccer teams coached by Howard "Doc" Goldman gathered in 2010 at the home of Joseph Madden '88 in Mahopac, N.Y. The group included Jim Ulbrich '95, Glenn McSweeney '92, Matt Scarano '92, Neil Kelly '95, Dan Callahan '93, Joe Bettencourt '91, Eric Richards '94, Jerry Sentochnik '88, RJ Kane '92, Tom Haggerty '89, Jim McGee '92, Vinny Aspromonti '90, John Gilmartin '88, Bill Kenny, Joe Madden '88, Tim Finegan '92, Phil O'Hara, Chris Arrigali '93, Kevin Segrue '88, Mark Edwards '90, Andy Scarano '90, George Brown, and Greg Healy '90.**



nity affairs at WABC-TV, and David North, news and public affairs reporter at WALK Radio, in a discussion of public service announcements in the new media landscape. ■ **Ellen Ballou Nesbitt** became assistant director for the Fund for Potsdam at SUNY Potsdam in January 2011.

## 1990

**Jennifer Schiffer Freeh** and her husband, Vince, welcomed their sixth child, a daughter, Julia, born Feb. 24, 2010. Julia joins her four sisters and

one brother at their home in Holly Springs, N.C. ■ **Brian Keenan** is the owner of McGillicuddy's Restaurant & Tap House in New Paltz, Darby O'Gill's in Hyde Park, and the Mad Hatter in Poughkeepsie. The Mad Hatter is undergoing an extensive renovation scheduled for completion in 2011. McGillicuddy's wings were recently voted Best in the Hudson Valley for the third year in a row by *Hudson Valley* magazine, and Darby O'Gill's won Best Sports Bar for the second year.



Alyssa Moeder '89

## Barron's Best

**Barron's** again names Alyssa Moeder '89 one of America's top 100 women financial advisors.

**A**lyssa Moeder '89 has been recognized as one of America's top 100 women financial advisors for 2011 by the financial magazine *Barron's*.

Moeder is a private wealth advisor and senior vice president—investments at Merrill Lynch. She has 20 years of experience in the financial services industry, including 17 specializing in wealth management advice and services to institutions and high-net-worth individuals. She also was recognized as one of *Barron's* top 100 women financial advisors in 2010, 2009, 2008, and 2007.

In 2001, Moeder joined Merrill Lynch after working at New York Strategy Group, where she managed funds for highly affluent families. Prior to NYSG, she was the Northeast region head of the Citibank Private Bank Capital Markets Division. She has held positions at Bankers Trust and spent six years at KPMG Peat Marwick, where her clients included financial services companies and real estate and large nonprofit organizations. She is founder and chair of the Women's Exchange, a networking and mentoring program for the women at Merrill Lynch.

Moeder's professional designations include Certified Financial Planner™ and Certified Public Accountant. She is an insurance agent registered by the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Florida. She also serves on the board of directors of the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York. She lives in New York City with her husband and their three children. ■



**City of Poughkeepsie Mayor John Tkazyik '03 (right) appointed Frank Mora '92 to a 10-year term as a city judge effective Jan. 1, 2011. Mora was sworn in accompanied by his family including son Austin (far left), son Kaden, and wife Sheri. He earned his law degree from the University of Memphis.**

## REUNION 1991

**Rosanna Cordero-Stutz** recently appeared on CBS's *48 Hours Mystery* for a homicide case she worked on. She is a lieutenant in the Miami-Dade Police Department. View the episode at [www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7074913n](http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=7074913n). ■ **Regina Feeney** received a certificate in archives and records management from Queens College in 2010. She was appointed to Freeport's Landmarks Preservation Commission and awarded the 2010 Salvation Army Community Service Award. ■ **Beth Dolis's** nephew, Ryan Prestiano, will be attending Marist in September 2011. ■ **Roy and Monica Latus Freer** welcomed twins, Ava Faith and Zachary Jacob, born July 22, 2009. ■ **Dr. James Jozefowicz** was promoted to professor of economics at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in August 2009. He is serving his second term as president of the Pennsylvania Economic Association. Jim lives in Indiana, Pa., with his wife, Stephanie, and daughter, Abigail. ■ **Jeffrey Thibeault** and his wife welcomed their second daughter, Harper Naomi, born Sept. 30, 2010.

## 1992

**Tom Badura** is a Web application developer in the university computing department at Western Connecticut State University. ■ **David D'Arco** and his wife, Andrea, welcomed their first child, a son, Salvatore Michael, born May 22, 2009. ■ **Jeffrey Dolfinger** is the owner of 24/7 Realty, Inc., one of New York State's largest real estate brokerages specializing in the liquidation of foreclosed properties, representing almost every major bank and many hedge funds. ■ **Jennifer Riat Kerrigan** celebrated her 40th birthday this past year with her husband, two children, and the great friends she made while attending Marist. ■

**Michael O'Farrell** is the director of public relations at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London, Conn. Previously he was the director of public relations at Mystic Seaport for nine years. ■ **Joseph Proto** has lived in South Florida for eight years. He is owner of [www.electrictid.com](http://www.electrictid.com) and [www.abccook.com](http://www.abccook.com). ■ **Joey Stanford** received numerous awards for working on the Four Mile Fire in Boulder. He is also changing jobs; he is being seconded from his employer, Canonical, to work full time on the Linaro project. ■ **Kevin Weigand** is a school teacher and personal trainer in Fort Myers, Fla.

## 1993

**Jennifer Sulger Capodacqua** and her husband, Frank, welcomed a daughter, Alyssa Camille, born Oct. 14, 2009. Alyssa joins big sister Amelia. ■ **Maria Licari Cohen** decided to make a career change. After 13 years at ABC News, she now does PR for a handful of clients and media trains. Her new job allows more time at home with her two children. ■ **Jennifer Smith DeFelice** is the artistic director of Broadway Bound Performing Arts Center in Merrimack, N.H. New Hampshire Partners in Education has recognized her with its Gold Circle Award for three consecutive years for volunteering in schools. She is a member of the Professional Dance Teachers Association and Dance Teachers of America. Her dancers recently performed at Disney World and participated in Disney Magic Music Days. ■ **Carl Marinaccio** is an active member of Marist lacrosse alumni. ■ **Barbara Zisa Petrie** and her husband, John, welcomed their first child, a son, Ian Joseph, born Feb. 20, 2010. ■ **Ralph Raiola** began working at Information Builders in March 2010 as an associate editor. Previously Ralph was an editor for an electronics industry trade magazine for 10 years. ■ **James (J.W.) Stewart** co-hosts

# Double Feature

After starring roles in *Sex and the City 2*, the twin daughters of Teresa Dezio '93 are ready for their close-ups.

**T**eresa Sorrentino-Dezio '93 looked on in disbelief during a break in the filming of *Sex and City 2*. Sarah Jessica Parker, Kristin Davis, Cynthia Nixon, and Kim Cattrall were singing to her 2-year-old daughter, Sienna.

"The itty bitty spider went up the waterspout," the glamorous stars chanted, walking their index fingers and thumbs up an imaginary spout.

Sienna Dezio and her twin, Savanna, were sharing the role of Rose, the youngest daughter of Charlotte, played by Kristin Davis. The day's filming was at a Long Island estate. According to the script, the four friends were having lunch outdoors at a Connecticut inn, toddler Rose on Davis's lap. When the director yelled "Cut!," Nixon launched into song and nudged the others to join in.

"I couldn't believe it. These four amazing women were singing to my baby to keep her happy," says Dezio. "They sang several songs, until shooting started again. They were banging out beats out on the table. Sienna was smiling and clapping. It was surreal."

Dezio is no stranger to film or fame, having worked in production for TV shows headlined by stars such as Ricki Lake, Robin Givens, and Queen Latifah and, most recently, as producer for *The Martha Stewart Show*. Her career began years earlier during a Marist internship at the ABC soap *One Life to Live*. After college, she acted in small roles in soaps, film, and music videos before heading behind the camera. At *Martha Stewart's* show, Dezio worked with hundreds of celebrity guests—Brooke Shields, Jennifer Garner, Nathan Lane, Bette Midler, Rosie O'Donnell, Glenn Close, and Chevy Chase, to name a few. But her favorite was President Bill Clinton, who was on to celebrate the show's 500th taping.

"The staff appeared on the show, so I got to clink champagne glasses with President Clinton and shake his hand," she recalls. "I am never

starstruck, but that day I admit that I was!"

As producer, Dezio was nominated three times for the Emmy Award for "Outstanding Lifestyle Show." She became an expert at all things domestic, setting up elaborate craft, cooking, and gardening segments for the fastidious Stewart. After she had the twins, she traded made-for-TV domesticity to stay home with her children.

As her twins grew, Dezio soon realized they enjoyed performing—dancing, dressing up, and smiling for her camera. When the girls turned 2, she put her name on a mailing list for the Twins Talent management company, hoping to find modeling jobs that would be fun for the girls and help build their college fund. Dezio loved Marist and wants the twins to be in the Class of 2029. Her husband, John, feels the



The Dezio family: Teresa, Cheyenne, John, Savanna, and Sienna

same about Clemson University, his alma mater. "We might have to split them up," Dezio jokes.

A few months after signing up on the Twins World Web site, she got an e-mailed casting call for brown-eyed, brown-haired 2-year-old twins for *Sex and the City 2*. The Dezio girls,

fraternal twins, got an audition.

"There were 20 sets of twins auditioning that day in just the one hour that we were there. I said, 'No way they're getting this.' I thought it was the last we'd hear of it," Dezio says.

But they were called back. This time, the filmmakers wanted to see her daughters cry; the plot called for a child in the "terrible twos." When a film assistant held Savanna, she wailed.

"I heard the director whisper, 'She looks just like Kristin,'" Dezio says. "That's when I started thinking this could really happen."

She got word a few days later, just a day before she was to give birth to her third daughter, Cheyenne, now 1. They were on the movie set just three weeks after that call, Dezio still recovering from a C-section.

"Getting this movie was like hitting the lottery. We were shocked. It was the first audition the girls had ever been on," she says. "It was also strangely coincidental, because *Sex and the City* was the one TV show I watched before I had kids. I never missed it."

After getting the job, the twins were invited to Kristin Davis's Central Park West apartment to get comfortable with the actress.



Savanna (center) and Sienna with Mommy at their trailer on the movie set.

BY BONNIE HEDE STRIEGEL '85





## Alumni Authors

**Vincent Begley '70** has two young-adult novels slated for publication. *Flying Lessons* is due in September 2011 from THR Press, and *The Time Before Time, the Place Before Place* is to come out in spring 2012.

**Gloria G. Ausubel '82** has published her first book, *I Hear the People Listening*, a collection of her poems (iUniverse). She composed the majority of her favorite poems during her years at Marist, 1980 to 1982, when she was pursuing a master's degree in community psychology.

Savanna and Sienna began to call Davis "Mommy Kristin." In typical 2-year-old fashion, they were soon in and out of every room of the spacious apartment, playing with the actress's makeup and costume jewelry. Dezio was horrified, but the actress, whom she describes as "flawlessly beautiful, warm, and kind," brushed off her concerns. "I love it!" Davis said.

Later, the twins discovered the actress's shoe closet, packed to the ceiling with the very type of couture pumps made famous by *Sex and the City*. The toddlers happily began trying them on, teetering on four-inch heels as Dezio and Davis looked on, laughing.

"They love shoes! I couldn't believe they were in Kristin Davis's shoe closet, trying on Manolo Blahniks," Dezio says. "The girls were loving it, and she was absolutely fine with it."

In late September 2009, Teresa and John, a vice president for the insurance-consulting firm Enservio Inc., were on the set of *Sex and the City 2* with their daughters. The twins filmed about five scenes. In one, Charlotte is holding an inconsolable Rose and doubting her maternal abilities. In another, Charlotte happily reunites with the toddler after a trip. Savanna ended up getting the most screen time, sitting on Charlotte's lap at the inn and playing in a field with Rose's Irish nanny.



Savanna (left) and Sienna in a photo that landed them the *Sex and the City 2* audition.

Because filming involved intense 12 hour days—longer hours than law allows children to work—the filmmakers ended up hiring a second set of twins to share the role.

When filming was over, Davis sent the twins a box of the jewelry they had been playing with, as a thank-you gift. A year later, the girls still remember the actress, calling out "Mommy Kristin" when they see her face on TV.

On a recent day in their hometown of Monroe, N.Y., Savanna and Sienna were just normal 3-year-olds dressed in pink leotards, taking their first ballet class. They happily stretched with other budding ballerinas and tiptoed in tandem—smiling broadly with their arms arched overhead—toward the enthusiastic high-fives of their teacher.

