WELCOME, DR. COLETTE MCCARRICK GEARY!

THE COLLEGE NAMES ITS 12TH PRESIDENT p.2
I thank our faculty and staff members for their commitment and their hard work, for their love of and devotion to our students.

Dear Friend of the College,

When I first saw the castle that is Tower Hall in October 1986, I was smitten. Thirty years later what was an initial infatuation and puppy love has turned out to be the greatest—except for Anette!—love affair of my life. In fact, I am more in love with this place and this community now than I have ever been.

When I was inaugurated as president, English professor and poet Nancy Fitzgerald wrote a poem for me, “Grower.” Here is an excerpt:

*Though a grower must have vision...*
*He holds sacred what the tree has always been...*
*Does the work and steps back,*
*Knowing he is neither seed nor soil,*
*But the grower chosen for this task.*

What is sacred about our tree has always been Mother Scholastica’s dream, her great House of Stone within whose walls higher education has flourished for more than a century. There is something very Duluth about The College of St. Scholastica, a liberal arts college with its sleeves rolled up.

The seeds we plant are:

- the Catholic Benedictine values;
- the great ideas of the liberal arts, proposals about what it means to be fully human;
- and the great ideals of the professions of healthcare, business, and education.

Our faculty and staff are the soil where the growth takes place. The grower’s job is to beseech legislators and friends for sunlight and rain to nourish the soil—but it is the soil’s magic that causes the seeds to take root.

I thank our faculty and staff members for their commitment and their hard work, for their love of and devotion to our students. I could not have found better soil anywhere. It has been my privilege to serve this learning community. Now it is time for me to step back.

And so, farewell, friends. Recently I was sending out a memo and I wanted to include a blind copy to myself. I typed what I thought was “Goodwin” in the bcc box, and up popped a computer message: Did you mean Colette McCarrick Geary instead?

I am a student of theology, and I think I know when the Almighty is speaking!

Vivat, St. Scholastica!

Larry Goodwin
President
**On the cover:** The College’s 12th president, Dr. Colette McCarrick Geary, was introduced to the campus community during a joyous ceremony on April 1. Learn more about the College’s next leader. See page 2
“I will work hard. I will listen carefully. I will bring my best to this role each day.”
Geary to take the reins July 1

Dr. Colette McCarrick Geary will become the 12th president of The College of St. Scholastica, effective July 1.

She was introduced to the St. Scholastica community on April 1 at a high-energy ceremony marked by spontaneous applause and even cheers.

Mary Ives ’12, chair of the Board of Trustees, said Geary was the unanimous choice of the presidential search committee and earned unanimous support from the full Board of Trustees.

“She was recognized for her strength in strategic planning, collaborative management style, and commitment to Catholic liberal arts education,” Ives said. “I personally fell in love with Dr. Geary’s warm personality, her self-confidence, her purposeful inclusiveness and her genuine ability to listen. I believe we have found the right person to lead us into the second century of Saints.”

Geary, 55, comes to St. Scholastica from The College of New Rochelle in New York, a private Catholic college founded by Ursuline nuns in 1904. She served as Senior Vice President for Strategic Initiatives there starting in 2014. She joined New Rochelle in 2010 as Vice President for Student Services.

“I am excited and honored to be appointed as 12th president of The College of St. Scholastica,” she said. “I am profoundly grateful to the Board of Trustees for entrusting me with this very special leadership role... It is an extraordinary privilege to become part of the special story that began more than a hundred years ago here in Duluth. A story that we all know was made possible by God’s grace, by the vision and hard work of the Benedictine Sisters, and enriched by the countless lay colleagues they welcomed to the community.

“The College is devoted to the sharing of knowledge and to the transmission of wisdom. We put this all at the service of our community and the world. I am prepared and eager to lend my efforts to this next chapter of the story of St. Scholastica. I will work hard. I will listen carefully. I will bring my best to this role each day. I will need the support of each one of you to be the best president that I can be.”

She will succeed Dr. Larry Goodwin, who is retiring at the end of June after 18 years as president.

“I want to especially thank President Goodwin for his warm welcome on my visits to campus, for his valuable insights, and for his generous offer of support – which I will surely take him up on,” Geary said. “He has had an extraordinary tenure during some challenging years for higher education and I am truly honored to be selected as his successor.”

Sister Kathleen Del Monte, associate vice president for mission integration, wrote this prayer for the announcement ceremony. It’s an adaptation of “In Times of Transition” by Joseph P. Shadle.

HOLY EXCITEMENT

God of Love,
You are with us in every transition and change.
As we enter into this new era with excitement, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love.
We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us.
We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment.
We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.
We especially thank you for the gift of Dr. Colette Geary. Please bless her and her family as they make this transition. May they feel our welcoming arms around them. May they know our deep gratitude for accepting this great calling. And may they always experience your love and your grace.
Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another in all things.
We ask this in your Holy Name.
Amen.
Geary, who is Catholic, will be the first laywoman to lead St. Scholastica, and the first female president since Sister Joan Braun served as interim president more than 40 years ago.

Geary holds a Ph.D. in psychology from Stony Brook University in Stony Brook, NY, a B.S. in psychology from Manhattan College in the Bronx, New York City, and is completing an M.A. in theology at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN. Her professional development experience includes the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education and the Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration of the Wellesley Institute in Boston.

“Dr. Geary is an excellent match for the College for many reasons,” said Jessica Durbin ’98, co-chair of the presidential search committee. “She has a deep understanding of the Catholic intellectual tradition and a real commitment to both the liberal arts and professional programs. She is a strategic thinker who appreciates our entrepreneurial culture. And she shares our strong commitment to inclusivity.”

An inauguration ceremony will be held this fall.

At The College of New Rochelle, Geary led implementation of a strategic plan, working across six campuses and four schools. She also oversaw the Office of Mission and Ministry, which promotes mission-based commitments in the life of the college, key elements of which include an emphasis on the value of the liberal arts; a special commitment to the education of women; expanding educational access to populations historically underserved by higher education; and an emphasis on lifelong learning.

Judith Huntington, president of The College of New Rochelle, said St. Scholastica made a “very wise” decision in hiring Geary.

“The College of New Rochelle has been the extraordinary beneficiary of Dr. Geary’s gift of leadership for the past six years,” Huntington said. “In that time, Dr. Geary amassed an impressive list of accomplishments that advanced the institution and its mission for generations to follow... It has been a profound privilege working with and alongside such a passionate and gifted colleague.”

Earlier, Geary had worked at Manhattan College in Riverdale, NY, as Dean of Students. She taught in the School of Education graduate programs for 11 years. Prior to her work at Manhattan College, Geary was Staff Psychologist and Unit Director at the Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital in Montrose, NY, and had a private practice specializing in cognitive-behavioral approaches to the treatment of psychological disorders.

The nationwide search for the College’s 12th president began last year after Goodwin announced his plans to retire.

At the April 1 ceremony, he said to Geary: “Colette, you’re the right person and it just makes me so happy to think of handing off this special community to your care.”

Colette and Michael Geary have been married for 28 years. Michael is a longtime faculty member at Albertus Magnus College, a Catholic liberal arts college in Connecticut. He is coordinator of the Criminal Justice program and serves as the pre-law advisor. His scholarly interests are at the intersection of national security and civil liberty.

Colette and Michael have three daughters: Brianna, 26, who works for the Peace Corps; Cailean, 22, who works at Mathematica Policy Research, and Mariah, 17, who recently graduated from high school and plans to study political science in college.
“When I shared the news of my appointment with my mother, she commented that it was remarkable to think of what education had done for our family in a single generation. Neither of my parents had a college education. My father had a sixth-grade education in a one-room school house. He immigrated to this country when he was 18 years old. My mother attended secretarial school. As parents, they made the education of their seven children a priority, and this decision demanded many sacrifices of them. Over 40 percent of The College of St. Scholastica’s undergraduates are first-generation students, like me. And so for me to have the privilege of leading this college – well, I think it is a remarkable testament to the importance of this work that we share in higher education.”

(During the interview process) “Time and time again, I came away from the conversations and the correspondence duly impressed ... I was impressed by the College’s deep rootedness in the Catholic and Benedictine values because that is the moral and spiritual bedrock upon which everything else can be built. I was impressed by the commitment to the educational mission and its unfolding over more than a hundred years – that’s a glorious history. I was impressed by St. Scholastica’s capacity to discover fresh and contemporary ways of living out its mission in a rapidly changing world – that’s an entrepreneurial spirit. This college is guided by mission, toward innovation.”

