



MARYVILLE  
M A G A Z I N E

# LEGENDS

Maryville's Esports Team Captures the National Title

FALL 2017



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ON THE COVER

Maryville's esports team boasts an impressive record nationally and internationally. Here, players celebrate their Collegiate League of Legends championship, the first U.S. school to claim the title.

photo courtesy of *Riot Games*



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Maryville University is a private, independent institution offering 90+ degrees at the undergraduate, master's and doctoral levels. Maryville has forged its outstanding reputation based on academic outcomes, small class sizes, individualized student attention and academic excellence.



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Maryville alumna Jane Shannon Cannon, '57, is the author of *Two Hundred Years: A Legacy of Love and Learning*, a new book honoring the Society of the Sacred Heart and its 200-year history in Missouri.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

My favorite time of the year is the fall. The beautiful weather, the changing leaves, the crispness of the air and the promise of holidays to come all make it a wondrous time. But what I enjoy most about the fall is the chance to share with all of you the amazing growth, innovation and achievement of our students, faculty and staff here at Maryville. And this fall is no exception; in fact, it is a banner year.

Our enrollment continues to grow as word spreads throughout this nation of the revolution in higher education that we now lead. Named the third-fastest growing private university in the nation, Maryville now enrolls over 7,800 students from 50 states and 60 countries. We continue to deliver the highest quality

Our science, design and health professions faculty demonstrate just a few examples of the rich programs that engage our students with the greater community whether here in St. Louis or around the world. And please also read about a very special nurse on our faculty whose education, commitment and passion touched generations of nursing graduates – Dr. Geralyn Frandsen.

Maryville is growing, thriving, leading and empowering thousands with the best education anywhere. Yet through all of this dynamic work, we never lose sight of those who built this wonderful foundation, the Sacred Heart, and those who support and nurture us year after glorious year, our alumni and supporters.

NAMED THE THIRD-FASTEST GROWING PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN THE NATION, MARYVILLE NOW ENROLLS OVER 7,800 STUDENTS FROM 50 STATES AND 60 COUNTRIES

education to our students and empowering programs to the community through the good work of so many. Whether it's our Center for Access and Achievement (CA<sup>2</sup>), our incredible faculty, or our community programs like the St. Louis Speakers Series and Kids Rock Cancer, to name just a few, we bring life changing education and programming to this diverse and vital community. And while we lead as educators, we also lead in athletics with our League of Legends esports team, which has dominated this new collegiate sport, winning the first collegiate National Championship and single-handedly putting esports on the national radar. Their overall record of 127-4 since they began is a testimony to their ability and excellence.

Together, we are remaking the face of higher education and leading a revolution in access and opportunity in this century because our values are right and our commitment is deep, historical and rock solid.

Please join us as we write the next amazing chapter in the history of this very special University.  
Warmest wishes,

Mark Lombardi

Mark Lombardi, PhD







INNOVATION DRIVES  
RECORD ENROLLMENT &  
NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Maryville University  
continues to experience  
unprecedented growth,  
and we're attracting  
national attention.

3RD FASTEST-GROWING PRIVATE UNIVERSITY IN AMERICA

In 2017, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* named Maryville one of the top three fastest-growing private universities in the U.S. The same publication interviewed President Mark Lombardi, PhD, about the University's exceptional use of technology in a story titled **One Campus's iPad Revolution Results in Education Evolution.**

"Our amazing growth is a tribute to our innovative and revolutionary approach to student learning and outcomes," said Lombardi. "Students and alumni, as well as prospective students, are increasingly aware of the value and high quality of a Maryville University degree."

A second national article, published by InsideHigherEd.com, **Maryville's Big Bet on Faculty Training**, lauds the University's investment in faculty instruction to enhance student learning. In that article, Jesse Kavadlo, PhD, professor of English and director of Maryville's Center for Teaching and Learning, is quoted as saying faculty members "are finding effective ways of enhancing what they're doing with the technology ... (and) finding new ways of doing things that they couldn't have done before."