Most other days, Dezio is either driving her girls to preschool or south to Manhattan for modeling auditions. An agent signed all three children after the movie, and each already has landed a number of print ads. Chayenne was dressed as a crab for Halloween in a Simplicity pattern catalog and appeared in the October issue of *American Baby* magazine and a Babies R Us ad. Sienna appeared in a Carter's clothing ad campaign and she and Savanna posed for the cover of the Harlequin book *His Daughter... Their Child*. In mid-March, Sienna and Savanna posed for an Avanti greeting card, and Sienna was photographed for an article for the June issue of *Parents* magazine.

At auditions, the girls usually have their measurements taken and smile for a photographer for a few shots. If they get the job, they return another day "to try on pretty clothes and say cheese," Dezio says. After a shoot, the girls always love to go to a carousel at a local mall to ride the horses.

Dezio says she will allow her daughters to work only as long as they enjoy it.

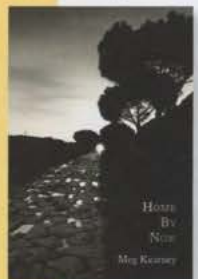
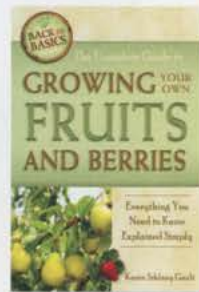
"They are happy, natural kids. They enjoy going on a special day with mom and dressing up," says Dezio. "We always make it fun. But the day they decide they don't want to do this anymore is the day we stop." ■



*The War Merchants* (Strategic Book Publishing, 2009) is a novel by **Gregg Feistman '09MA**. "Out of the ashes of the second World War," says his synopsis, "a former Nazi finance expert and his half brother, an SS colonel, use stolen gold and confiscated treasures to implement their vision of the ultimate business model to control the world: economic fascism. In the decades since, a secret cartel of multinational corporations have used it to successfully manipulate world events and pull the strings of governments to start and control local wars around the globe. They maximize profits without the waste and inefficiencies of a world war. Beautiful public relations executive Cassidy Jevon and ace business reporter

Michael Kranz stumble upon the Machiavellian scheme. Not knowing who to trust, they must expose the global conspiracy before the next targeted initiative begins: the manipulation and takeover of Russia." Feistman is an assistant professor of public relations at Temple University. For more information, visit [www.thewarmerchants.com](http://www.thewarmerchants.com).

**Karen Szklany Gault '86** has written *The Complete Guide to Growing Your Own Fruits and Berries: Everything You Need to Know Explained Simply* (Atlantic Publishing Co.). The gardening guide covers regional climates and how they relate to the best fruits and berries to grow close to home, the process of choosing and planting specific kinds of fruit trees and berry bushes, caring for fruit plants, and harvesting crops. It includes recipes for baking the harvest. The book is available for purchase at [www.karenszklanygault.com](http://www.karenszklanygault.com).

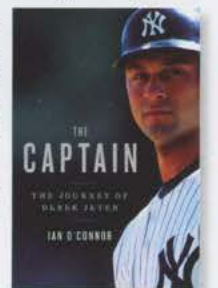


**Meg (Margaret) Kearney '86's** third book, *Home By Now* (Four Way Books, 2009), recently won the 2010 PEN New England LL Winship Award and was a finalist for the Paterson Poetry Prize and the Foreword Magazine Book of the Year. "The characters of Meg Kearney's gritty second poetry collection travel the shadows and edges of modern life," Four Way Books says of the book. "Searching for home and knowing that, once found, home might dissolve without warning, Kearney carves a richly lyric poetry. You will hear the voices of this striking book right in your ear, telling hard-learned lessons that are as unsettling as they are necessary." Kearney is the

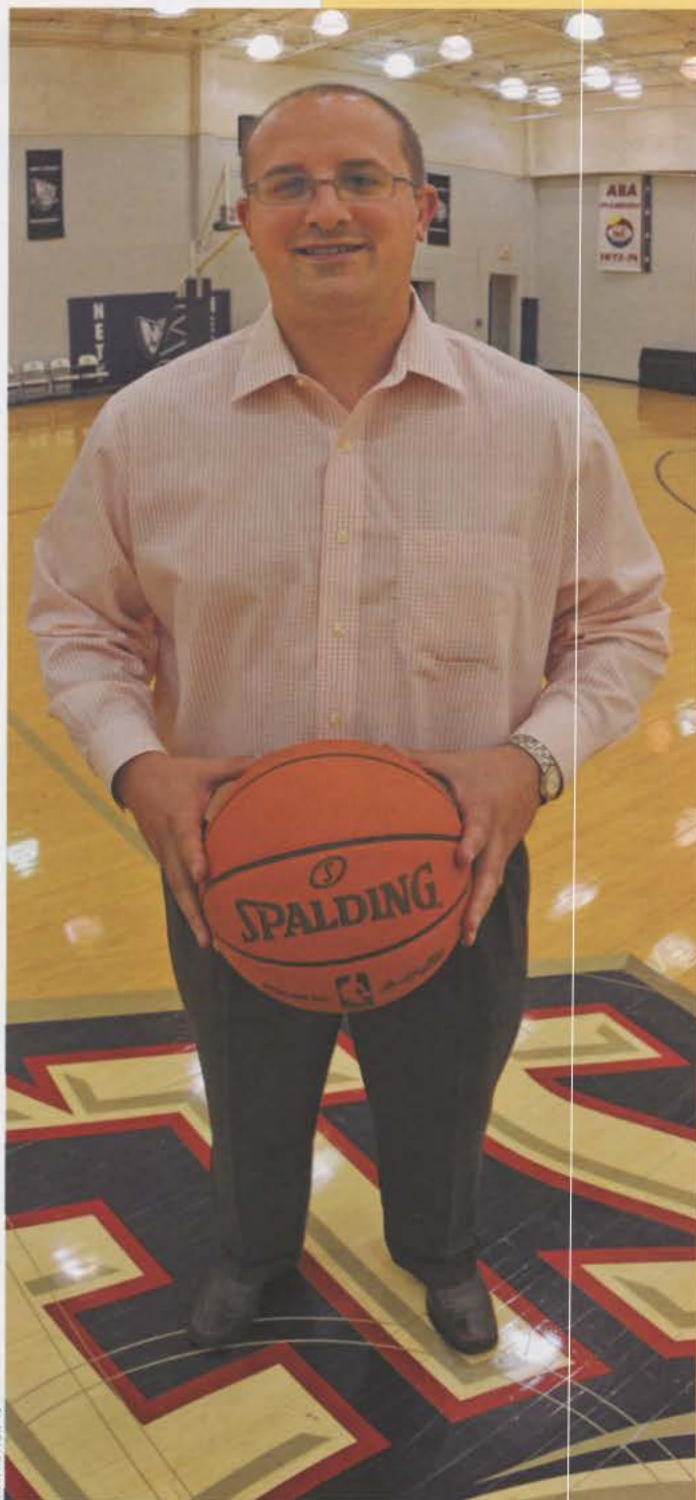
founding director of the Solstice Low-Residency MFA in Creative Writing Program at Pine Manor College as well as director of its Solstice Summer Writers Conference. For more information, visit [www.megkearney.com](http://www.megkearney.com).

**Ian O'Connor '86's** new book on the career of Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter, *The Captain*, is out from Houghton Mifflin. His previous book, *Arnie & Jack*, on the rivalry between legendary golfers Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus, was a *New York Times* best seller.

**Robert Wright '92's** book *When Angels Cry: The Loud Cry of the Fourth Angel* has been published by iUniverse.



If you would like news of your book included in Alumni Authors, please send the title, the name of publisher, the date of publication, a PDF of the book's cover, and a description of the content to [editor@marist.edu](mailto:editor@marist.edu) or to Alumni Authors, c/o Marist Magazine, Advancement, Marist College, 3399 North Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387.



RYAN HUTTON '10

**Bobby Marks '95, assistant general manager of the New Jersey Nets, helps run the day-to-day business of basketball operations and assists with the Nets' vast rebuilding and rebranding effort.**

BY JIM URSO '11

## Game Changer

**As assistant general manager of the New Jersey Nets, Bobby Marks '95 is helping to transform the team.**

Conducting scouting reports, managing the salary cap, and working the waiver wire are all activities familiar to sophisticated fantasy sports gurus. While many sports fans spend countless hours trying to develop a winning fantasy team online, for Bobby Marks '95, building a successful sports lineup is far from imaginary.

In 2010, Marks was promoted to assistant general manager of the New Jersey Nets. He assists Nets General Manager Billy King in the areas of salary cap management, scouting, player personnel, and the day-to-day business of basketball operations. Marks's promotion comes at a juncture of prominent challenge and opportunity. In the coming years, Marks will be at the helm of the Nets' vast rebuilding and rebranding effort.

Marks is directly responsible for putting an improved team on the hardwood. Aside from attempts to upgrade personnel, the Nets recently began construction of a new arena in Brooklyn. For the next two years, the Nets will play home games in Newark, N.J. The Barclays Center in Brooklyn will open for the 2012–2013 NBA season, making the Nets the first professional sports franchise in Brooklyn since the Dodgers relocated to Los Angeles after the 1957 season.

"The chance to put a new team together and rebuild is very exciting," says Marks. "You can't get far in the NBA if you don't want to take chances." For Marks, his willingness to take chances has helped him arrive at his current position.

A native of Little Falls, N.J., Marks was recruited by Marist to play football. During freshman season, he played outside linebacker. However, he struggled to adjust to the demands of being a student-athlete. During his sophomore year, his grades deemed him ineligible for athletics. Ultimately, his second season proved to be a turning point in developing the skills that would serve him in the professional world. During this stressful period, he remembers undergoing a transformation. "I

could've gone back home and tried to work out my issues at a local community college," he says, "but I decided to deal with things there."

Marks recalls the strong support system supplied by Marist Head Football Coach Jim Parady. "It provided me with a lot of structure that I transformed when I came to the Nets," says Marks, who still remains in contact with his former coach. "He serves as a father figure for a lot of us [football players]." By the time Marks returned to the field as a tight end for his junior and senior seasons, Marist had transitioned from Division III to Division I-AA, joining the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC). After being chosen to finish fourth in the conference in 1994, Marks's senior year, Marist won six of seven conference games to capture the MAAC Championship.

Marks, whose mentors have included several former NBA players, asserts that his college football coach had more influence on him than anyone.

In 1995, Marks graduated with a degree in communications. On the Monday following his graduation, he began a public relations internship with the Nets. When the internship concluded at the end of summer, Marks struggled to find full-time employment. With his hometown near the team's facilities and some excess graduation money, he decided to stay with the Nets to complete a second, unpaid internship in the basketball operations department. In this position, he assisted New York Knicks icon and Professional Basketball Hall of Fame inductee Willis Reed.

"It was my first real taste of basketball," he says. "I did anything and everything. I picked guys up at

## "You can't get far in the NBA if you don't want to take chances."

the airport, drove Willis to work, worked in training camps, worked at practices, helped with travel planning, edited video." The grunt work paid off. In January of 1996, he was offered a full-time paid position as an operations assistant.

As he became more familiar with basketball operations, he began educating himself about player contracts and collective bargaining agreements. "You're not going to last if you're stagnant; it's important to every year add something to your résumé," he says. Marks also credits former Nets President Rod Thorn with helping him acquire more responsibility and develop the skills to succeed in basketball operations. Thorn was president from 2000 to 2010. "I was able to learn about the salary cap, player contracts, the collective bargaining agreement, and scouting. When Rod came in, I wasn't just an administrative assistant anymore."

Marks recalls several occasions when changes in management could have resulted in him losing his job, including the most recent ownership change to Mikhail Prokhorov. "I'm just very fortunate," he says. "This business is all about survival." By 2006, he was promoted to vice president of basketball operations and is the longest tenured member of the Nets staff.

On the way to work each morning from his home in West Orange, N.J., Marks drops his two young sons, Jake and Cooper, off at day care. "It was the one thing I had to do," he says. On game nights, he may not see them again until the following morning. "I was fortunate to marry someone who's compatible and understands my lifestyle," he says of his wife, Michelle.

He arrives by 8:30 a.m. at his office at the Nets' East Rutherford complex. There, to the right of his Marist diploma, hangs a large board displaying the Nets current depth chart. A small book entitled *Teamwork* sits in a paramount position on his desk. A plethora of other sports books are arranged neatly behind him.

But he's not in his office as much as before. Currently he splits attendance at away games with King, and he admits the degree of travel involved in his new job is an adjustment. His day varies depending on the time of year. For home games, he arrives at the arena early enough to watch the other team warm up. "Who knows, I may want to trade for or sign one of those guys," he says. During the game, he evaluates play and writes a report.