“There are many challenges for higher education today... I think that each institution must rediscover itself, not only to meet the challenges of today but to flourish far into the future. St. Scholastica is right in the thick of this. I have great respect for the outstanding work that has been done under Dr. Goodwin’s leadership. St. Scholastica is a forward-leaning institution, adapting to the change in the world and growing in new ways, while staying true to the Benedictine values that make it the very special college that it is.”

“I’m so happy to see students among us today. You are at the heart of our learning community – whether you are a traditional undergrad, a graduate student, an online learner, here in Duluth or on one of our many other campuses. You are the movers and shakers of tomorrow in every single field. We will depend upon you to be competent and caring professionals, to be ethical, to be able to adapt to change, and to be compassionate leaders who are prepared to take on the unprecedented issues that are going to face society. As all of us – administrators, faculty and staff and alumni and friends and donors – invest in and support our students, we are working to make the world a better place for future generations. That is what makes higher education leadership a job that I love and one that I feel very privileged to participate in.”

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Deep in the mountains of Alaska, Amanda Reid’s family of six gathered around a campsite, enjoying the solace of nature at twilight. The silence was broken only by a wolf howling somewhere in the distance. As they got ready to roast marshmallows, their faces were illuminated by the soft glow of … Reid’s laptop screen.

For the past two years, Reid has been a full-time online student in St. Scholastica’s master of science in Project Management program. She’s taken her work with her everywhere.

“I’ve literally been all over the country, and working on this no matter where I am or what’s going on,” said Reid, who lives in Maine and works as the director of coding and clinical documentation improvement at Eastern Maine Medical Center. She said her degree will help her navigate some big changes on the horizon at work.

Reid is one of 119 online students who never set foot on campus until they came to Duluth for commencement festivities this May. From all over the country (and beyond) and in different life stages, they represent the evolving face of today’s St. Scholastica student. Admissions numbers reflect a trend in higher education enrollment, as traditional undergraduate populations are leveling off while non-traditional enrollments are growing. During the Spring 2016 semester, St. Scholastica enrolled 1,050 graduate and extended campus students, 1,328 online students and 1,758 traditional undergraduates.

All the way across the country in California, Melissa Sather ’10 also completed her online master’s in PM. She earned her undergrad in advertising and public relations at St. Scholastica, and works in the Integrated Marketing Department for a Los Angeles global media company called Fullscreen, Inc. As she anticipated the commencement ceremony, among the things she was most looking forward to was some good old Duluth tap water. After all, you can’t get that in L.A.

“I wish I could just take gallons of it back with me,” Sather said.

Since a graduate degree in project management is rare in her field, Sather is excited to see how it will make her stand out from her competition.

Meanwhile, back on the east coast in Savannah, Georgia, Shannon Davis also has big plans for her future now that she’s completed her online bachelor’s in Health Information Management.

“I have a three-year plan,” said Davis, who currently works with dialysis patients. “I would like to get into a good HIM department at a hospital, and I want to work my way up. My ultimate goal is to be director of the program.”

She was thrilled to walk across the stage to officially receive her well-earned degree. As a single mom working full time, making the time for her education hasn’t been easy.

“It was a long hard road, and I’m such
a non-traditional student because I’ve been taking two classes here and there, maybe three. I’m looking forward to everything coming to an end and getting in its place.”

Mujeeb Kandy and Jeanie Scott are completing their master’s degrees in HIM and Health Informatics, respectively, but other than their career fields, they probably don’t have much in common. Scott lives in upstate New York, while Kandy lives on the Persian Gulf peninsula of Qatar.

Despite the fact that he is eight hours ahead of Duluth, he was amazed by his professors’ responsiveness.

“It has been a great learning experience for me,” said Kandy, who works at the corporate office of Primary Health Care Corporation as head of Medical Records and Data Abstraction project manager. He and his team are working on a new electronic health records system for 23 primary health centers managed by PHCC and six hospitals managed by Hamad Medical Corporation. “The CSS program is really special and it is really quite more than an online course.”

In an interview with the Duluth News Tribune, Kandy and Scott noted how they felt part of the St. Scholastica community even from afar.

“You feel like it’s a real college and not only that, there’s a lot of discussions and interactions,” Kandy said. “There’s a lot of opportunity for interaction between classmates.”

Scott agreed.

“What (St. Scholastica) stands for in its teaching beliefs and its learning beliefs made me want to come and see it. Maybe in another school, I would have felt like one of 10,000, but the small personalization here makes you definitely want to come be a part of the inclusive community,” she said.

Scott found the program accessible for her busy schedule, and appreciated the assistance of her advisor, Laura Munson.

“Most of the classes are very well laid out,” said Scott, who works in the Health Informatics division of the Department of Veterans Affairs. “Laura was an absolutely amazing adviser; she really kept in touch with me throughout.”

Scott said she’s already been able to apply many of the new things she’s learned in the program.

Gerlie Matahum came all the way from Hawaii for her graduation from the online doctor of physical therapy program.

“It’s really enhanced my knowledge and skills because I’ve been out of school for 15 years,” said Matahum, a physical therapist at the Veterans Health Administration in Honolulu.

She was drawn to St. Scholastica because of its Catholic heritage and mission – and because of its flexible online program. But in the end, even in the era of fast-changing technology and internet-based learning that allows people to complete their degrees completely online, it was old-fashioned customer service that convinced Matahum to enroll at St. Scholastica.

“CSS was the first school to return my call,” she said.
SAINTS AND TAXES

Early on a sunny Saturday in April, you might expect to find college students sleeping in, enjoying a leisurely breakfast, or quietly recovering from the previous night’s adventures. Sophomore Ashley Kittelson is in a cubicle, hunched over tax return forms and reference manuals. She’s researching whether new vinyl siding qualifies for an energy efficiency tax credit.

“It sounded like a nice way to help out the community,” said Kittelson, who is a biology/chemistry double major with a minor in math. “When I’m at the tax site I really enjoy working with people.”

She’s one of 10 St. Scholastica students who volunteered their time at Community Action Duluth’s free tax preparation site this spring. The program provides free income tax return processing for qualifying participants.

“St. Scholastica students have been a presence for over half the lifetime of our tax site,” said Julia Cheng, CAD Tax Site program coordinator. Community Action founded the program in 2005 as part of a nationwide IRS service. “We hope the students value their experience as much as we appreciate their contributions.”

Fellow accounting major Anthony Namowicz ’16 called the experience “challenging but also fulfilling.” It was his first time volunteering. “Just knowing I was able to do something for them that they weren’t able to do on their own was a great feeling in itself.”

The partnership with CAD is organized by Jennifer Pilon, assistant professor of management, who helped start it during the 2009-10 tax season. Students — even non-accounting majors and alumni — have donated their time and effort every year since.

“We hope the students value their experience as much as we appreciate their contributions.”
Thirteen MBA students and four faculty members visited Cuba in April. The nine-day visit was the International Study Abroad Capstone project for students nearing the completion of their MBA program.

The group was immersed in Cuban economic realities, history and culture, said Lynne Hamre, dean of the School of Business and Technology. Learning modules included Business, Health Care, Political Science, Agriculture and Automobile Repair. The students visited art galleries, the Plaza de la Cathedral, the Partagas Cigar Factory, and Havana Bay. They learned about the urban development of Old Havana and Ernest Hemingway’s connections to Cuba. They even had a chance to ride in some of Cuba’s famous vintage cars and interact with the drivers.

Hamre said the visit made clear the complexities of economic realities in Cuba during an interesting time in the country’s complicated relationship with the United States, and shortly after President Obama’s historic visit. One of the highlights was the opportunity to talk with everyday Cubans, she said, from farmers to health care workers to entrepreneurs and people in the tourism industry.
A first-rate educational experience requires more than a thoughtful lesson plan. It also calls for a well-designed physical space that encourages active learning and collaboration.

Comfortable seats help too.

The College’s science students are enjoying the Science Center’s newly renovated biology labs.

“We now have some really nice functional space that allows us to do lab and lecture activities in the same room,” said Aileen Beard, dean of the School of Sciences.

Rows of benches have been replaced by large tables with tall, comfortable chairs, making group work much easier. White boards along one of the walls allow students to draw cell diagrams or DNA strands.