Another adjustment has been delegating some of his previously held responsibilities. Prior to his appointment as assistant general manager, he aided in the coordination of pre-draft workouts, recruiting visits, and background checks of different prospects leading up to the 2010 NBA Draft. After evaluating talent, he helped condense the Nets' group of potential picks and analyzed different draft scenarios. Now, Marks is faced with the challenge of overseeing the department and making more paramount decisions regarding player personnel.

Marks advises students interested in working in professional athletics to just dive in. "Go sell tickets," he says. "Go work in any department. Eventually you will be able to meet people within the organization, find a niche, and then if something opens, they will know who you are." Whenever he's contacted by someone seeking a career in sports management, Marks always responds. "I remember being in their shoes," he says.

Although Marks doesn't think he's ready to head a team himself, he says in the future he would certainly consider becoming a general manager. "I think that anyone who works in basketball operations has that goal. To run a team, at the end of the day, that's what all of us are striving for."

While his job presents many sacrifices, Marks says the rewards are well worth it. "You might have a game that night, and that game may determine how the next day goes," he says. "One day, you may make a big trade or get a new player. Every day presents a new challenge." ■

Sports Center on ESPN America, which is seen in Europe, the Middle East, and northern Africa. "Our fans overseas love American sports!" he says.

■ **April Buther Wennerstrom** and her husband welcomed a daughter, Anjulia Marie, born July 20, 2010.

■ **Brenda Long Wittman** is pursuing a master's in special education at Ashland University. She teaches spinning at several gyms on Cleveland's West Side.

## 1994

**Karen Mariotti Besemer** and her husband announce the birth of their twin daughters, Callasandra Rose and Genevieve Marie, born July 2, 2010. The twins join big brother Colin, 2½ years old, at home.

■ **Pamela Clinton** received an M.A. in religious education in May 2010 from Felician College. ■ **MaryAnn McGovern Cuite** and her husband, Kyle, welcomed their first child, a son, Timothy Edward, born Oct. 19, 2010. Timothy weighed 9 pounds 12 ounces and was 22 inches long. ■ **Janeen Lake-Piano Dolan** and her husband, Ray, announce the birth of their fourth son, Quinn Raymond, born Nov. 12, 2010. Quinn joins big brothers Jack (8), Charlie (7), and Brady (3) at home.

■ **Rob Faris** is senior vice president of programming and production for Outside Television. A four-time Emmy Award-winning television producer, he is responsible for the creation and development of all the network's programming content as well as managing its online and social media efforts. As head of Outside Television's operations department, Rob leads a production team of producers, directors, and writers. His duties also involve collaborating with *Outside* magazine's editors on the conception of new series that reflect the editorial content of the publication.

■ **Patricia Mocker Freshwater** and her husband, AJ, announce the birth of their second child, daughter Emily Elizabeth, born Nov. 28, 2008. Trish joined Sodexo in July 2010 as senior communications manager for the company's talent acquisition department. ■ **Moira Breen Long** collected her 300th career coaching victory as head volleyball coach at Plymouth State University. Her overall record at PSU was 301-156 (.658 percent) in her 13th season. ■ **Jennifer Poccia-Talkowski** and her husband, Chris, welcomed a baby boy, Carter Thomas, born Dec. 11, 2009. Carter weighed 8 pounds 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. ■ **Michele Bafuma Puzanchera** launched NonprofitResourceMemo.org, an informational blog for the

nonprofit community in western Pennsylvania and beyond. The site features daily posts on topical news, research, policy initiatives, and trends that impact the human and social services sector. ■ **Dr. Christina Royal '94/03M** was promoted to associate vice president of eLearning and Innovation at Cuyahoga Community College. She was also elected to the Educause Teaching and Learning Advisory Board for a two-year term. ■ **Tracey Belko Sawicki** and her husband, Rob, welcomed their son Robert Joseph, born Feb. 24, 2009. They also announce the birth of a second son, Thomas Patrick, born March 2, 2010.

## 1995

**Amy Anderson D'Amico** and her husband welcomed a son, Xander Elijah, born Sept. 6, 2010. Xander joins big brothers Lucas and Jaden at home. ■ **Dana Avagliano Blount** and her husband, Thomas, welcomed a daughter, Madeline Claire, born April 23, 2010. ■ **James Burke** launched JPB Marketing LLC, an Internet marketing firm. JPB Marketing focuses on strategy and design to help improve a company's online presence and lead generation. ■ **Eric Cavoli** and his business partner sold their advertising agency, Durham Group, to join forces with Cashman + Katz Integrated Communications. Eric is vice president and creative director. ■ **Colleen Pelkowski Collins** and her husband, James, welcomed twins, Aidan and Hailey, born March 19, 2010. The twins join big brother Liam, born Jan. 4, 2008. ■ **Michael Dunne** and his wife, **Jeanne Brennan-Dunne**, live in Sayville, N.Y. Jeanne is a clinical social worker/ordinator for Good Shepherd Hospice. Michael is director of clinical and program operations at Graham Windham Foster Care Agency in New York City. He invites Marist graduates searching for employment working with children to contact him at [Dunnem@graham-windham.org](mailto:Dunnem@graham-windham.org). ■ **John Macari** is an account executive working in the litigation support services industry. ■ **Kevin O'Neill** ('00M) and his wife, **Jennifer Dascenzo '96**, have lived in the Pittsburgh area for the past 10 years. They have two children. Kevin works in downtown Pittsburgh at K&L Gates law firm. He manages the Web development team and does a lot of other work on Sharepoint, Metastrom, and Interaction, among other technologies. Kevin has also been an adjunct faculty member at the University of Phoenix for the past eight years, teaching a variety

of technology and M.B.A. classes. When not getting the kids to baseball, dance, basketball, Cub Scouts, choir, etc., he does a lot of writing on his Web site, [www.kmo.name](http://www.kmo.name), and volunteers at their church as much as possible. ■ **Lisa Pfanning** and her husband welcomed their first child, Jackson Dane, born Oct. 7, 2010. ■ **Marcia Rosbury-Henne** is director of admissions, transitions, and transfer affairs at Holyoke Community College. She also oversees the college's Upward Bound program. Marcia has worked in higher ed since her early days as a work-study student in Marist's Admission Office, where she perfected the art of stuffing envelopes! She has been working at HCC since 2006. ■ **Brian Smith** and his wife, Nadia, welcomed a daughter, Charlotte Anne, born March 23, 2010.

REUNION  
1996

**Dina Anello** is a director of development at Rutgers Business School. ■ The *Washington Business Journal* honored **Greg Bibb** in its 40 Under 40 Awards in fall 2010. The program honors the Washington, D.C., area's top business leaders and owners who are under 40 years of age and exhibited outstanding performance for their companies within the previous 12 to 18 months. Greg is chief operating officer of the WNBA Washington Mystics. ■ **Joseph Caplan** publishes the *Van Wyck Gazette* community magazine as a media product of Caplan Media Group, Inc. The magazine is distributed to 15 Toll Brothers communities in two states as well as 20 retail locations, the Howland Cultural Center in Beacon, N.Y., and the Walkway over the Hudson New York State Historic Park. ■ **Michael Davis** recently moved and joined a new company. ■ **Gregory Donohue**



Greg Bibb '96

and his wife, Kristen, welcomed their third son, Peter James, born in May 2010. ■ **Brian Frankenfield** and his wife welcomed a daughter, Kaitlyn, born Jan. 3, 2010. ■ **Jennifer Gomez** is pursuing yoga teacher certification from Lotus Gardens Yoga School. ■ **Cynthia Ramirez Hernandez** and her husband, Traian, welcomed a baby girl, Chelsea, born Oct. 15, 2009. ■ **Gary Spengler** returned to the United States after living in Singapore for the past eight years. He now lives in Katy, Texas, working for Chevron as general manager of domestic crude trading. ■ **Kevin Sullivan** was promoted to writer/producer at ESPN.

1997

**Kimberly Byda** married Jason Sullivan on Jan. 30, 2010, at XV Beacon Hotel in Boston. They honeymooned in the Cayman Islands. ■ **Anastasia Filak** married Jeremy Spera on July 1, 2010, in Sharon, Mass. They honeymooned in Costa Rica. ■ In his first season (2010) as head coach of the Xavier University men's soccer team, **Andy Fleming** led Xavier University's men's soccer team to its first Atlantic-10 championship and first NCAA appearance. Picked to finish 13th out of 14 teams in the conference prior to the season, Xavier defeated each of the top three seeds in the tournament en route to the title. He and his wife, Amy, reside in Cincinnati with their son, Brady, who was born in May 2009. ■ **Jessica Hulett** became engaged and expects to marry in fall 2011. ■ **James Maccalous** and his wife, **Tabitha Zierow Maccalous**, purchased a new home in Massachusetts. Their daughter, Allison, is 5 and they are expecting a baby in July 2011. ■ Alumni Association President **Patrick Mara** was elected to the Washington, D.C., Board of Education. ■ **Michael McDowell** celebrated 10 years of marriage to **Suzanne Folkerts '96** and 13 years working for the Hertz Corp., where he is now the IT Innovation Architect. They have three children: Brendan Patrick (born 2002), Connor Gabriel (born 2005), and Shannon Anneliese (born 2009). ■ **Charles Melichar** was named associate vice chancellor for communications in the Division of Development and Alumni Relations at Vanderbilt University. For the previous five years, he was vice president for public relations and communications at Colgate University. He joined Colgate in 2003 as director of media relations. ■ **Joe and Kara Chrzescijanek O'Donnell** welcomed a son, Christian John James, born March 3, 2009. ■ **Kyle Reeves** start-



The winners of the 2010-11 Alumni Leadership Awards are (center) **Heather Christine Staats '11** and **Matthew Gerard Lubrano '11**, shown with President **Dennis J. Murray** and Alumni Association President **Patrick D. Mara '97**. **Matthew** spent four years in Marist's Student Government Association, including service as student body president. An accounting major, he held three internships. He will begin Marist's M.B.A. program this fall and will work for KPMG in 2012. **Heather** has been a writer and editor for *The Circle* and a member of the Student Government Association, most recently as executive vice president. As an English adolescence education major, she student-taught at two schools. She will join the 2011 Teach For America Corps as a middle-school English teacher.

ed his own consulting agency, Kyle Reeves Consulting, which specializes in online marketing and lead generation. ■ **Daryl Richard** and his family moved to West Hartford, Conn., in July. Daryl is the national VP of public relations for United Healthcare, a \$42 billion company. Daryl manages a team of 15 PR professionals and leads the company's national as well as local PR and community relations programs across 50 states.

1998

**Stephanie Mercurio Doran** moved to the beach in Florida five years ago and loves it. She lived in New York City following graduation and, after working in journalism for three years, she went back to school for a master's in education. She feels very passionate about making education accessible to all children. ■ **Michele Donovan Klose** and her husband, Jean Paul, welcomed their first child, a son, Zachary Joseph, born Sept. 15, 2010. ■ **Fernanda Leventhal** is a translator and interpreter. ■ **Steven Lindeman** is an English-language instructor at Syracuse University. ■ **Gina Marchesani** is pursuing a master's in school counseling at Springfield College. ■ **Kenneth Menard** has worked on *Monday Night Football* on ESPN for the past four years. The past three years, Ken has been the

lead ISO/replay producer. When the season is over, he produces NCAA events such as basketball, baseball, softball, hockey, and lacrosse. ■ **Melissa Manso Pennucci** and her family moved into their new home in Wilton, Conn. ■ **Kerry Peterson** became engaged on Oct. 1, 2010, to Tsgt. Jason Brooks. Jason is part of the civil support team in the Delaware National Guard. They plan to marry on Sept. 9, 2011. ■ **Alison Bradley Wilmott** and her husband, Brett, welcomed a daughter, Teagan, born Oct. 15, 2010. ■ **Lisa Wiggins Yauch** and her husband, Paul, welcomed a daughter, Ava, born July 1, 2010. They are "getting used to parenthood!"

1999

**Jennifer Canonico Avroch** continues to teach fourth grade in Harrison, N.Y., and her husband, **Bryan Avroch '00**, continues to teach literacy at a middle school in Stamford, Conn. They enjoy spending time with their daughter, Marissa. ■ **Bill and Dawn Lorenz Brennan** welcomed a daughter, Lila Grace, born Aug. 27, 2010. ■ **Tiffany Constantine** married Tim Trainor on April 17, 2010, in Key West, Fla. ■ **Brad and Beth Clarke Cookinham '99/'03M** welcomed a baby boy, Tyler, born May 25, 2010. Tyler joins big brother Brayden at home. ■ **Jeanette Deskiewicz** is single, has no kids, and

is living at the beach and loving it. ■ **Tara Griffin Duggan** welcomed twin girls to the family, Aine and Savannah, born in September 2008. ■ **Rachel Murphy** earned a national "Drug-Free Hero" award for her work as director of New York State's "Your Story Matters" campaign at [www.iamrecovery.com](http://www.iamrecovery.com). ■ **Matt and Lindsay White St. Lucia** welcomed their second child, a boy, Nathan Richard, born Jan. 10, 2010.