“It encourages collaborative work,” Beard said.

Kara Thoemke, associate professor of biology, said the renovated labs are part of a larger overhaul of the science curriculum for a more active learning experience. Students are required to apply course concepts to solve problems. This strategy makes the content more relevant, as students develop skills in data analysis, teamwork and communication — skills that apply to any career path they ultimately choose.

“It has a significant impact on student understanding of the material,” she said.

The renovations mark the final phase of the long-term Science Center renovation plan, which started in 2011 and included the addition of new classrooms, labs and research areas, the Benedictine Commons and more.

Aside from its physical renovations, the Biology Department has also put a new spin on the traditional study hour. Mindful that some students might be intimidated by the idea of knocking on a professor’s door during posted office hours, faculty members have created “Science Commons.” They invite students to come to one of the laboratories and do their homework or study during a pre-scheduled time, such as 6 to 8 p.m. on a Wednesday night. Faculty members simply stay and hang out, available to answer questions as needed in a welcoming, approachable environment.
African cuisine and dance were featured at the 11th annual African Heritage Festival on campus in early April.

The event, put on by the College United for Africa club and themed “United We Stand,” also featured a fashion show. Faculty advisor Elyse Carter-Vosen, assistant professor of Global, Cultural and Language Studies, said the Festival builds community.

“It speaks so strongly to the legacy created by the first student leaders who founded United for Africa, which has been sustained so capably by each generation of students during this past decade,” Carter-Vosen said.

United We Stand

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Duniya Drum and Dance member Sana Bangoura dances at the African Heritage Festival. (Photo by Teri Cadeau, courtesy of Duluth News Tribune)
Scholarship winners will help strengthen campus community

The College has chosen the first two winners of the Sister Mary Rochefort Community Builder Scholarship, which covers four years of tuition.

Micaela Jacobson, a graduate of Minnetonka High School in Minnetonka, MN, is receiving full tuition along with room and board. Josephine “Josie” Steller, a graduate of Durand High School in Arkansaw, WI, is receiving full tuition. Both students will attend St. Scholastica starting in the fall 2016 semester, and both plan on studying nursing.

“The scholarship is a chance to engage and interact with other students, staff, and the wider community of Duluth. It means carrying on the community building legacy that Sister Mary Rochefort embraced throughout her life of service,” Jacobson said.

“I am so grateful to have been awarded this scholarship,” Steller said. “I know that I can do a lot for the community at St. Scholastica.”

The Sister Mary Rochefort Community Builder Scholarship was created to honor the memory of Sister Mary Rochefort, who was a beloved member of the St. Scholastica Monastery for more than 50 years. Rochefort served the College as the director of mission integration and was a role model for what “community” truly means.

Qualified traditional undergraduate students entering college this fall were eligible to apply for the inaugural Sister Mary scholarship. Applicants submitted a 2-5 minute video essay about their views on the meaning of “community.”
Seniors choose classmate for Leadership Award

David Ohnstad ’16 was selected for the 2016 Student Leadership Award. He was chosen by a vote of his peers, members of the graduating class of 2016. The other Student Leadership Award finalists were Bianca Aspin, Michael Jackson and Ari Skalisky.

Ohnstad has logged more than 1,200 hours of volunteer service to the College, including service at Community Day, assistance in the Chemistry Lab, and three academic years as a Delta Leader. He has served as president of the Biology, Biochemistry/Chemistry and Physician Assistant Clubs. He has also served as a Resident Advisor, and during his senior year was president of the basketball team.

His off-campus volunteerism has included membership in the Knights of Columbus, where he has assisted in fundraising efforts related to cancer research, local community relief, and other activities in under-served communities.

He plans to continue his education to become a Physician Assistant.
NUR MOOD ’12 CONTINUES TO GIVE BACK

“A Saint
Walking through the hallways of the College, Somali immigrant and Twin Cities transplant Nur Mood saw few people who looked like him. He felt unsure about how to express his Muslim identity. He wondered whether he’d find acceptance.

It didn’t take him long to find out.

“When I got to know the campus community and I saw that people are very caring, loving people, that’s when I felt comfortable,” said Mood, who graduated in 2012.

“Hospitality is not just a word, but it comes from the heart from everyone.”

His personal history contains difficulties. War broke out in his native Somalia in 1990, just before he was to start first grade. He lost members of his family. He prayed for peace. He wished for simple things like a good night’s sleep and one normal day to be able to play outside without fear.

forever

His life changed when he and his family became refugees in Egypt, and eventually applied to come to the United States.

“We finally got the opportunity in November 2004,” Mood said. “We decided to move to Minnesota because it’s a state of immigrants.”

Settled into a new life in the Twin Cities, he made the difficult choice to uproot himself again – this time for his education. The risk was worth it.

“Going to St. Scholastica was one of the greatest decisions I’ve made for my life so far,” Mood said.

He took advantage of everything St. Scholastica had to offer. He served on the Student Senate, worked in the Admissions and Student Activities offices, gave campus tours, and jumped at the chance to speak to classes about his Muslim faith. He even studied abroad in China.

Since he moved back to the Twin Cities for a job at Hamline University, he has never completely left St. Scholastica.

“Being a Saint ... that was powerful for me. You’re a Saint forever,” he said. “No matter what, when you graduate from St. Scholastica, there’s still someone thinking of you.”

He formed close bonds with many of the faculty and staff members who had a meaningful impact on his life. He still keeps in touch with them, including Elyse Carter-Vosen, associate professor of Global, Cultural and Language Studies.

“She connected me to her family, her synagogue,” Mood said. He helps out with a “Migration, Diaspora, Identity” course that she teaches. It focuses on the Somali and Hmong experience in the Twin Cities, and Mood takes time out of his busy schedule to accompany the students on a daylong tour of Somali and Muslim culture.

“Our visits to the Somali community were made possible through his expertise, relationships, and generosity,” Carter-Vosen said. “As my students can attest, it seems like he knows nearly everyone in the Somali community in Minneapolis. He’s always got a smile for everyone. He’s a radiant person who draws other people to him.”

Mood is also an active member of the Alumni Board, and hasn’t missed a commencement ceremony since he graduated himself.

“We are trying to educate people and make sure they know that before you attack anyone because of their faith or race or anything, you should get to know them.”

As coordinator of Religious & Spiritual Life Programs at the Wesley Center at Hamline University, he was awarded the Hedgeman Outstanding Staff of the Year Award. He’s also working on an MBA in finance.

With the intent of strengthening Muslim/community relations, he serves on the Bloomington Police Department Multicultural Advisory Committee.

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Sister Gaudensia is forming the building blocks of education, by hand.

She and two other Benedictine sisters from Imiliwaha Monastery are creating a school for children with learning disabilities in their region of rural Tanzania.

“We started making bricks ourselves,” Sister Gaudensia said during a recent visit to the College. “We have like 8,000 bricks. We’re mixing cement with sand.”

She’s a 2011 graduate of the College’s undergraduate education program and a 2014 graduate of the master of education program. She’s back in Duluth for a couple of months to raise money for her project.

She hopes to open the St. Scholastica English Medium School for Students with Learning Disabilities in January 2017.

“If I want my dream to become reality, I have to work hard,” she said. “If I don’t work hard, I will not make it.”

Imiliwaha Monastery is a sister institution of St. Scholastica Monastery in Duluth. Sister Gaudensia plans to name the school after the Duluth college and monastery Sisters who first sparked her dream.

The College “inspired me a lot,” said Sister Gaudensia. “Without it, I would not get this opportunity to see how people can be educated.”

During her field experience visiting local Duluth schools, she was impressed to see how children with learning disabilities were thriving. That’s not the case in her home country.

“Most people in Tanzania think if you have a student with learning disabilities, it’s not worthwhile to send them to school. Students with this kind of problem don’t have any opportunities to go to school. They stay home, and most of them become beggars.”

For those who do go to school, the outcomes are not much better because classrooms are often jammed with up to 90 students.

“They finish elementary school or middle school without even knowing how to write their names. They need extra time for the teacher to work with them so that they can learn like other students.”

Sister Gaudensia’s dream of helping students with learning disabilities is close to becoming a reality.

“I thank God that I came here,” she said. “This education — it’s going to help me to make real changes in my country.”

For more information or to donate, contact the St. Scholastica Monastery at 218-723-6555. Checks can be mailed to the St. Scholastica Monastery Development Office, 1001 Kenwood Ave., Duluth, MN 55811. Checks can be made payable to “St. Scholastica Monastery” with the memo “Monastery Twinning Project.”
Offering a stranger the gift of life

When it came to choosing whether or not he would help save a life, St. Scholastica sophomore Zach Dahlman ’18 worried — then didn’t worry any more.

In August 2015, Dahlman agreed to give an oral swab as part of an on-campus “Be The Match” event. The swab results determine whether you match a patient in need of stem cells, which create healthy bone marrow in the recipient.

“When I found out I was eligible to donate [stem cells] I was very scared for my health, and feared that it may not even work,” Dahlman said. “But at the same time I knew it was the right thing to do and I had to try.”

When he received the call that he was, in fact, a match, he knew he would proceed.

“In this instance, even having a possibility to save a person’s life means you try to with no questions asked,” he said.

Leading up to the donation, Dahlman underwent two weeks of blood draws and white-blood-cell-rich injections that left him dizzy and nauseous. The process culminated in a marathon nine-hour donation appointment that drained his energy — it took nearly two weeks before he felt 100 percent again.

A junior next year, Dahlman has designs on graduating with a degree in finance. He’ll also have a chance to improve upon a sophomore basketball campaign where he averaged seven points and four rebounds in 19.7 minutes per game.

Dahlman’s gift didn’t go unrecognized by the college community. He was given the Humanitarian Award at the 2016 Saints Sports Awards.

Dahlman is moving on from his donation experience, but he has one last milestone — meeting the man whose life was spared because of this generous gift.

“When I found out that my donation was successful and the recipient had no issues or infections,” Dahlman said. “So it’s nice to know that it was worth it, and someday I will be able to meet the man I saved.”
Faculty members publish books about their passions

When Ryan Sandefer and David Marc couldn’t find a textbook that met their classroom goals, they took matters into their own hands.

Two years later, they received the first copies of “Data Analytics in Healthcare Research: Tools and Strategies.”

“It was a labor of love for us,” said Sandefer, assistant professor and chair of the Health Informatics and Information Management department. “It’s very rewarding to have accomplished something that brings such value to our profession.”

He and Marc, who is an assistant professor and health informatics graduate program director, developed a text that teaches data analytics using examples and learning activities based on a real database.

Xiaoming Zeng, professor and chair of the Department of Health Services and Information Management at East Carolina University, said the book is much-needed.

“Given the rapid growth of data and data types in health care, the knowledge and skills introduced in this book will prepare HIM professionals and students for the future of health care,” Zeng said.

The textbook was published by the American Health Information Management Association Press and is available at www.ahimastore.org.

It’s not the first time St. Scholastica faculty members have created a leading work in the field. In 2002, Kathy LaTour and Shirley Eichenwald Maki co-authored “Health Information Management: Concepts, Principles and Practice.” It became the premier HIM text for bachelor’s programs and some graduate programs.

St. Scholastica HIM faculty members have written chapters in each edition of the text. Currently, faculty members Pam Oachs and Amy Watters are finishing up the fifth edition, to be released in July.

Several other members of the St. Scholastica community have also published books recently.
NATALIE DISQUE, adjunct faculty member, has been with the College since 2005, and currently teaches project management. Her curriculum development naturally segued into a book idea. Students posted articles about failed projects, and Disque turned them into learning opportunities. Her compiled notes became perfect fodder for a “what not to do” guide for project management, and to date she has posted three Kindle e-books — one focusing on health care, one on information technology project management, and one on IT government project management.

SARAH BROKKE ERICKSON, assistant professor of art, published “Portrait of an Artist: Paintings by Sarah M. Brokke,” a coffee table book showcasing the 35 portraits she completed over the course of the year of local artists who have inspired her. She took on the ambitious project for her 35th birthday. This series of portraits was developed with the intent that Erickson would paint each person as a symbol of gratitude and acknowledgement. “When one looks at a portrait by Sarah Brokke, it’s like meeting someone you’ve dreamt about — her paintings are at once familiar and fantastic — a step removed from our own reality,” said Annie Dugan, director of the Duluth Art Institute.

LUCIE AMUNDSEN, an adjunct instructor in the Schools of Arts and Letters since 2015 and co-owner of Locally Laid egg company, gained local celebrity in 2013 when her farm was one of three finalists in a national competition for a Super Bowl commercial. “Locally Laid: How We Built a Plucky, Industry-Changing Egg Farm — from Scratch” explores problems in America’s food system and tells the story of her family’s unexpected venture into egg farming that reflects the movement toward sustainable, locally-sourced food.
If it’s at all possible to get used to seeing a fire engine parked outside your building, it must have happened for students taking classes in the Burns Wellness Commons in April.

Three times a week, all month, members of the Duluth Fire Department went through fitness evaluations courtesy of the College’s exercise physiology students. The partnership, new this year, gives students hands-on experience while helping firefighters meet their fitness goals.

“It was awesome — they know their stuff exactly,” firefighter Jonathan Ries said of the student examiners, who gave him a stellar report about his overall fitness levels. “Any questions I had, they answered right away.”

He said the evaluations coincide perfectly with a new wellness/fitness initiative the department has started.

“It has been a tremendous experience for us,” said Adam Bock ’16. “It’s very important that we have a grasp of the theory, but ultimately, the best way to learn how to do the job is to do the job.”

Mike Theismann ’16 said he’d learned the importance of efficient professionalism.

“As a student, there are some things that we do that are uncomfortable — for example, the skin fold test. You’re used to it, but when you’re applying it to a stranger, you have to be courteous of them, and be respectful of them,” he said.
Senior Laurel Anderson wasn’t trying to gain any visibility with her research. But her study of factors that can impact at-risk children’s mental health has put her on the map.

In April she was invited to present her findings at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of North Carolina - Asheville. She also was one of 60 students in the nation selected to present her research on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

Her study was conducted at Northwood Children’s Services in Duluth, which provides care for children with emotional, behavioral, or learning disabilities. She examined the relationship between children’s scores on the Youth Asset Scale, which measures positives and strengths that they have in their lives, and their scores on a treatment tool called the Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII). The CASII determines the strength of the course of treatment that should be used for a child.

“The higher their score on the Youth Asset Scale, the lower their score on the CASII,” Anderson said. “It’s a correlation that should be used in treatment.”

The project was part of a continuing study started by Dean Grace, director of training and staff development at Northwood and an adjunct instructor of social work at the College. For her role, Anderson developed a series of questions to ask a representative sample of 47 children, which is approximately one-quarter of the Northwood population. She and Grace then interviewed the students over the course of two months.

Her conclusion is that treatment plans should focus on building up children’s assets, which could include things like club involvement or positive peer relationships.

“At Northwood, we take a strengths-based approach to dealing with our students … “It is good to know that Ms. Anderson’s research affirms our approach.”
Mark of excellence
Biochemistry program earns accreditation

The College’s biochemistry program has won accolades in the form of a seal of approval from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB). Jennifer Maki, associate professor of chemistry and department chair, said the 7-year accreditation is a nationally recognized mark of excellence.

“The ASBMB is the premier institution for biochemistry in the United States,” Maki said. “They evaluated our program in categories including instruction, research, and diversity initiatives. This accreditation is a verification that our program meets national standards.”

Graduating biochemistry students will take the nationally administered certification exam. Those who perform well will graduate with an ASBMB-certified biochemistry degree. The exam results will be utilized by the chemistry department to annually assess and improve the biochemistry degree program.

Changing times
New MBA focuses on managing workplace transitions

Changes to the College’s graduate business program will ensure that it meets evolving needs of the business community.

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is now focusing on leadership and change management.

“In this knowledge economy, organizations say they need people who can adapt, think strategically and lead change,” said Lynne Hamre, dean of the School of Business and Technology. “We’re leveraging the strengths of our faculty, and offering a different value proposition than a traditional MBA.”

Classes for the new MBA will start in September.

The SBT also offers a master of arts in information technology leadership, a master of science in project management and an online MBA in rural healthcare.
Leaving a strong legacy

Michael Johnson ’16 won the Student Employee of the Year award for the 2015-16 school year, in recognition of his efforts to help make the College a more welcoming and inclusive place for new students.