## 2000

**Bryan Avroch '00** continues to teach literacy at a middle school in Stamford, Conn., while his wife, **Jennifer Canonico Avroch '99**, continues to teach fourth grade in Harrison, N.Y. They enjoy spending time with their daughter, Marissa. ■ **Jennifer Matarazzo Berger** and her husband, Jason, just purchased their first home, in Oceanside, N.Y. They welcomed their first child, Maggie Rose, on March 4, 2011. She was 6 pounds 6 ounces and 20 inches long. ■ **Dana Paravati Carullo** and her husband, Jared, welcomed a son, Tyler John, born Aug. 28, 2010. ■ **Erica DeTraglia** began a new job as chief clerk of Surrogate Court in the Dutchess County (N.Y.) Office of Court Administration. Erica and her husband, Douglas, welcomed a daughter, Amelia, born Sept. 4, 2010. ■ **Gregory Decembri** enlisted with the U.S. Air Force Reserve on Sept. 10, 2001, and has since been deployed overseas three times: Al Dhafra Air Base in United Arab Emirates in 2006, and Kirkuk AB Iraq in 2008 and 2009. Gregory has been a member of the FDNY since 2007 and was married July 10, 2010. ■ **Heather Dilts** married Terry Russell in September 2010. Heather is the senior marketing manager for direct response company Allstar Marketing Group. ■ **Liza Porcelli Fonti** and her husband, Alex, welcomed twins, Laila Eden and Nate Andrew, born April 10, 2009. ■ **Michael Galante** was promoted from associate director of co-marketing to director of co-marketing at ESPN. ■ **Amanda Garrison** is a behavior therapist, providing one-to-one education to students with autism spectrum disorders. She works at Ridgefield High School in Connecticut. She also works at Noah's Ark Animal Hospital in Danbury, Conn. ■ **Heather Suydam Herrington** was named a 2010 Rising Star—in the top 2.5 percent of attorneys under 40 in Pennsylvania—by the publication *Super Lawyers*. ■ **Ryan Hunter** is in his seventh year as a senior assistant district attorney in the Narcotics Bureau at the Suffolk

County (N.Y.) District Attorney's Office. ■ **Melissa Keenan** married Sean Rafferty on Aug. 29, 2009. Melissa and Sean welcomed a baby girl, Caitlin Patricia, born June 23, 2010. ■ **Stephen Pifferi** married Joyce Wick on Oct. 3, 2009, in Dix Hills, N.Y. They reside in Nanuet, N.Y. ■ **Jessica DeCicco Stalters** and her husband, Anthony, announce the birth of their second son, Jack Anthony, born May 18, 2010. ■ **Rachel Tollen Schnabl** and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Olivia, born Oct. 1, 2009. They were expecting a baby boy in May 2011. ■ **Jon Murray** is the proud father of new baby Eli Murray. His comedy duo, Stuckey & Murray, was a semifinalist on the 2010 season of *Last Comic Standing*. ■ **Niharika**, the daughter of **Koustubh Warty** and his wife, **Manjari Gangwar**, is now 5 and started kindergarten in September. Their son, Laksh, recently turned 2 and keeps them on their toes. Manjari recently completed 11 years at Computer Associates, Inc., and Koustubh is in his 12th year at Computer Associates, Inc. ■ **Adam Weissman** became an account supervisor at SGW Integrated Marketing Communications in Montville, N.J.

## REUNION 2001

**Ben Amarone** was appointed assistant director of admissions for QU Online at Quinnipiac University. He is responsible for serving as an initial contact for prospective QU Online students; identifying, counseling, recruiting, and enrolling qualified adult students; ensuring that admissions documentation is completed and processed; and traveling to corporate events, conventions, conferences, and forums to recruit students and provide information about QU Online. Before joining Quinnipiac, he was a pharmaceutical sales representative for Shionogi Pharma, Inc. ■ **Danielle Blydenburgh** and **David Vallejo** married on Nov. 6, 2009. ■ **Kristin Burke** married Jeff Jarvis on July 10, 2010, in Cold Spring, N.Y., at Our Lady of Loretto. ■ **Thomas Byrne III** and his wife welcomed their first child, a daughter, Margaret Coyle (Maggie), born Feb. 26, 2010. Maggie was 7 pounds 3 ounces. Mom and Mags are doing great! ■ **Amanda Kelly Coyle** and her husband, Ryan, welcomed their second set of twins. Mallory and Wesley were born July 20, 2010. Amanda received a master's in strategic communication and leadership from Seton Hall in September 2010. She will lead a mission trip to



**Ben Amarone '01**

Appalachia to build and repair homes during the summer of 2011. This will be her 12th summer volunteering in Appalachia. ■ **Leah Duggan Cristi** is in her seventh year as a Spanish teacher at the Parker Middle School in Reading, Mass. She is also enjoying her 2-year-old daughter, Skylar. ■ **Matthew Daigle** has a new job and a new child! Beckett Rhys was born June 2, 2010. Beckett is the second child of Matthew and his wife, Lisa. Matt is a senior public affairs specialist at a McLean, Va.-based government contractor, LMI ([www.lmi.org](http://www.lmi.org)). ■ **Joseph DeGraw** is a second-year graduate student at the University of Wyoming, pursuing a master's in finance. ■ **Amy Ostgulen Glovik** and her husband, John, welcomed their first child, a son, Jenson Michael, born July 7, 2010. ■ **James Infranca** teaches at Garden City (N.Y.) High School, where he has taught for the past nine years. He resides in Roslyn, N.Y. ■ **Raymond Philo, M.P.A.**, retired as chief of police for the New Hartford (N.Y.) Police Department. Chief Philo served for 30 years in the department, 17 as chief. He accepted a position as director of research in the Department of Economic Crime and Justice Studies at Utica College in Utica, N.Y. He is responsible for coordinating all research activities in the department and seeking out funding opportunities to sustain the research capabilities within the department. Additionally, he will continue as an adjunct professor of criminal justice at Utica College, where he has taught for the past 10 years. ■ **Marybeth Post Rivera** taught fifth-grade science and social studies this past year in a highly diverse and multicultural classroom. She says it was very rewarding. ■ **Christopher Rounds's** doctoral dissertation, "Ireland for Sale:

The Marketing and Consumerism of the Irish-American Identity," is under contract for publication as a book. ■ **Brian Smith** is sports editor at the *Montclair Times*, which has won the New Jersey Press Association's General Excellence award for five of the past 10 years. ■ **Patrick Spence** is a writer and producer at WJLA-TV, an ABC affiliate in Washington, D.C. He also freelances as a news writer for the Voice of America, the U.S. government's radio broadcasting service. ■ **Christy Barr Yaccarino** is currently the administrator of health and welfare plans on Campbell Soup Co.'s Corporate Health and Welfare Team at Campbell's World Headquarters.

## 2002

**Douglas Guarino** received the national Sigma Delta Chi Award for Public Service in Newsletter Journalism in 2009. ■ **Matthew and Melissa Discourt Pelletier** welcomed a daughter, Abigail Georgiana, born June 12, 2010. ■ **Deanna Howansky Russo** and her husband adopted a daughter, Meredith, in 2008 and a son, Tai, in 2009. ■ **Jennifer Stewart** became a partner at Norwalk Eyecare in Norwalk, Conn., in January 2010. ■ **Shannon Walker** married Eric Mastroianni in April 2010. ■ **Eric Welsh** recently married and is moving to Philadelphia.

## 2003

**Meghan Dickson Arocho** and **Steven Arocho '04** announce the birth of their son, Alex Anthony, on Jan. 18, 2011. He weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. ■ **Christine Barnett** and her husband, Sean Gagnon, welcomed their first



**Sean Stellato '02** was joined by two of his clients, Patriots linebacker **Gary Guyton** and Giants quarterback and former Holy Cross All-American **Dominic Randolph**, on the field following a Patriots/Giants game at the new Meadowlands Stadium in September 2010. Sean is a National Football League Players Association contract advisor.

child, a daughter, Brielle Grace. ■ **Paul Cookinham** is chief compliance officer for Carnegie, Inc. ■ **Christina Hope** completed an M.S. in Internet business systems at Mercy College in August 2010. She is an adjunct lecturer at Mercy in the Web strategy and design M.S. program. ■ **Matthew Relyea** became engaged to Dr. Jennifer Lynn Gianico. ■ **Patrick Robitaille** and his wife, Jaime, welcomed a baby girl, Taryn Elizabeth, born Oct. 29, 2010. ■ **Blake Runnalls** is completing a master's of economics program at the University of South Florida. He hopes to be admitted to a finance Ph.D. program in the fall of 2011 and become a finance researcher and university professor. ■ **Ruth Spengler** married Michael Medeiros on Sept. 5, 2009. Ruth and Michael welcomed their first child, a girl, Annabella Ruth, born July 31, 2010. ■ **Rosanna Veras** works at Cemex as an investor relations assistant.

## 2004

**Steven Arocho** and **Meghan Dickson Arocho '03** announce the birth of their son, Alex Anthony, on Jan. 18, 2011. He weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. ■ **Marissa Artiano** married Jason Pugh on July 31, 2010, in California, with all eight of her Marist roommates in attendance. Marissa also passed the C.P.A. exam in California. ■ **Timothy Bruderek** relocated to New York City to further his career in the e-commerce/online marketing field. He previously worked for a large e-commerce provider back in his hometown in Pennsylvania and now works for Createthe Group, a boutique e-commerce design agency in SoHo. ■ **Yahaira Conde-Cadestin** and her husband, Eric, welcomed a baby girl, Aliza Renee, born Nov. 11, 2010. She weighed 8 pounds 10 ounces. ■ **Laura Castagna** and **Will Copeland** married Aug. 14, 2010. **Maura Sweeney O'Donovan** and **Cathy Morino Gardner** were members of the bridal party. Laura is a special education teacher and Will is an accountant for Ernst & Young. They live in New York City. ■ **Robin Burdick Commerford** and her husband, Tim, welcomed their second child, Ryan Callahan, born Nov. 25, 2009. ■ **Alisa Cooper** and **Dr. Brett Spain** married on Mar. 6, 2010, in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico. Alisa is a career counselor at Long Island University's C.W. Post campus. Brett was elected chief resident of the Family Medicine Residency at Good Samaritan Hospital in New York. ■ **ChristieLyn Diller** was promoted to director of communications at

# Sharing Expertise Globally

**Melanie Tindley '04MBA served in IBM's Corporate Service Corps, a philanthropic initiative that sends employees abroad to offer their business skills.**

**M**elanie Tindley '04MBA was selected for the 2010 IBM Corporate Service Corps (CSC), a highly competitive leadership development program that sends IBM employees to cities and countries around the world in a private-sector version of the Peace Corps.

To date, 1,000 IBM employees from more than 50 countries have participated in this philanthropic initiative, which enables them to share their business expertise with not-for-profit organizations, entrepreneurs, small business owners, and government agencies in markets globally.

CSC participants spend three months preparing for their four-week assignments. Tindley was part of a team that completed an assignment in October 2010 on a visit to Kolkata, India. It was the eighth team that IBM sent to India and was composed of 10 IBM employees from seven different countries.

Visiting IBM employees provide recommendations and consultative advice to their host clients after immersing themselves in the local community and culture. For example, the team sent to Kolkata offered specific business, marketing, fund-raising, and volunteer recruitment strategies; computer training and materials; customized Web sites and databases, and IT security plans for six clients who provide social services to the people of India, such as abandoned and underprivileged children, mentally ill and homeless individuals, and deaf children.

Melanie is an IBM system availability leader in Charlotte, N.C. ■

**Learning to do business in the context of a new culture, Melanie Tindley '04MBA is dressed in a traditional Indian sari.**



her current job. ■ **Brian Dobson** and **Olivia Haley Dobson '05** welcomed their first child, a boy, Brian Paul, born May 17, 2010. He was 8 pounds 15 ounces. Brian received his M.B.A. from the University of Connecticut and is a securities analyst at Nomura Securities International, covering lodging and cruise line stocks. ■ **Raymond** and **Kristen Schnitzer Ferranti** have two wonderful children, Raymond and Mia, and were expect-

ing their third child in April 2011. ■ **Kelley Gould**, the daughter of **Chris Gould** and **Kathy Ansbro Gould '83**, enjoyed her sophomore year at Marist and is running on the cross-country and track teams. ■ **Adaze Wilson Imafidon**, the owner of A.W.I. Security & Investigations, Inc., is extending his security business in western Africa. He is the owner of Defender Security Co. in Abuja and Lagos, Nigeria. ■ **Shauna McInerney**

bought a condo. She is working as an R.N. and plans to start a master's program to become a school nurse/health educator. ■ **Erik Nielsen** and **Nicole LaPeruta '05** became engaged. ■ **Jessica Revoir** received an M.A. in corporate and public communication with an additional certificate in public relations from Monmouth University in West Long Branch, N.J., in January 2010. ■ **John Saginario** works for Shepard Smith on the Fox

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**SEPTEMBER 23-25**

News Channel. He writes for him on *Studio B* and the *Fox Report*. John fills in to produce *Studio B* at 3 p.m. when needed. ■ **Catherine Solazzo** is running a marketing team in the East region with IBM. Every summer, she manages a team of interns and recruits from Marist. In 2010 she was able to hire **Melissa Greco '10**. Melissa was an intern for Catherine for two summers. Catherine will be back at Marist to recruit more interns.

## 2005

**Julia Braun** graduated with honors from Pace Law School in 2009. She works for a law firm in Manhattan, specializing in aviation law and representing Jet Blue. ■ **Owen Daly** is serving in Afghanistan with the 3rd Marine Airwing Forward. ■ **John DeLaat** was promoted to programming screening scheduler at ESPN in May 2010. ■ **Olivia Haley Dobson** and **Brian Dobson '04** welcomed their first child, a boy, Brian Paul, born May 17, 2010. Brian was 8 pounds 15 ounces. ■ **Christine Kaye Foti** relocated to New Hampshire. ■ **Suehay Gonzalez** and **Curtis Alicea '06** (formerly known as Curtis Myers, Jr.), married on July 17, 2010, at the Marist Chapel. ■ **Matt Grant** is a reporter for Fox 4 in Fort Myers, Fla. Matt received an M.S. in journalism from Columbia University in 2007 and had been a reporter/anchor in Jefferson City, Mo. He loves sunny southeast Florida. ■ **Robert Vijay Gupta** was named a TED 2010 Fellow. TED is a small nonprofit devoted to "ideas worth spreading." The annual TED conferences, in Long Beach/Palm Springs and Edinburgh, bring together "the world's most fascinating thinkers and doers, who are challenged to give the talk of their lives" ([www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com)). ■ **Marybeth Kunsch** was promoted to manager at KPMG. ■ **Nicole LaPeruta** and **Erik Nielsen '04** became engaged. ■ **Joanne Mahoney-Consorte** moved to Virginia soon after graduation. She has welcomed two grandchildren in the past two years, Brielle Nicole Walters and Ty Walters. ■ **Jessica Tortorella** recently married Hector Lafont. Hector and Jessica met at Marchon Eyewear, where they are both employed. They also purchased a home in Commack, N.Y. ■ **Kristen Warren** is teaching third grade at Bennett Elementary School in the Onteora (N.Y.) Central School District. ■ **Adrienne Zych** and **Neil Bhatiya '06** married May 14, 2010, at New York City Hall.

# Alumnus Honored

**Edward Summers '04/'06M is honored by the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs in Higher Education as its 2011 Outstanding Alumnus.**

**E**dward Summers '04/'06MPA has been named the 2011 Higher Education Opportunity Program Outstanding Alumnus by the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs in Higher Education, a professional organization of opportunity-program administrators from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Summers, along with other distinguished alumni from the New Jersey and Pennsylvania programs, was honored at an awards banquet in Tarrytown, N.Y., in March 2011.

Summers is a full-time member of the President's Cabinet at Marist College, serving as assistant to the president, an adjunct professor of public administration and policy, program director for Marist Africa programs, and program director for Marist Presidential Referral Scholars. He provides executive-level support to President Dennis J. Murray and is responsible for maintaining strong ties between the College and alumni, governmental officials, and community leaders. He collaborates with a number of campus departments, works on special projects assigned by the president, and represents the College

at off-campus meetings and events.

As director for Marist Africa programs, he is responsible for developing short-term academic service-learning trips abroad. For the past five years he has led a trip to South Africa on which students gained hands-on experience working in underdeveloped communities and with nongovernmental organizations. His students have raised money and volunteered for a number of organizations that focus on providing housing, health care, and education for homeless children and families. Summers is currently designing a service-learning program to Ghana focused on politics, community development, and entrepreneurship.

He graduated from Marist with a B.A. in political science and received the Alumni Leadership Award at Baccalaureate. While an undergraduate, he studied abroad in Florence, Italy. He was also very active in lobbying activities for HEOP, New York State's Tuition Assistance Program, and other higher education initiatives. He completed his M.P.A. degree from Marist and is a Ph.D. candidate for a degree in urban and public policy at Milano the New School for Management and Urban Policy, a division of the New School University. He is writing his doctoral dissertation, "The Shifting Politics of

Economic Development in the Cities of Beacon and Poughkeepsie, New York: Revisiting Power, Politics, and Policy Making."

He has presented papers on a variety of subjects. He recently co-presented a paper on open-source technology and the role of higher education, "The Case of Sakai," at the Annual American Society for Public Administration Teaching of Public Administration Conference. He co-presented two papers at the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education Annual Conference, "PAs Fostering Change You Can Believe In" with Elisabeth Tavarez and "Promoting Campus Inclusion as a Presidential Assistant" with Dr. Adriel Hilton. In June 2010, he gave the keynote address for the 2010 Rotary Youth Leadership Conference at Mount St. Mary's College in Newburgh, N.Y., entitled "Leadership in the 21st Century: What Young Leaders Need to Know to be Successful in the Global Society." In March 2009 he co-presented the paper "Chimps, Mutts, and Cowards: The Politics of Race in Obama's America" with Ivan B. Turnipseed at the 21st Annual Black Graduate Student Conference in Houston, Texas. And in November 2008, he moderated a faculty panel discussion, "The Politics and Policies of President-Elect Obama and the Black Community" at the Northeast Regional Conference of the National Black Graduate Student Association in Bloomsburg, Pa.

He is an active volunteer in the community, serving as president of the board of directors of the Catharine Street Community Center and treasurer of the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val Kill. He also serves on the boards of Dutchess Outreach and Protect the Dream Youth Programs. He is a member of the Dutchess Regional Chamber of Commerce's "Hudson Valley Young Professionals" Advisory Council, where he chairs the Public Policy Committee. ■



**Edward Summers '04/'06M**

REUNION  
2006

Neil Bhatiya and Adrienne Zych '05 married May 14, 2010, at New York City Hall. ■ **Laura Coppola** recently completed various successful positions at MTV and ABC. She now works for *The Martha Stewart Show* in New York City. During her first three seasons, she was a production assistant for the audience department. Laura entered her fourth season with the show in summer 2010 and was promoted to audience coordinator. ■ **Clinton DeSouza** was named head football coach at Spackenkill High School in Poughkeepsie. ■ **Meredith Engle** graduated with an M.P.A. from Marist in May 2010. ■ **Jessica Foley** was recently recognized for five years of service at Tufts Medical Center and Floating Hospital for Children. ■ **Julia Graham** accepted a position at Weber Shandwick where she works in the technology practice based in New York. For the past two years, she has been named a top tech PR pro in PRSourceCode's Top Tech Communicators awards. The award is based on nominations from technology journalists. ■ **Colleen Kelly** became engaged to Andrew Crocker of Honolulu, Hawaii. They plan to marry in January 2012 on the beach in Waikiki. Colleen was promoted in September 2010 to assistant manager of the Royal Hawaiian, a Luxury Collection Resort in Honolulu. ■ **Kevin Kerley** and **Mallory Kule '08** became engaged. They plan to marry in August 2011. ■ **Ben Marcelliano** married **Jillian Jefferds '07** in August



Patricia A. Maxim '06

2010. ■ **Patricia A. Maxim, D.O.**, graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) with the degree Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2010. While at WVSOM, Maxim earned a Navy scholarship and was a member of Sigma Sigma Phi. She was also a member of Psi Sigma Alpha, a national osteopathic scholastic honor society open to students in the top 15 percent of their class. She was honored as a military graduate and commissioned as an officer during the WVSOM Senior Awards Banquet. ■ **Jennifer Casale Ott** lives in Kentucky and is an English teacher at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Lexington, Ky. ■ **Patrick Rafferty** would like to say hello to all his fellow alumni from the NYPD/Marist cohort program. In his 25th year with the NYPD, he has decided to retire as a captain out of Patrol Borough Bronx. He currently works for the Department of Homeland Security—U.S. Secret Service out of the New York field office. Patrick has been married to

his wife, Lisa, for 15 years and they have two wonderful daughters, Alexis and Alissa. He often thinks of all the laughs had during the cohort program and wishes all the members of that class much success and happiness. ■ **Jennifer Stryker** has been working as an associate producer at *The Dr. Oz Show* since March 2010. Previously she worked at *The Tyra Banks Show* for two seasons as an associate producer.

2007

**Corey Allen** became engaged and moved to Tulsa, Okla., to pursue a job as a full-time special education teacher. ■ **Todd Bivona** completed the 2010 New York City Marathon as a guide for Team Reeve & Achilles International, for a friend in a special hand cycle/hand crank bike. He also completed his first marathon in Boston in April 2010. In 2011 he's done the Manhattan Half Marathon and the NYC Half Marathon. He also did the Long Branch Half Marathon with his friend, who completed the 13.1-mile course on his own in his special hand crank bike. Todd enters the New York races as a part of the Marist Alumni Racing Team. For more on the team, see Page 39. ■ **Ryan Cowdrey** has been employed by Pittsfield Community Television in Pittsfield, Mass., since May 2007. In addition, he runs his own business as a production technician and is involved with all levels of production. He operates a fully equipped studio, four additional control rooms throughout the city, a mobile production truck, multiple edit suites, and about 20 live sites throughout the city. ■ **Catie Fargione** and **Wes Gardner**

became engaged Aug. 22, 2010. They both live in Boston. ■ **Kaitlyn Fuoco** is working at DDB in New York as an assistant producer in the broadcast production department. She has been working on a variety of business pitches. This summer, Kaitlyn also freelance-produced a spot to promote a fund raiser benefiting cancer awareness and the Entertainment Industry Foundation, the parent company of Stand Up to Cancer, which ran online and on Taxi TV in New York City taxicabs. ■ **Kelly Glynn** married **Matthew LaBarre** on Aug. 21, 2010. ■ **G. Parker Huntington** is a client sales support specialist at JP Morgan Chase in New York City. ■ **Jillian Jefferds** married **Ben Marcelliano '06** in August 2010. ■ **Dorothea Larrabee** was promoted to associate editor at *Popstar!*, a teen/tween entertainment magazine based in New York City. ■ **Nicholas Lombardi** and **Victoria Fresolone** married Aug. 14, 2010. ■ **Beth Maffia** and **Andrew McArthur '09** became engaged on June 26, 2009. ■ **Jason Thalacker** was accepted into the Peace Corps. He left for China on June 29, 2010, where he'll serve as an English education volunteer for two years. ■ **Derek Valentine** received a master's in city planning from Boston University and is working as a senior land use planner for the city of Newton, Mass. He lives in Boston. ■ **James Winslow** remains a captain in the NYPD. He is the commanding officer of the Manhattan Court Section. James's son, Matthew, turned 3 in February. ■ **Laura Wolfe** was to graduate in May 2011 as a Doctor of Osteopathic medicine from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.



Chris Gentile '07

# A Rising Star

Chris Gentile '07 is recognized by the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association.