Johnson, an English major, was nominated for the award by his supervisor, Chris Davila, director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Davila praised Johnson for his hard work and initiative in planning the annual Multicultural Leadership Orientation, a special event for incoming freshmen held the week before regular move-in starts.

Johnson said the event had meant a lot to him when he experienced it as a new student. He became inspired to take on more of a leadership role in the program.

“It’s multicultural, so we do a lot of workshops dealing with topics like social justice, diversity and inclusion,” Johnson said. “We do some fun stuff too; we try to get out into the Duluth community, we’ve gone to Enger Tower, we’ve gone down to Park Point in the past. It’s just this really fun time where a bunch of diverse freshmen can get together and experience St. Scholastica and get to know people before everyone else even moves in.”

Putting spring break to good use

A group of Saints used their time off during spring break to make a difference in the lives of others. Thirty-four St. Scholastica students volunteered at a MEDLIFE Mobile Clinic in Lima, Peru. MEDLIFE partners with low-income communities in Latin America to improve their access to medicine, education, and community development initiatives. They spent their week shadowing Peruvian medical professionals in different stations such as general medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy. They also helped to build a staircase for a community living in extreme poverty.
A STEM spark
Outreach program nurtures next generation of scientists

Ever wondered how tall you are, as measured in Starburst candies? Students at Lowell Elementary School found out during a recent STEM day event, designed to get young kids interested in math and science. College faculty members and a group of students volunteered to spend an afternoon teaching kids about volcanoes, electricity, and DNA strands, among many other topics.

“It is just so engaging for the kids,” said Lowell Elementary School principal Jen Larva. “It’s more hands-on, which sometimes they don’t have time for in the classroom.”

Alum Carmen Aguirre ’15 volunteered to help out, hoping to spark curiosity in the children about the world around them.

“It’s very important that college students are spreading that knowledge to younger kids, and sharing that passion for science,” said Aguirre, who is taking some time off and working as a St. Luke’s EMT scribe before starting medical school.

“Exposing the kids to it at a young age is extremely important, no matter what they go into.”

Math and biology double major Elizabeth Gearhart ’16 volunteered for the day’s event through the Math Club.

“We wanted to teach little kids that math can be fun,” she said. “The sooner you can get kids engaged and interested in realizing that math isn’t a chore, the higher the chance they have of going into those fields and being interested later on.”
Saints art students bridged a generation this spring, teaming up with elementary schoolers to create the first piece in the Art Department’s Mural Initiative Project.

Over the course of the spring semester, Sarah Brokke Erickson’s art students designed and created a mural in partnership with students at Laura MacArthur Elementary School. The mural focuses on the students’ identity, sense of place, and a celebration of “Peacemakers” as defined by Martin Luther King, Jr.: “A peacemaker is someone who has sought to teach, to transform, to make friends, to heal, to defeat injustice, or to choose love instead of hate.”

The artwork will be permanently installed at Laura MacArthur. The project was funded, in part, by an Arrowhead Regional Arts Council Arts Learning Grant.

Erickson said the project is Benedictine in promoting “the study and practice of the arts, aware of their capacity to bring all to a deeper recognition of the nature and purpose of life itself.”

St. Scholastica student Megan Finegan ‘19, back, guides the painting efforts of Laura MacArthur Elementary students Thomas Thach (front) and Lilly Reilly (center).

Left: Laura MacArthur student Anthony Beasley learns the finer points of painting from St. Scholastica student Bailey Barber ‘17.

Right: Megan Riley ’17 adds some finishing touches to the mural.
**Wagner National Runner-Up in the Heptathlon**

Men’s track & field’s Kevin Wagner finished a program-best second at the NCAA Division III Indoor Championships in the Heptathlon in March. In doing so, he became the first St. Scholastica men’s track & field athlete to earn multiple All-American honors, as he was an All-American decathlete at the 2015 NCAA Outdoor Championships. He becomes only the second CSS track & field athlete (male/female) to earn All-American accolades in both the indoor and outdoor seasons. Becky Huberty was the first.

Nicole Christianson (high jump) and Jeremy Peterson (weight throw) also competed at the NCAA Indoor Championships. Christianson earned All-America accolades for the second time in her career, tying for sixth in the high jump. As a team, the Saints swept the men’s and women’s UMAC Indoor Track & Field Championships for the seventh straight season.

**Dickinson and Hodgert Qualify for Nationals**

Nordic skiing’s Kelsey Dickinson and Reitler Hodgert both made their first NCAA Skiing Championships appearances in March in Colorado. Dickinson became the third different women’s skier to qualify for Nationals. Her second-place finish at the NCAA Central Region Championships in the 5km freestyle was the program’s best-ever finish at that event. Hodgert became the fifth different men’s skier to qualify for Nationals. He became only the second men’s skier in program history to reach the podium at a region championship with a third place finish in the 10km freestyle. Both were also Second Team All-CCSA selections.

**Men’s Basketball Back at the Top**

The men’s basketball team won its first-ever outright UMAC regular season title this winter. The team set a program record for the fewest losses in a season (8) and tied the program mark for most wins in a year (19). It also set a program record with a 15-game home winning streak. Head Coach David Staniger was named the UMAC Coach of the Year and Brandon Newman was named the UMAC Freshman of the Year. The Saints saw their season end one game short of the NCAA Division III Tournament with a loss to the University of Northwestern in the UMAC Tournament Championship game.
Nowakowski an All-American
St. Scholastica men’s hockey’s Dylan Nowakowski was named a second team All-American by the American Hockey Coaches Association (AHCA). He was also named a second team All-West Region choice by D3hockey.com. Nowakowski finished the season with a career-high 40 points and 27 assists. He is the first Saint in the Mark Wick era to record at least 40 points in a season. The Saints made the NCHA Playoff semifinals for the ninth time in the last 10 seasons and played Adrian College (Mich.) for the third-straight year in the semifinals.

Women’s Hockey
The women’s hockey team also saw its season come to an end with a NCHA semifinal loss to Adrian College. The Saints finished fourth in the league during the regular season and were led by junior goaltender Lindsey Hartfiel, who was an All-NCHA selection. She set the single-season program record for saves (768).

Women’s Basketball
The women’s basketball team finished with an overall record of 10-15 and tied for fifth in the UMAC standings. Senior Brittani Brennan was a First Team All-UMAC selection after leading the team in scoring at 12.2 points per game.

Bouchie Region Coach of the Year
Assistant St. Scholastica Track & Field Coach Todd Bouchie was named the Central Region’s Men’s Assistant Coach of the Year for the indoor season, it was announced by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). Bouchie, who is in his 12th season with the Saints, coaches the multi-events, throws, high jump and pole vault for both the men and the women.
Salmela Steps Down as Ski Coach to Become New Cross Country Coach

The only head coach in the St. Scholastica men’s and women’s nordic skiing program’s 10-year history Chad Salmela will step away from the snow and take over the men’s and women’s cross country programs from longtime coach Steve Pfingsten, who recently retired after spending 26 seasons coaching at CSS, it was announced in May. “As the founding coach of the St. Scholastica ski team, the past 10 years are the most personally rewarding of my professional career,” said Salmela. “The athletes, coaching staff, alumni, and supporters of the ski program are extended family to me. It is as much a part of me as it is perhaps synonymous in reputation. A decade, however, feels like it’s time for a change.”

Salmela was an assistant under Pfingsten for his first few years at St. Scholastica, and prior to that had a role as a high school running coach. Since then he has spent time consulting several elite and master-elite marathon and distance runners.

Salmela takes over the men’s and women’s cross country programs that swept the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) Championships in 2015.

Women’s Tennis Makes Return Trip to NCAA Tournament

For the second year in a row and the fifth time overall, the St. Scholastica women’s tennis program earned an entry in the NCAA Division III Tournament. The Saints captured the UMAC regular season title outright for the first time since the 2013 season and the 19th time overall. Despite falling to the University of Northwestern in the UMAC Tournament championship, the Saints received a bid into the national tournament. The Saints would face host, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in the first round and would fall 5-1 with Katelyn Rice earning the lone win for the Saints. Five Saints were named All-UMAC: Jess Solberg, Madeleine Scanlan, Elise Hauer, Daniela Rojas and Sarah Coryell.