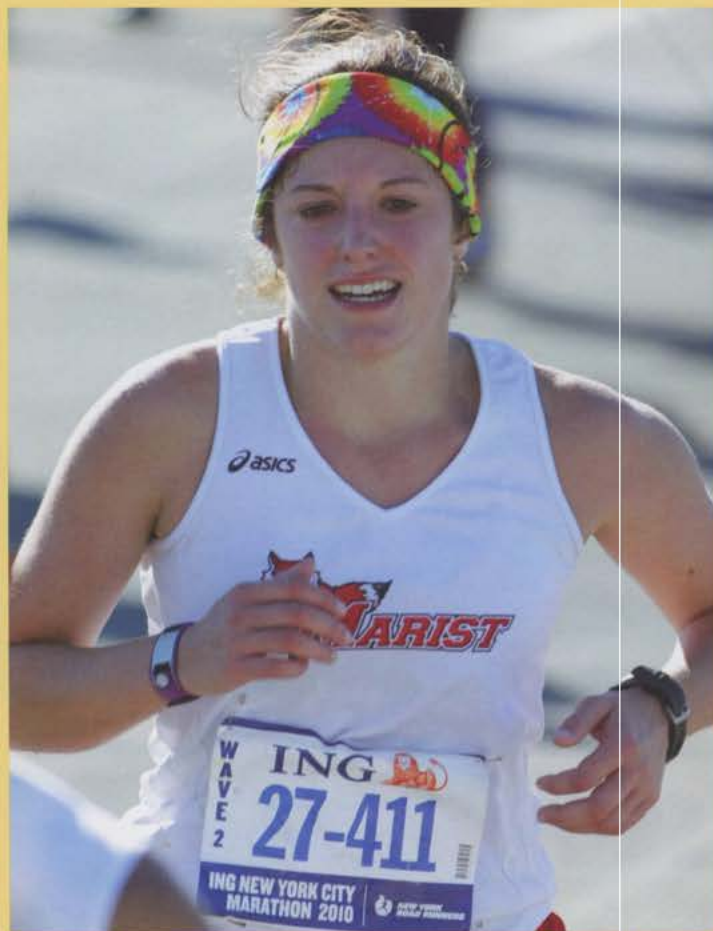
The Healthcare Businesswomen's Association honored Chris Gentile, project lead, Quintiles, as one of the industry's "Rising Stars" for 2010. The Healthcare Businesswomen's Association is in its fourth decade as a global nonprofit dedicated to advancing women in health care worldwide. Rising Stars are professionals in various sectors of the health care industry. The association's corporate partners are invited, each year, to nominate a Rising Star. The nomination demonstrates corporate recognition of the performance, commitment to excellence, and energy and enthusiasm of the Rising Stars. With more than a decade of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, Gentile has held positions in sales, training, and management with organizations

such as Merck & Co, GSK, and Reliant. Gentile joined Quintiles Commercial in 2004 as a training account executive. Her career progressed from associate director of training, launching more than 14 new projects, training 640 employees, and completing 25,000 student contact hours, to where she is now successfully managing her third project sales team. During her time with Quintiles, Gentile has received the company's Global Presidents Club award, two Commercial President's Club awards, five Customer Care awards, and the 2008 Manager Excellence Award. She also served on the Quintiles Commercial Diversity Inclusion Council. Gentile resides in Jackson, N.J., with her husband. ■



# Running Beyond Marist

The Marist Alumni Racing Team gives graduates an opportunity to continue the camaraderie and competition.



Lisa D'Aniello '08/09M

As graduation day approaches each year for Marist College student-athletes, so does an abrupt end to the organized competition they have engaged in for a long period of their lives. When Marist track-and-field athletes turn in their uniforms, though, Head Coach Pete Colaizzo '86 hands them another piece of athletic attire.

In 2004, Colaizzo formed the Marist Alumni Racing Team for former student-athletes who continue to run competitively. The idea came to Colaizzo when he realized many of his former athletes were performing strongly in high-profile races. "I wanted them to keep running for Marist," he says. "I wanted them to keep supporting our program that they were so loyal to for so many years and get that Marist name out there."

The birth of the Alumni Racing Team was not met with much fanfare. "I just ordered a bunch of T-shirts for kids to wear during races," says

Colaizzo, who's been associated with Marist as first a student and then a coach for 25 years. But since the program's inception, a number of former student-athletes have turned in impressive performances in races while donning the Marist red and white.

"With a lot of the active younger guys, we've made it more serious," says Mike Rolek '08. Even with a busy schedule consisting of teaching during the day and attending law school at night, Rolek still squeezed in enough training to finish 35th out of an elite international field of 10,000 runners in the NYC Half. He finished the race in 1:06:51, which equates to 5:07 per mile for

a staggering 13.1 miles, good for 13th among Americans in the race and the Marist alumni record for the half marathon. "This was a major breakthrough performance and has him dreaming of an Olympic Trials mark in the marathon," says Colaizzo. "While I believe it to be a long shot, I now feel it is within the realm of possibilities."

According to Colaizzo, maintaining running as a fixture in one's life can ease the transition from college to adult life. "Most of these guys run competitively for a long time and then there's this abrupt end," he says. Reflecting on his four years at Marist, Rolek, a former Teach For America corps member, agreed. "I just really missed the routine of coming down to the McCann Center and running at two in the afternoon with the boys," he says.

Rolek's performance in the NYC Half broke the alumni record of Mike Melfi '99, another of Marist's most successful alumni runners. It was the accomplishments of athletes such as Melfi that originally influenced Colaizzo to form the team. In 2001, Melfi was named the Road Runners Club of America Open Male Runner of the Year. Two years earlier, during his senior year, Melfi was named Marist male sportsperson of the year, an award once captured by NBA player Rik Smits '88 and seldom given to runners. Melfi, who is employed as a special education teacher, says competitive racing has helped him work with disabled students on a daily basis.

"The job can be really hard at times," says Melfi. "In competitive running, achieving goals takes time and commitment. From running, I've learned the importance of patience, something I need at my job every single day."

For Lisa D'Aniello '08/09M, her athletic activity was cramped by

being stricken with mononucleosis soon after graduation. After recuperating, the Alumni Racing Team provided D'Aniello an opportunity to reestablish sport as an integral part of her life. A member of the track and crew teams at Marist, D'Aniello called Colaizzo for training tips as she ventured into new territory. "I had never run a marathon before," she says. "Pete [Colaizzo] really cares for his athletes. He puts in an effort to stay in touch and always asks how training is going." As D'Aniello in her Marist singlet passed people during a marathon, onlookers yelled "Go Red Foxes" as she passed by. "Even though I didn't know who they were, still feeling that connection is great," she says.

Colaizzo's commitment is the catalyst for moments like this. The former *Poughkeepsie Journal* writer even started a blog, <http://runredfox.blogspot.com>, which captures the trials and tribulations of Marist track-and-field and cross-country teams and the accomplishments of alumni, strengthening the relationship between former and current members of the program and fostering a community of people with a common passion. "Several of my teammates from track and from crew are still some of my best friends," D'Aniello says.

Other recent successes include one of the most decorated runners in Marist history, Girma Segni '09/'10M, who finished 26th overall in the New York City Marathon with a time of 2:26:39 in November 2010. His finish notches the highest New York City Marathon finish by any Marist alum. A month earlier, David Raucci '10 won the Atlantic City Marathon with a time of 2:24:04.

"I am proud of what they do out of college," says Colaizzo, "and I am proud of the program they helped build." ■



Mike Rolek '08 wins the Seaford (N.Y.) Wellness Council's annual 5K run in 2009.

BY JIM URSO '11

2008

Rebecca Allison founded a rowing program at Western Connecticut State University, where she is enrolled in a post-bac program for medical school. She serves as the team's head coach, a role she has wanted to take on since she rowed at Marist. ■ **Andrew Batti** has been a production assistant at MLB Network since 2009. His work includes video editing on a daily basis for live game productions (*Thursday Night Baseball*) and nightly studio broadcasts (*MLB Tonight* and *Quick Pitch*). ■ **Wilfred "Spongy" Benjamin** and **Lauren Lomauro '09** became engaged on Feb. 9, 2011. ■ **Valerie Buscema** works at East Rockaway High School on Long Island, teaching ninth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade social studies. ■ **Alison Candamil** completed a two-year commitment to Teach For America and is now teaching and attending graduate school in New York City. ■ **Jenna Fischer** and **Ryan Restivo** became engaged in August 2010. They plan to marry on July 20, 2012. Jenna is a school counselor on Long Island and Ryan is a producer for MLB Advanced Media. ■ **Taryn Fitsik** was promoted to on-air reporter at WTEN-TV, an ABC affiliate in Albany, N.Y. She began at WTEN in September 2008 as an associate producer, became a field producer in 2009, and now is a general-assignment reporter in the 57th largest market in the country. "It's taken a lot of hard work and perseverance but is an example of how it pays off in the end," Taryn says. She has covered a wide range of stories including politics at the Capitol, Election 2010, city and county events, economic progress in the Capital region, and health care and education. She says it's a job that has taught her a lot on a wide array of subjects. "It's something new every day." The internship program at Marist was a great gateway for entering the media field, she adds. Taryn recently became engaged and plans an October 2011 wedding at Lake George, N.Y. ■ **Marykathryn Gielisse** was to graduate from the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada in May 2011. She will be returning to New York to practice law. ■ **Lindsay Henoach** and **Shayne Temple** married on May 15, 2010, in Morristown, N.J. The bridal party included **Andrew Villani '08**, **Meredith Brown '08**, **Liz Connolly '08**, **Lauren DiMisa '08**, **Peter Ponzio '08**, **Nicole Martin '07**, and **David Arsenaault '10**. ■ **Lauren Jackson** is a Ph.D. candidate in analytical biochemistry. She is vice



Johanna Valente '10 (right), with assistant Nupur Dave, leads a class at Passaic High School in Passaic, N.J.

# Life Lessons

Marist alumni teach—and learn—in the highly competitive Teach For America program.

**W**hen Steve Townsend '10 applied for a position with the nonprofit Teach For America, he thought its intense admissions process would be the most strenuous element of the whole two-year program. Less than a year later, Townsend found himself doing something even more stressful: sitting in a classroom in Luke C. Moore Academy Senior High School in Washington, D.C., with a very concerned student, waiting for a gang of teenagers outside to dissipate.

"It happens a lot," says Townsend. "I waited until seven o'clock for the gang to leave. I got the student home by 9 o'clock."

Townsend and fellow 2010 graduate Johanna Valente are two of five Marist alumni currently in Teach For America, a division of Americorps. TFA's goal is to eliminate educational inequity by recruiting college graduates who have demonstrated a track record of leadership capability. Acceptance into the program is highly selective; in 2010, the program accepted only

12 percent of its 46,000 applicants, according to TFA. At more than 120 colleges and universities, more than 5 percent of the senior class applied, including 12 percent of all seniors at Ivy League schools, says TFA. "Teach For America has become an elite brand that will help build a résumé," observed Michael Winerip in a July 2010 *New York Times* article.

The 2010 corps is made up of more than 4,500 recent college

graduates, graduate students, and professionals from all 50 states and a range of backgrounds. Corps members commit to teaching for two years in one of 39 urban and rural regions across the country. Townsend teaches biology, human anatomy, and physiology in inner-city Washington, D.C. Valente teaches ninth-grade math at Passaic High School in Passaic, N.J.

"Teach For America was a wonderful opportunity to challenge myself to be the best teacher I hope to become," says Valente. "It exposed me to a community to help. I needed them as much as they needed me."

Since 1995, 12 Marist alumni have participated in TFA. According to Stephen Cole, executive director of career services at Marist, there are a number of reasons why more Marist students are applying. One is the state of the economy. "Students are trying to see if there are ways that they can put their education to work," he says. Teachers receive salaries, health insurance, and retirement benefits.

Another reason, Cole points

BY JIM URSO '11

out, is the culture of service that is cultivated at Marist. "We have such active programs like Campus Ministry and all the outreach programs that are going on," he says. "Service is part of the fabric of what makes a Marist student."

TFA typically recruits students from a multitude of majors based on leadership experience. Both Townsend and Valente built a breadth of leadership experience throughout their four years at Marist. Townsend, a criminal justice and psychology major, served as student body president during his senior year and also held internships with Assemblyman Marc Molinaro, the U.S. Secret Service, and the Dutchess County Office of Probation. Valente served as president of the Dance Club. Both students studied abroad.

"It helped me tremendously," says Valente of her time working in leadership roles for the Dance Club. "It prepared me by giving me great communication skills and making me a better leader. I needed to stand up and represent 350 people in front of higher-ups in the administration."

According to Townsend, the TFA application process was more rigorous than the one he underwent for his Secret Service internship. It consists of three phases: a multifaceted online application, a 30-minute phone interview, and a full-day, in-person interview. The in-person interview includes teaching a sample lesson, completing a problem-solving activity, participating in a group discussion with other TFA applicants, and interviewing one on one with a TFA representative. Once applicants are accepted, they are given 10 days to decide. The résumés of students who say yes are then sent to schools with needs matching the strengths of each teacher.

Townsend at first thought the program was mainly for education majors. But, he says, "the representatives I talked with spoke of leadership, the achievement gap in schools, and urban education. I figured I could use some of the things I learned about leadership to help young people."

Once admitted, applicants are required to attend a six-week teaching boot camp at one of eight regional training facilities. Townsend had six weeks to learn his subject area. Although Valente majored in education, she admits she knew nothing



**Steve Townsend teaches biology, human anatomy, and physiology in Washington, D.C.**

about teaching in an urban region. "The professional development I receive from Teach For America has been over the top, and has exposed me to best practices that I can apply immediately. I believe every teacher could take something away from it!"