Program Records Fall in Men’s Tennis

The men’s tennis team won its 20th straight UMAC regular season championship and 16th UMAC Tournament title overall. This season also saw the ending of the stellar careers of Josh Stainer and Mike Fontana. Stainer was named the UMAC Player of the Year for a third time this spring. He finished his career as the winningest player in program history. He had 50 career singles wins and a program record 66 career doubles victories for a total of 116 total wins, breaking Jacob Engelstad’s record by one win. Fontana earned All-UMAC honors for a fourth time and set the program record this season for singles wins in a career (66). He won at least 16 singles matches in each of his four seasons.

Saints Send Three to Outdoor Nationals

The Saints sent the three same competitors to the NCAA Division III Outdoor Championships as the Indoor Championships. Kevin Wagner qualified for his fourth straight decathlon, Jeremy...
Peterson qualified in the hammer throw for the third straight year and Nicole Christianson qualified in the high jump for the second consecutive season.

**Baseball Sweeps Conference Honors for Second Straight Year**

For the second straight season, the St. Scholastica baseball team swept the UMAC postseason awards with junior third baseman Brian Minks named Player of the Year, senior pitcher Jordan Risse named Pitcher of the Year, freshman designated hitter Conor Wollenzien named Rookie of the Year and Head Coach Corey Kemp named Coach of the Year. Prior to the 2015 season, the Saints hadn’t accomplished that feat since the 2006 season.

CSS went on to win their 20th straight UMAC regular season title and 19th consecutive UMAC Tournament title. The Saints made their 12th straight NCAA Division III Tournament appearance where it went 1-2, picking up a victory over Beloit College (Ill.). The season also featured a win over World Series participant University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and seven wins against MIAC programs, including a sweep of rival University of St. Thomas.

**Softball Falls a Game Short of NCAA Tournament**

New Head Coach Rilee Dawson led the Saints to their eighth straight UMAC regular season championship, but would be beaten by conference newcomer University of Wisconsin-Superior in the UMAC Tournament championship game to end its season. The Saints did sweep all of the conference postseason awards with senior catcher Kara Warren named the UMAC Player of the Year, freshman third baseman/pitcher Maggie Schley named Rookie of the Year and Dawson named Coach of the Year. Warren, Schley and junior Chrisi Mizera also earned all-region honors.

**Saints Sports Awards**

On Monday, April 25, the St. Scholastica Athletics Department hosted its fourth Saints Sports Awards ceremony, honoring CSS student-athletes for their accomplishments on and off the field of competition. Below is a list of this year’s award winners.

- **Male Rookie of the Year:** Brandon Newman (Basketball)
- **Female Rookie of the Year:** Becca Rancour (Soccer)
- **Male Scholar-Athlete Recipient:** David Ohnstad (Basketball)
- **Female Scholar-Athlete Recipient:** Leah Hamm (Soccer)
- **Male Performance of the Year:** Tom Corcoran (Soccer) vs. St. Thomas
- **Female Performance of the Year:** Lindsey Hartfiel (Hockey) vs. Adrian
- **Male Game of the Year:** Basketball vs. UW-Superior
- **Female Game of the Year:** Softball vs. Northwestern
- **Male Athlete of the Year:** Kyle Farrar (Soccer)
- **Co-Female Athletes of the Year:** Brianna Buske (Track & Field) / Casey Hovland (Cross Country)
- **Male Team of the Year:** Basketball
- **Female Team of the Year:** Track & Field
- **Male Career Achievement Award:** Alex Mangan (Football)
- **Female Career Achievement Award:** Kelsey Reeves (Soccer)
- **John Baggs Sportsmanship Award:** Kevin Wagner (Track & Field)
- **Berntson Blue and Gold Award:** Dave Cook
- **Humanitarian Award:** Zach Dahlman (Basketball/Football)
As the president of the Alumni Association, I hear about the profound power alumni have to shape the experiences of St. Scholastica students. As a network of 22,000 Saints, we alumni can open doors around the world. I’d like to share one recent example of how local and global connections are making a community stronger.

Last year, Alumni Board member Pamela Hartley ’14 began working for MEDLIFE, a non-profit organization that works to improve the overall health and welfare of families and communities in need by delivering aid through medicine, education and development. Pam recognized the potential for a St. Scholastica MEDLIFE student chapter and brought the idea to current students Emily Lundgren ’16 and Daniela Rojas ’18. Emily and Daniela took up the challenge and began working to form the St. Scholastica group on campus.

The mission resonated with our current students and, in its first year, the chapter grew to 40 members! The group began fundraising and planned a 2016 spring break volunteer trip. In March, 30 students traveled to Lima, Peru to volunteer with MEDLIFE (see page 23). They spent the week shadowing Peruvian medical professionals, setting up mobile health clinics and building a staircase for an impoverished community so they have safer access to food and water. The students from St. Scholastica were a part of a group of more than 180 students from around the world, working together to serve 3,313 people.

Emily helped plan the trip to Peru and shared how meaningful the trip was for her: “It was an amazing experience. During our time helping the OB/GYN, we witnessed one woman who had cancer and others who had serious infections. It was heartbreaking to see these women suffering, but a privilege to be able to direct them to the right places for treatment and to educate them on how to utilize the free health care offered in Peru.”

St. Scholastica students flourish with experiences like this and other opportunities alumni can help provide. As alumni, you can connect Saints to internships, volunteer opportunities and learning experiences that can change lives. If you would like to get more involved or share ideas on how to engage our students or even other alumni, please reach out to Alumni Relations at alumni@css.edu.

Saints for Life!

Nicole Miller ’99
Alumni Board President

Members of the St. Scholastica MEDLIFE student group and Alumni Association board member, Pam Hartley ’14 in Lima, Peru.

Emily Lundgren ’16 with a young patient.
1960s

1963

Rosemarie (Florucci) Meyer, Tuscon, AZ, has started her own business, “Specialties 4U by Rose,” of home-baked and canned goods, along with handcrafted items.

1970s

1979

Paula (Borrelli) LaPenta, Rehoboth Beach, DE, is the owner of Casapulla’s Subs.

1980s

1981

Gordon Ringberg, Bayfield, WI, was elected mayor of Bayfield.

1987

Cynthia Sorensen Baker, Aitkin, MN, is chief operating officer at Riverwood Healthcare Center.

1990s

1995

Dr. Faith Hensrud, Bemidji, MN, is president of Bemidji State University and Northwest Technical College.

Amy (Ricci) Hershman, Fishers, IN, is now the acquisition integration manager at Cisco. Amy has been at Cisco for 5 years. In December 2015, she accepted the new position working on the partner acquisition integration team, where she is a core team member working on Cisco’s acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures and strategic partnerships.

Aaron McKay (MA ’96), Delano, MN, is a qualified rehabilitation consultant at the Alaris Group, Inc. in Bloomington, MN. 1996

Melissa (King) Raddant (MBA ’14), Duluth, is an accountant for Second Harvest Northern Lakes Food Bank.

Gina Rainelli (MA ’97), Minneapolis, MN, completed her post-professional doctoral degree in occupational therapy with a concentration in pediatrics in January. In March, she presented her research to second-year OT students at St. Scholastica. She shared, “It was so fun to be back on the beautiful St. Scholastica campus.” 1998

Beth Ahrens, Duluth, has been named vice president, chief financial officer for W.P. & R.S. Mars Co. 1999

Katie Peterson, MSN, RN, Eagan, MN, is an instructor in nursing at the Mayo College of Medicine and director of the Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovation/ Mayo Clinic Arizona Collaborative Pre-licensure Nursing Program. The ASU/Mayo Clinic Nursing Program received the 2015 exemplary Academic Practice Partnership Award from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Katie had an opportunity to present the successes of the program and receive an award on the behalf of the academic practice partnership in Washington, D.C. in October 2015.

2000s

2000

Cayetana Maristela, St. Joseph, MO, was recently awarded a Fund for Teachers grant to study Spanish at Escuela Juan Sisay in Xela, Guatemala. The 18-day immersion program will be in June 2016. Cayetana is currently working for Center School District as an English language learners teacher.