Townsend, too, is learning. He's become cognizant of the troubled community on the outskirts of his classrooms and the way it disrupts the educational environment of his students. A constant reminder is the button on the wall in all of Townsend's classrooms that when pressed dispatches an emergency team with an armed police officer.

In an alternative high school such as Luke C. Moore, handling "at-risk" students is a balancing act between strictness and diligent discernment of the issues facing young people. "I've learned to understand people and the predicaments they're in. You can't be so quick to institute your own agenda because you don't know what these kids went through the night before."

Early in the year, he insisted one female student be removed from class by security. "It was her third time taking biology," he says. "She was so disruptive." Townsend later readmitted her into his class, and since then she has shown remarkable improvement. She painted a vivid picture of the life of many of his students. "She asked me, 'Why haven't you quit yet? All of our other teachers quit,'" he recalls. "I just shrugged it off. She then looked up and said, 'Well, you're the best teacher I've ever had.' That's when it hit me. These kids are so used to being quit on and told they have no chance."

Since he began, one of his

students has been murdered and five have spent time in jail. "It's the saddest thing in the world, but you have to use it as an example," he says. "I have to tell them that if they go down the same road, we're not going to be having this conversation." Throughout his day, he spends as much time talking to probation officers, community workers, and teen parents as he spends teaching science.

Valente must also balance sternness and consideration. Her students are full of energy but extremely behind academically. Many students have increased responsibility outside the classroom, including jobs and caring for siblings. However, as a ninth-grade teacher, she is able to create high standards for her students, who are still moldable. "These students have so much potential to be on track with every other student their age," she says. One of her biggest challenges is communicating; she doesn't speak the languages of many of her students, who are of Spanish, Dominican, and Filipino descent.

According to both teachers, the right approach to teaching can spur enthusiasm to learn and improve within even the most troubled students. "Students and the educational system are changing," says Townsend. "We have to change the ways we challenge their minds."

Townsend and Valente have both benefited from resources provided by TFA. "The organization is so efficient," says Valente. "Its sole purpose is to help you." Teachers can also count on each other as a resource. "There are about 200 of us [in my region]," says Townsend. "I'm really close with a lot of them. You know that there's always someone else who's had a worse day. It helps to know that other people are going through it with you."

Townsend, who is now pursuing a master's in education with a concentration in public administration, maintains high morale by collecting "penny moments."

"There are no big moments like in the movies," he asserts. "It's the little things that get you by."

Valente agrees. "You're going to fail and you're going to succeed," she says. "It's just how you get from Point A to Point B, and knowing you are making a difference. No matter what you do in life, that's an important lesson." ■

president of the Graduate Women in Science NU Chapter at Penn State. Lauren was also the co-chair for the 89th National Graduate Women in Science Conference held in June 2010. ■ **Mallory Kule** and **Kevin Kerley '06** became engaged in summer 2010. They plan to marry in August 2011. ■ **Jessica McNamara** is in her third year of teaching in a talented and gifted program in the Highland Central School District. ■ **Jesus Santos** teaches algebra at F.D. Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park, N.Y. ■ **Amanda Schreiner** and **Sean Murphy** became engaged in January 2010. Amanda says Sean proposed on campus near the Gartland wall. "It was a beautiful Marist moment!" ■ **Alix Smith** began working at Rubenstein soon after graduation as an assistant account executive in the Culture/Entertainment Group. She then was promoted to the Digital/Social Media Group, working in online reputation management and social media campaigns. In June 2010, she was promoted to associate account executive and now works in the Real Estate Group, promoting New York City luxury properties. ■ **Michelle Tropeano** received a master's in sport administration from Belmont University in 2010. She is an assistant athletic trainer at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, N.J., with the Division I Knights. ■ **Eric Zedalis** was promoted to become the first full-time sports information director at Division II Goldey-Beacom College in Wilmington, Del.

## 2009

**Kadeine Campbell** is pursuing a doctorate in genetics and development at Cornell University. ■ **Chris Cardella** is living in Connecticut and working in therapeutic foster care. He says he feels blessed to have received a job immediately after graduating with a master's degree. Chris loves being a social worker and is also busy at his church. "Life is great!" he says. ■ **Ashley Coleman** recently moved from New York to Massachusetts to work for the TJX Companies, Inc., in the giftware division. ■ **Amanda Esposito** is pursuing a master's in teaching in elementary and early childhood education at St. John's University, expecting to graduate in May 2012. ■ **Kelsea Fortner** is serving in Ecuador with the Peace Corps until summer 2012. She lives and works in the coastal city of Santa Elena, doing community outreach and development work with the youth of the community. Projects include youth groups, sex education and HIV aware-

## In Memoriam

### Trustee

H. Todd Brinckerhoff

### Life Trustee

Dr. John E. Tessieri

### Faculty and Staff

Roosevelt Alston  
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*Heritage Professor*  
*Professor Emeritus of History*

Bro. Joseph L.R. Belanger, FMS '48  
*Heritage Professor*  
*Professor Emeritus of French*

Albert Frederick, Jr.  
*Football Coach*

Dr. Howard Goldman  
*Heritage Professor*  
*Professor Emeritus of Physical Education*  
*Director of Physical Education*  
*Director of Athletics*

Dr. Lawrence V. Gregor  
*Professor of Biology*

Peter Einar Hanssen  
*Adjunct Professor of Art*

Dr. George B. Hooper  
*Heritage Professor*  
*Professor Emeritus of Science*

James E. Hudson, Jr.  
*Housekeeping*

Ellen Keegan  
*Administrative Assistant*

Patricia Laffin  
*Academic Learning Center Assistant*

Nancy A. Lemmermann '97  
*Academic Advisor for the School of*  
*Communication and the Arts and*  
*Tutor for the Writing Center*

Dr. Eugene H. Melan  
*Professor Emeritus of Business*

Norman E. Olin '70  
*Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Art*

Anna Maria Volino  
*Administrative Assistant, Media Center*

Rev. Richard Rhys Williams  
*Associate Professor of Religious Studies*

Harold "Harry" Wood  
*Vice President for Admission*  
*and Enrollment Planning*

### Friends

Andrew A. Callahan  
Isabella Maven Connolly  
William M. DeMattio  
Thomas R. Hasenpflug, Sr.  
Robert C. Jackson  
Vincent J. Krocinski  
Bishop Anthony F. Mestice  
Marguerite Townsend Palmore  
Carolyn K. Parker  
Allan E. Rappleyea  
Francis U. Ritz  
Eleanor V. Schroeder  
Jane Sullivan  
Kathleen A. Wermuth  
Robert H. Wermuth, Sr.  
Wilbur J. Whitman

ness in high schools, medical brigades, and of course learning to play futbol and dance salsa. ■ **Jennifer Franz** has been coaching Lacey Township (N.J.) Lacrosse League. ■ **Megan Frey** is a dually certified teacher who has experience working with emotionally disturbed children. She is also an assistant women's lacrosse coach at Mercy College. ■ **John Garrity III** has been appointed executive director of the Dutchess County Historical Society, located in Poughkeepsie. John, who majored in history at Marist, has worked with the historical archives at the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute in Hyde Park, N.Y., and as an archivist intern at the Churchill Archives Centre at Churchill College in Cambridge, England. A resident of Dutchess County all his life, John is responsible for the overall administration as well as the management of personnel, programs, events, collections, and fund raising for the society. ■ **Valerie Giannini** and Leonard Beard married on June 26, 2010. ■ **Briana Kennedy** is currently working toward a Ph.D. in cognitive psychology at the University of Delaware. ■ **Katelyn Lohne** and **Fernando Marreiros** married on Aug. 14, 2010, at the Marist chapel. They purchased a home together in late August in Woodbridge, Conn. Both are employed at Yale New Haven Hospital. ■ **Lauren Lomauro** and **Wilfred "Spongy" Benjamin '08** became engaged on Feb. 9, 2011. ■ **Tiffany Lozano** is pursuing a law degree at Hofstra Law School. She interned at both the Corporation Counsel on Long Island, doing municipal work, and the civil rights firm Leeds, Morelli and Brown in Carle Place, N.Y. ■ **Kimberly Lyons** is pursuing a master's in public relations at Boston University. She chaperoned a Marist trip to Greece and Turkey in spring 2010. She also volunteered



John Garrity III '09

in Chennai, India, in summer 2010, teaching English, building schools, and working with the leprosy population. ■ **Donna Brunetti McKnight** will graduate this year with a master's in mental health counseling and is already working in the field after being hired by her undergraduate fieldwork site. ■ **Jeffrey Morganti** intended to become a doctor after graduation, but during his senior year, he switched to business. He is now a control analyst at UBS Investment Bank. ■ **Erica Pires** was on *The Price is Right* in California. The episode aired Nov. 3, 2010. ■ **Caitlin Rynn** is pursuing a Ph.D. in pharmacology at the University of Iowa. She recently received the University of Iowa Training Grant in Pharmacological Sciences, which will fund her research for two years. ■ **Christine Schenck** is pursuing a Ph.D. in chemistry at Columbia University. ■ **Kelsey Schaefer** married Mark Schmiesing on May 1, 2010, at St. Rose Catholic Church in Maria Stein, Ohio. They reside in Fort Loramie, Ohio. Kelsey is employed by Vrable Healthcare as the director of admissions and marketing at Heritage Manor Skilled Nursing and Rehab Center in Minster, Ohio. She is also pursuing an M.B.A. from Wright State University. ■ **Steven Viola** earned a master's degree at New York University and is an eighth-grade math teacher at the Bronx Prep Charter School in the South Bronx, N.Y.

## 2010

**Kayla Abitabile** is pursuing a degree in physician assistant studies at Albany Medical College and will graduate in May 2013. ■ **Richard Arleo** landed a staff position with Brunoboyz.net, a Web site for fantasy football advice, where he writes position rankings, answers questions, and runs weekly live chats. After joining Brunoboyz, Richard's biggest break came when he joined Patch.com as a freelance sports writer for the town of West Islip, N.Y. After covering all fall sports for West Islip, he also began writing for the Sachem, Three Village, Patchogue-Medford, Dix Hills, Sayville, and Bayport-Blue Point Patch sites. He travels to games and is responsible for photos and a game story for each event. Work has been very consistent and Richard believes Patch is a great new tool in the journalism world. He's grateful to have been able to break into journalism during such a tough time and hopes to gain valuable experience and advance in the field. ■ **Jaime Bonventre** completed her first

109-mile bike marathon at El Tour de Tucson in Tucson, Ariz., on Nov. 20, 2010. She trained with the New Jersey chapter of Team in Training (TNT) and her team, consisting of brother Stephen, friend and CIA student Sebastian, and friend Wendy, raised more than \$16,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Jaime is looking forward to being a mentor for the 2011 TNT cycling events. ■ **Bruce Buckman** is pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy at Sacred Heart University. ■ **Kathryn Budzinski** works in the Office of Undergraduate Admission at Marist. She completed her first travel season, which consisted of recruiting high school students in New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, and on Long Island. ■ **Caitlin Byrnes** is pursuing a master's in school counseling at SUNY New Paltz and expects to graduate in 2012. ■ **Melissa Cipriano** is attending graduate school at New York University. ■ **Richard Curylo** is an operational risk analyst at TD Ameritrade in Jersey City, N.J. ■ **Matthew DeFazio** is attending Pace Law School. ■ **Danielle Delcore** is volunteering at High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Center in Old Lyme, Conn. She works with individuals with physical, mental, and social disabilities to instill confidence and strength in each rider. ■ **Ryan DeVito** is playing baseball in the Hudson Valley National Adult Baseball Association. He is also developing a Web site that will offer off-campus housing to college students across the country. ■ **Allison Duffy** was published in the 2010 World Series Program. ■ **Riley Eckert** was offered a job in New York City one week after graduation. She says she moved from her small-town life in western New York to the big city. Riley is now working for Mindshare as an associate buyer for client Summit Entertainment (yes, the creators of the *Twilight* saga). ■ **Kate Elman** thanks Marist for providing her with the experiences and education that landed her a teaching job, right out of college. ■ **Kate Fox** finished her first season as an assistant women's soccer coach at Assumption College while working part time at Core Concepts, Inc., in its marketing and graphics department. ■ **Justin Frei** is enrolled in the M.P.A. program at Marist and expects to graduate in August 2011. ■ **Raymond Hunsucker** is a first-year student at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, working toward a degree in medicine. ■ **Jared LeBeau** is attending law school at the University of San Diego School of Law. ■ **Stephanie Moshier** is pursu-

ing a master's in special education at Grand Canyon University in Arizona. ■ **Bryan Nelson** is a production coordinator for a promotional company. Clients include a world-renowned back surgeon and an independent baseball team in New Jersey. ■ **Nicole Paonessa** is preparing for graduate school with the hope of obtaining a degree in forensic psychology. ■ **Gina Pernicano** is a sports reporter for the *Journal News* in Westchester County, N.Y. Gina covers events throughout Westchester and Rockland ranging from volleyball to stickball. In the office, Gina and her coworkers take scores and statistics for games and athletes and format them for print

and online versions. She says it's very rewarding to see all of her hard work throughout the week appear in the newspaper for friends and family to read. ■ **Hilary Porter** was hired just four days after graduation. She plans to pursue an M.P.A. ■ **Justin Santore** works for Fusion Media, an event/media management company that provides conference support to clients such as Pepsi, American Express, and Dollar General. ■ **Elizabeth Santucci** works in the public relations department of Tiffany & Co. She is looking into relocating closer to New York City. ■ **Jillian Scangas** began working at New England Sports Network in July. She interned there the summer

before her senior year. She says that by staying in touch with many people at the organization, she was able to interview for multiple jobs and finally land her current position. Jillian works on the nightly sports show editing video, writing scripts, and working with talent. ■ **Alexandra Schultze** is living in London, pursuing her dream of working in the fashion industry. ■ **Kait Smith** works at a national women's magazine with a circulation of 1.2 million. ■ **Elizabeth Staines** is teaching children with autism and loves every minute of it. ■ **Michael Steier** works at Whalers Sports and Entertainment. ■ **Adrienne Taddeo** opened her own business.

## In Memoriam

### Alumni

(listed by graduation year)

- James K. Gormley '53
- Bro. Declan Murray, FMS '55
- Bro. James E. Stevens, FMS '63
- Daniel J. Fogarty '64
- Matthew McComish '64
- Ronald Mulholland '64
- James F. Redeker '65
- Patrick R. Hoffman '67
- Edward J. Lowe, Jr. '67
- Ralph E. Perretta '67
- Donald C. Bard '68
- Robert V. Condon, Jr. '68
- Dominick Favata '68
- Harry Joseph Carroll '69
- Albert Alexander Anthony DeBrita '70
- Thomas D. Kelly '70
- Richard E. Ferry '71
- Bartholomew P. Medvecky '71
- Norman Rifkin '71
- Stanley G. Sheeder '71
- Josephine Mautone Engel '72
- John F. Foley '72
- Eleanor J. Hamilton '72
- Joseph McKee '72
- Christopher A. Riley '72
- Robert E. Salomone '73
- William J. Egan '74
- James R. Gardiner '75
- William A. Goldsmith '75
- Elizabeth A. Kelly '75
- Judith M. Scofield '75
- Warren V. Greene '77
- Gerard Nocton '77
- Thomas R. Malone '79/'90
- Irene Dowling '81
- Michael H. Doherty '82
- Roslyn J. Craw '83
- Gregory A. Holstein '83
- John T. Sajnacki '83
- Douglas Shifflet '84
- Ronald E. Thomas '84
- Charles P. Zieg '86
- Linda S. Ferdinand '87
- Gale C. Colden '89
- Catherine Johnnes '89
- Audrey Bloom '93
- Amy Bell Letterman '93
- Robert C. Gette '94
- Sherrie T. Apple '94
- Bonnell Beatty '96
- James Crichton, Jr. '96
- Dr. Joseph A. Phillips '96
- Richard B. Updike '97
- Scott J. Henkel '00
- Anthony R. Johnson '01
- Arthur Getter '03
- JoAnn Marie DeLessio '04
- Brendan Patrick Ross '07
- Jeffrey Francis '10

### Students

- Katherine E. Bluhm
- Alyssa Martino

## Remembering Dr. Howard Goldman



**T**his past fall, the College community mourned the passing of Howard "Doc" Goldman and remembered his 33 years of dedicated service to Marist as professor of physical education, director of athletics, and first coach of the men's soccer program. A resident of Rhinebeck, N.Y., Dr. Goldman passed away on Oct. 28, 2010, at the age of 79.

Howard Goldman earned a B.S. at Teachers College at Cortland and master's and doctoral degrees in physical education at Indiana University. He was among the first lay faculty to join Marist College. He served as director of the physical education program for 35 years and during that time developed every course offered in that department.

Goldman was named the College's second athletics director in 1963. He oversaw a number of significant improvements and began longstanding traditions during his 13-year tenure. Notably, the McCann Recreation Center opened in 1977 to dramatically improve athletic offerings at Marist, with first-rate facilities for basketball

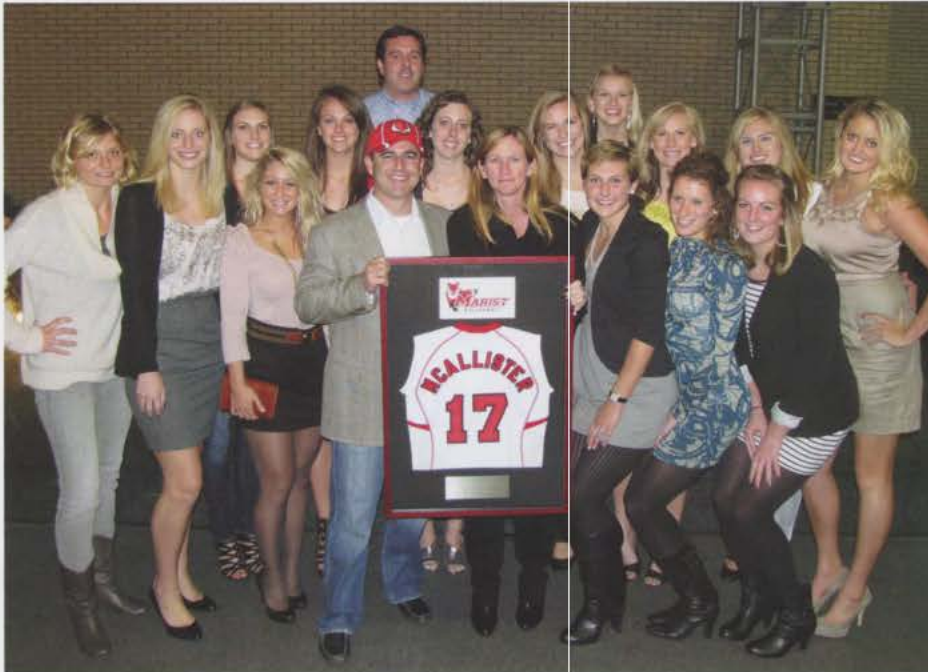
and swimming and diving. Goldman inaugurated the President's Cup, a rowing race that has been held on the Hudson River on the first Saturday in April for the past 48 years.

The "founding father" of Marist soccer, Doc Goldman served as the men's head coach from 1963 to 1995 and compiled an overall record of 222-263-39. He led the Red Foxes to a pair of NCAA Division II Tournament appearances, as well as Eastern College Athletic Conference and first-ever Tri-State Conference championships. In addition to overseeing the soccer program, he was responsible for and instituted programs in cross country, track, golf, football, lacrosse, sailing, basketball, and tennis as well as Marist's intramural program.

In recognition of his many contributions to Marist, he was designated by vote of the Marist Board of Trustees a professor emeritus of physical education and a Marist College Heritage Professor. ■

# Winning Nancy's Heart

Aaron Marcus called on the Marist Athletics and College Advancement offices to help him surprise his wife, Nancy McAllister '91, with a very special anniversary present.



The 2010-11 Marist volleyball team, coached by Tom Hanna '91 (back row), gathered after defeating Manhattan in New York City to join an anniversary celebration for Aaron and Nancy McAllister Marcus '91 (front row, center). To commemorate Nancy's years on the team, Aaron established the Nancy McAllister Marcus '91 Volleyball Scholarship, the first athletic scholarship to be named for an alumna.

After 11 years of marriage, the romantic spark is still there for Aaron and Nancy Marcus. On Oct. 16, 2010, Aaron surprised his wife with a unique and touching anniversary gift. But first, there's a back story.

Nancy McAllister met Aaron Marcus on her first day of work as a legal assistant at Goldman Sachs. It was May 1994, and she sat two desks away from him in their New York City office. Nancy had graduated from Marist in 1991, where she majored in Spanish and played three years on the women's volleyball varsity as an outside hitter. (She took a leave from the team in her junior year to study in Madrid.)

One of Nancy's classmates, Tom Hanna '91, was her team's assistant coach and the organizer of the men's volleyball club. A close-knit group of women's and men's volleyball players, which included Nancy and Tom, developed; and over the years, as spouses and children became part of everyone's lives, the Marist friendships endured.

BY SHAILEEN KOPEC

Shaileen Kopec is Marist's senior development officer for planned giving and endowment support.

Now the parents of Gabriela and Jackson, Nancy and Aaron have been living in California for the past three years and will soon move their family to Austin, Texas. Their friendship with Tom and his wife, Kristin (they are the parents of Caroline and Jillian), extends to a perpetual interest in how the Marist's women's volleyball program is doing. Today no one is more qualified to report on that than Tom, who was named Marist's head volleyball coach in June 2006.

Last July, as the Marcuses' next anniversary was approaching, Aaron wanted to give his wife something special. In thinking about the ongoing support he provides to his alma mater, Brown, in the form of a full four-year scholarship for a student with financial need, Aaron decided to establish a scholarship in Nancy's honor at her alma mater and in the sport that she loves, volleyball. Behind-the-scenes work began in the Marist Athletics and College Advancement offices, with instructions from Aaron to keep it all a secret.

In mid-October, the Marcuses flew to New York City for a weekend anniversary trip. Their first stop was to catch Coach Hanna's Red Foxes triumphing over Manhattan's Jaspers on the

rival's Riverside campus. But the Marcuses' farewell to Coach Hanna was short-lived. Unknown to Nancy, Aaron would soon escort her to a post-game dinner with the team.

The surprise of seeing 13 Red Fox dinner companions (plus coaches) was decidedly topped by Aaron's announcement to his wife of his anniversary gift—the establishment of the Nancy McAllister Marcus '91 Volleyball Scholarship. As a memento of the occasion, a framed volleyball jersey with Nancy's number (17) was presented to her. The inscription honoring her prominently notes: "The First Athletic Scholarship Named for an Alumna."

"I had no idea what Aaron planned for our anniversary and could not have been more surprised," Nancy says. "Aaron never ceases to amaze me with his generosity, especially when it comes to things we are passionate about. I had just said to him earlier that day how lucky I felt to have been part of the Marist volleyball team.

"It was where I made some of my closest friendships and I couldn't imagine having enjoyed the college experience without the support system of Tom, then a good friend and the assistant coach, and the team. I am honored to have my name on a scholarship at Marist that will help the volleyball team continue to be successful in the years to come. Go Red Foxes!"

When the \$100,000 gift was announced by the College, Aaron said, "We are delighted to invest in Coach Hanna and the women's volleyball program. Over the past five years, Coach Hanna has built a first-class program. Our gift is designed to help him continue to build a tradition of excellence both on the court and in the classroom. We truly hope that our gift will encourage others to make significant contributions to the women's volleyball team specifically, and to Marist athletics generally."

The Marcuses' contribution will initiate an endowment to sustain the scholarship in the years ahead and also underwrite a four-year scholarship for a 2012 incoming freshman volleyball player.

"We are humbled and honored by this generous gift and commitment to our program," says Coach Hanna. "We appreciate Aaron and Nancy's unparalleled commitment to volleyball at Marist College and their belief in the direction of the program."

As of last October, tennis isn't the only intercollegiate sport at Marist where love is part of the game. ■



The Hancock Center 2011

## Sharing the Vision

**V**ISION. Marist's founders had it, conceiving of a college that 65 years later has educated more than 32,000 men and women and prepared them for a lifetime of accomplishments. You, too, can create a plan that will shape the lives of tomorrow's students.

By remembering Marist in your estate through a bequest or by developing a trust during your lifetime, you can found a scholarship, establish an endowed professorship or faculty chair, maintain Marist's beautiful campus, or support academic facilities. Through your gift, you can honor a loved one, a family member, or your own achievements. Your financial advisor can explain the advantages of donating assets such as cash, stocks, or real estate to Marist College.

Most important, your generosity will have a lasting impact on many lives. What you plan today will help provide the best education possible for future generations of Marist students. And providing for tomorrow is what vision is all about.



Construction on campus circa 1958

***For information about planned giving opportunities at Marist, please contact Shaileen Kopec, Senior Development Officer for Planned Giving and Endowment Support, (845) 575-3468 or Shaileen.Kopec@Marist.edu.***

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# MARIST

## HOMECOMING & REUNION WEEKEND

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COME VISIT AND SHARE YOUR FOX TALES.