Tom Williams, St. Michael, MN, is the director of produce and floral merchandising for Coborn’s. 2001

Trisha (Sherner) Rau (MS ’12), Byron, MN, is a nurse practitioner in the Urgent Care Department at the Essentia Health St. Joseph’s-Baxter Clinic in Baxter. 2002

Sam Tabaka, Rogers, MN, and his wife Tracy work as instructors of adaptive sports. The couple have been instrumental in building the adaptive programming at the Outdoor Recreation School for Three Rivers Parks District. The programming now includes Nordic skiing, kayaking, fishing, mountain biking, archery and more. They serve nearly 1,400 participants annually with a wide range of disabilities related to spinal cord injuries, spina bifida, traumatic brain injuries, Down syndrome, and more. 2003

Sarah Petrich, Portland, OR, is the director of Human Resources for Marylhurst University. 2006

Marina (Herrera) Kern, Minnetonka, MN, is a patient care supervisor for Abbott Northwestern Hospital. 2008

Susie (Alters) Eller, Pillager, MN, was promoted to advertising director at Brainerd Dispatch/Echo Journal. 2009

Mike Lewis, Duluth, is a life/health agent at Reliable Insurance Agency in Cloquet.

Carrie Rust, Duluth, is the office and Human Resources administrator at Moline. 2009

Kathy Halbert (MS ’15), Brainerd, MN, is a certified nurse practitioner for Mille Lacs Health System.

2010s

2010

Carol Boyer (MBA ’12), Melrose, MN, was promoted to chief finance officer at West Central MN Communities Action.
2011

Sister Gaudensia Mwanyika, O.S.B., Tanzania, is working to start her own school in Tanzania for students in kindergarten through middle school grades with special needs.

Amanda Woidyla, Mandan, ND, is the university and student development coordinator at the Bank of North Dakota.

2012

Eric Bottolfsen, Phoenix, AZ, was promoted to regional director of sales, disability and long term care insurance product lines with MassMutual Financial Group. He is now managing an eight-state territory out west and is based in Phoenix, AZ.

2013

Lauren Johnson (MS ’15), Brainerd, MN, has joined the sales team at Consolidated Telecommunications Company.

Ethan Schubert, Two Harbors, MN, is working as an insurance producer for Lori Pietsch State Farm Agency in Duluth.

2014

Kate Kucinski, Duluth, is the public relations director for Grandma’s Marathon-Duluth Inc.

2015

Rodiel Kirby Baloy, Huntington Beach, CA, is a graduate of The College of St. Scholastica—tDPT program. He shared his gratitude for the College and the DPT program, “Within the first year after graduation, plenty of doors have opened for me to further my career and help advance my profession. I was appointed associate editor of an international journal, I got accepted for presentation in Malaysia and the degree allowed me to be accepted as adjunct faculty for a private college here in California. This is over and above my private practice where everything I have learned has made me a much more thorough and complete physical therapist. Furthermore, I have also just accepted a nomination to be part of the credentialing committee for the Exercise is Medicine initiative of the American College of Sports Medicine. The EIM is a global health initiative focusing on encouraging primary care physicians and health care providers to include physical activity when designing treatment plans for patients. It considers exercise and activity as a “vital sign” important for overall health. Without the education I received through CSS all these opportunities would not have presented themselves. All of it within a year of graduating. I cannot thank the program and the faculty enough. It is truly an exceptional value in physical therapy education.”

Carrie Nitz, Prescott, WI, is a registered nurse for the University of MN Medical Center.

Colin Phaneuf, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, is an investment analyst for Capital Commercial Real Estate.

Peggy Romero, Knife River, MN, is an adult mental health intern at St. Louis County.

Amanda Skorich, Woodbury, MN, is the assistant account manager-TV sector for River of Goods. She shared the impact her classmates and educational experience had on her decision to change jobs. Amanda wrote, “I shared my recent job change because when I was on my Cape Cod trip for my master’s program I came to a very public realization that my ‘dream job’ had turned into the ‘job from hell’ and I decided I was going to get out! I am proud to say that I successfully got out and started in a new career field. I think many of my classmates will be happy to hear about this success because it was quite a struggle since October!”

Skylar (Haubert) Turek, Duluth, is working as the food shelf director for the Vineyard Church - Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf in Duluth, MN.

Katie Wieliczkiewicz, Lacey, WA, is the director of campus life for Saint Martin’s University.

Ian Woods, Onalaska, WI, is a regional supply chain manager for the Mayo Clinic Health System.

UNIONS

Kasey (Levine) ’13 and Anthony Bye ’12, Sept. 5, 2015.

Skylar (Haubert) ’15 and Aaron Turek, June 13, 2015.

BIRTHS


DEATHS

Jean (Curto) Rebrovich ’37 died on March 31, 2016 in Melrose, MN. Survived by her sister-in-law, Lorraine Curto; nieces and nephews, Pat, Dolly, Nancy, Jeannie, Diane, Toni, Brandon, Char, Jimmy; and many great-nieces and nephews.

Glady (Mareski) Mankowski ’47 died on March 14, 2015 in Duluth. She is survived by her children, James, John, Joan; grandchildren, Rachel, Johnathan, Jacob, Anna Rose, John Dwaine, Jeffrey, Jessica; sister, Delores Weinburger; and great-grandchildren Lillian, Natalie.

Gloria (Sella) Burich ’48 died on Jan. 24, 2016 in Grand Rapids, MN. She is survived by her brother Louis Sella; sister, Gilda Richards; and many nieces and nephews.

Donna (Wiese) Heer ’48 died on Jan. 21, 2016 in Jamestown, MN. She is survived by her son, Paul and grandchildren, Liza, Zach.
Taylor (Dimmick) ’13 (MA ’15) and Jordan Walling ’14, Aug. 14, 2015.

Morgan Croft-Schornak ’15 and Jacob Schornak, May 19, 2016.


Vanessa (Zine) ’07 and Dustin Zauner, a girl, Amelia, Jan. 5, 2016.

Leah (Przybilla) ’11 and Josh Anderson, a girl, Gabriella, Sept. 14, 2015.


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Mary (Mahlum) Connell ’49 died on Dec. 1, 2015 in Lisle, IL. She is survived by children, John, Kathleen Ryan, Marne Reicher, Kelly, Tim, Sue Hannigan, Tom, Durah; 21 grandchildren; and 27 great grandchildren.

Mary Agnes (Karpen) Crist ’49 died on March 17, 2016 in Hastings, MN. She is survived by her sisters, Maureen Fasbender, Joanne Grabowski; children, Maureen Kranz, Colleen Callies, John; grandchildren, Rebekka, Sarah, Shannon, Brianna, Scott, Benjamin, Nicholas; and great grandchildren, Grace, Jonah, Elijah, Alex, Tara.

Ramona (Sederberg) Stelmack ’49 died on March 7, 2016 in Duluth. She is survived by her brother, Robert; nephews, Bruce, Clayton; niece, Cynthia; eight grand-nieces and grand-nephews; one great grand-nephew; and two great grand-nieces.

Celeste (Bechtel) Jensen ’53 died on Feb. 5, 2016 in Fullerton, CA. She is survived by her sisters, Di Gerson, Avy Vollmer; brother, Bob Bechtel; children, Tom, Alisha, Cindy, Patty; and grandchildren, Andrew, Sarah; Christy, Casey, Colin, Stephen.

Mable (Hü) Cheng ’54 died on Feb. 16, 2016 in St. Louis, MO. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Alfred Cheng; sisters, Wilma Hu, Alice Chen; children, Sharon, Glenn, Terry; and grandchildren, Shannon, David, Elly, Richard, Clarissa, William.

Ida (Angeli) Barnack ’55 died on Dec. 1, 2015 in Juneau, AK. She is survived by her children, Michael, Theresa Buzard, David, Anthony, Timothy, Annie Janes, Daniel; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and sister, Mary Snow.

Sister Armella Oblak, O.S.B. ’57 died on March 22, 2016 in Duluth. She is survived by her sister, Teresa Braatz; brother, Dennis; nieces; nephews; her Benedictine Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery; and many friends.

Sharon (Kapets) Negrini ’61 died on Feb. 4, 2015 in Eau Claire, WI. She is survived by her husband, James; daughters, Julie Hall, Gina Krueger, Laura Negrini-Speight; grandchildren, Bradon, Ryan, Delaney, Leo, Adelia; brother, Gene Kapets; sisters, Renee Lato, Mary Beth Kapets; and family members and friends.

Sandra (Anderson) Peterson ’62 died on Dec. 13, 2015 in Duluth. She is survived by her son, Craig; grandchildren, Blake, Kadie; and numerous in-laws.

Ruth (Scrimshaw) Johnson ’66 died on Feb. 28, 2016 in St. Cloud. She is survived by her children, Fred, Susan Bischof, Margie Tracy; grandchildren, Bradley, Emily, Dylan, Grant, Zach, Brooke, Caleb; and siblings, Ronald, Judy, Tim, Patrick, JoAnn.

Sister Mary Rochefort, O.S.B. ’70 died on Feb. 9, 2016 in Duluth. She is survived by the Sisters of St. Scholastica Monastery; her brother, Dick; her sisters Ellen McGuire, Lorna Cutler, Ione Collins; and numerous nieces, nephews, friends, and associates.

Lynn (Booth) Miller ’75 died on Jan. 28, 2016 in Kansas City, MO. She is survived by her husband, Bruce; son, Adam; daughter, Lisa; grandchildren, Landon, Avery, Caroline; sister, Debra Coleman; and brother, Timothy Booth.

Pamela Smith ’75 died on Feb. 5, 2016 in Crosby, MO. She is survived by sisters, Susan McCloskey, Maureen Alaboud, Janet; brothers, Bob, Pat, Richard; 11 nieces and nephews; and six great nieces and nephews.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

Mary Agnes (Karpen) Crist ’49 on the death of her sister, Mary.

LaVonne (Young) Senn ’49 on the death of her husband, Alfred.

Phyllis (Dahlin) Clover ’50 on the death of her son, David.

Jane (Oberstar) Carter ’59 on the death of her husband, Alan.

Bernadine (Hudacek) Sampson ’59 on the death of her brother, Joseph.

Geraldine (Kochevar) Foster ’61 on the death of her husband, Eldon.

Linda (Roske) Kloss ’68 on the death of her husband, John.

Wanda (Dahlman) Larsen ’69 on the death of her mother, Jeanette.

Susan (Smith) McCloskey ’68 on the death of her mother, Pamela.

Judith (Rusin) Vrklan ’69 on the death of her husband, Mike.

Karen (Lorentz) Doran ’69, Jacqueline (Lorentz) Kilby ’74, Ronald Lorentz ’97 on the death of their father, Mark.

Marion (Ekland) Adineh ’72 on the death of her husband, Hosseinial.

Kathleen (Murray) Owen ’74 on the death of her brother, Mike.

Marilyn Hull ’75 on the death of her father, Robert.

Cathrine (Clover) Childs ’77 on the death of her brother, David.

Lynne (Viita) Hilde ’77 on the death of her brother, Larry.

Amy (Armstrong) Matson ’77 on the death of her mother, Betty.

Victoria Stauber-Pufall ’77 on the death of her husband, Patrick.

Jacquelyn (Jarocki) Holmquist ’78 and John Jarocki ’84 on the death of their father, Casimir.

Laurie (Smoger) Rubesch ’78 on the death of her mother, Haily.

Paula (Borrelli) LaPenta ’79 on the death of her father, Paul.

Susan (Pakkala) Gerzina ’81 on the death of her father, Thomas.

Cheryl Podgornik ’83 on the death of her mother, Alice.

John Skalko ’83 on the death of his mother, Janet.

Theresa (Barnack) Buzard ’84 on the death of her mother, Ida.
Mary Kay Hohensee-Mayer ’86 on the death of her father, Lawrence.

Bradley Schramm ’87 on the death of his father, Richard.

Julie (Mickolajak) Waltenburg ’87 on the death of her father, Robert.

Donna (Folkedahl) Parzyck ’89 on the death of her sister, Dale.

Joseph Griffiths ’90 on the death of his son, Joseph III.

Robert Hartl ’90 on the death of his mother, Kathleen.

Geraldine Nynas ’90 (MED ’94) on the death of her mother, Florence.

Jeffrey Everett ’91 on the death of his father, Larry.

William Mickelson ’91 (BA ’93, MS ’12) on the death of his father, Wilfred.

Peter Callies ’92 on the death of his father, Melvin.

Cheryl Gustason ’92 on the death of her father, Jim.

Jonathan Kastelic ’92 (BS ’09) on the death of his father, Joseph.

Kimberly Keil ’92 on the death of her father, Ralph.

Suzanne Sabroski ’93 on the death of her father, Robert.

Kathleen Schafer ’93 and Colleen Fasnacht ’99 (MA ’00) on the death of their mother, Marion.

Eileen Blackwood ’94 on the death of her mother, Jean.

Barbara Pavcovich ’94 on the death of her brother, William.

Jaclyn (Foster) Swanson ’94 on the death of her father, Eldon.

Kevan Boman ’95 and Adele Hartwick ’11 on the death of their mother, Joyce.

Ann Powers ’95 on the death of her mother, Carol.

Janet LeBard ’97 on the death of her husband, Keith.

Angela (Guthrie) Gunderson ’98 (MA ’99) on the death of her father, Jack.

Richard Mattson ‘98 on the death of his brother, Ernest.

Mary Lee ’99 on the death of her mother, Harriet.

Ward Lane ’00 on the death of his father, Warren.

Vincent Osborn ’03 on the death of his mother, Leona.

Cindy Olson ’04 on the death of her mother, Claudia.

Veronica Surges ’08, Daniel Machado ’09, Marisa Machado ’09 and Vincent Surges ’11 on the death of their father, David.

Wendy Homstad ’12 on the death of her brother, Leonard.

Ellen Whelihan ’15 on the death of her mother, Phyllis.

Due to space restrictions, please submit Class Notes of news occurring within the past 12 months. Class Notes items include weddings, graduations, new jobs, promotions, awards or honors, major life news, other achievements and death announcements. We reserve the right to exercise editorial discretion in the publication of alumni news and photos; submission does not guarantee publication. The items featured in this issue were submitted between Feb. 6, 2016 - April 30, 2016. If you submitted a note that is not featured, please contact Alumni Relations at alumni@css.edu, 218-723-6071 or 866-935-3731.

The College of St. Scholastica invites you to celebrate Reunion Weekend, June 24-26, 2016 on the Duluth Campus. This year’s theme celebrates “A Legacy of Saints.” A legacy started by the Sisters, fostered by you and continued with every class, friendship and experience students have at St. Scholastica. There will be a special gathering of Physical Therapy alumni to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the program. In addition, alumni will have an opportunity to tour the new Health Science Center during Reunion Weekend. Join us!

Details: css.edu/Reunion
TELL YOUR FRIENDS WHAT YOU’RE UP TO

We need your personal and professional updates for Class Notes. Pictures also are welcome. (Please identify all subjects by name and by class year if applicable.) If your name has changed, please include your name while at St. Scholastica. You can send in your news via the Internet. It’s easy! Go to: css.edu/update. You may also e-mail your news to alumni@css.edu

Class Notes, including pictures, are now available online.

We’ll be Seeing You!

Please join us at any of the following events. Check your mail for events taking place near you. Contact Alumni Relations or check css.edu/events for additional information.

**June 15 - 24**
Alumni Travel Program
Baltic Sea

**June 23, Duluth campus**
President’s Dinner

**June 24, Duluth campus**
Alumni Association Scholarship Silent Auction and Reception

**June 24 - 26, Duluth campus**
Alumni Reunion Weekend - “A Legacy of Saints”

**Aug. 12, Minneapolis**
Alumni Social and Twins Game Target Field

**Aug. 25 - Sept. 5, St. Paul**
Minnesota State Fair – Stop by the CSS Booth in the Education Building

**Sept. 8, Duluth campus**
Saints Heritage Club Breakfast and Opening Convocation

**Sept. 22, Minneapolis**
Alumni Social, School of Business and Technology

**Oct. 14 - 15, Duluth campus**
Homecoming

**Nov. 5, Twin Cities**
Bus Trip to Mall Of America

Invitations to events are mailed three to four weeks prior to the event date. If you do not receive an invitation to your local event, or if you would like to attend any of the other events, please contact Alumni Relations at (218) 723-6071 or (866) 535-3731 or visit our website at: alumni.css.edu
The last several weeks have brought big changes to the College’s new Health Science Center at BlueStone on Woodland Avenue. Crews were busy with finishing touches, including landscaping, painting, and adding a wood accent wall behind the main staircase, with a bluestone rock garden below to tie the building back to its Tower Hall roots. Furniture was delivered, and cleaning was underway to get everything ready for the building’s ribbon-cutting ceremony at 1:30 p.m. June 23. Join us for the celebration!
The College thanks President Larry Goodwin for his 18 years of leadership.

SEE MORE photos at plus.google.com/+stscholastica