RECORD ENROLLMENT

This year, Maryville again achieved record enrollment. The overall student population for Fall 2017 is more than 7,800 students – a 15 percent increase over 2016 – and the incoming freshman class is 635 students strong, a 12 percent rise over last year.

Throughout this extended period of growth, the University has continued to focus on student success, a commitment evidenced by an impressive career placement rate of 97 percent for Maryville graduates.



NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART RESOURCES

Construction of the east wing of Saints Hall is underway and is expected to be completed for Fall 2018. Maryville's newest residence hall will then serve a total of 445 students. Classroom renovations in Anheuser-Busch Hall created a state-of-the-art flexible learning center, featuring upgraded technology tools and customizable seating to boost collaboration among students and faculty.

After just one year, the Cyber Fusion Center outgrew its original space. Now it is four times larger to accommodate nearly 300 majors and the growing number of nonprofit clients who receive free data protection services.

Donius University Center also underwent significant renovations over the summer months. The Center for Student Engagement, a popular hub, was enlarged to better serve the more than 100 student organizations.

In addition, Maryville's network bandwidth and connectivity are in the top 10 percent nationwide. 



**STUDENT LEADERS:** During the outdoor Involvement Fair held at the beginning of each fall semester, students choose from more than 100 student organizations in which to participate. During this year's event, student group leaders posed with several campus safety officers.



# But Can You Spell That?

Big Dreams, Big Words for These High School Students



Otitis media.  
Cerebrovascular accident.  
Sphygmomanometer.  
Say all of the above three times FAST – especially that last word (pronounced sfig-moh-muh-nom-i-ter). Now, what do they all mean?

Just ask one of the Lutheran High School South (LHSS) students enrolled in a new “foreign” language course — medical terminology. These students enroll at LHSS and Maryville University, and they take the same medical terminology course as Maryville students.

The high school students enrolled in this advanced college course plan to pursue careers in healthcare. They take the course for credit in an online format. With the support of a lead instructor, the Lutheran South students learn how to manage their time, meet testing deadlines and complete learning tasks virtually, all within an activity-rich online setting.

Nearly 6 million college students have at least one online course as part of their typical

course load, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics.

“Those Lutheran South students who participate in this class will have a marked advantage in their future college careers, where they will likely need to perform in a virtual manner,” says Ashlyn Cunningham, OTD, OTR/L, assistant professor of occupational therapy at Maryville, who helped design the partnership. Cunningham is the parent of a Lutheran South student and an alumna of the school.

The health professions partnership with Maryville launched in 2016, with a specific focus on practical lab experiences. Students in the Medical Careers Exploration course travel to Maryville’s campus to participate in lab training, assisted by Maryville students along with Cunningham and her husband, Robert Cunningham, PhD, OT/L, ATP, who directs Maryville’s occupational therapy program. **M**

# 1900s Scrapbook Donated to Archives

Mary Adaline Kennedy, 1905, a graduate of Maryville Academy of the Sacred Heart, which then became Maryville University, kept a scrapbook during her time as a student at the original campus on Meramec and Nebraska streets in south St. Louis.

Her grandniece, Judy Meador, has donated the relic to Maryville’s University Archives, along with other mementos.

One photograph shows students in white dresses holding bouquets, standing on each side of a road. This is a May Crowning ceremony, an annual Maryville tradition on the old campus. The tradition ended in 1962, after taking place just once on Maryville’s west St. Louis County campus.

Some items in these photographs – such as the cabinets that hold Mother Kernaghan’s rock collection – still can be found at Maryville over 110 years later. Today, those cabinets reside on the second floor of Kernaghan Hall.

After leaving Maryville, Kennedy worked as a seamstress at a dry goods store in Monett, Missouri, then at a department store in North Dakota. She returned to St. Louis later in life. **M**

By Emma Prince



# WINNING TRADITION

During The Great Forest Park Balloon Race, Maryville University’s entry landed closest to the target, winning the 30-mile race. Maryville provided major sponsorship for the annual fall event, a beloved St. Louis tradition for the past 45 years.

# Catholic Students Meet New Chaplain

Maryville University’s Newman Center recently welcomed Fr. Noah Waldman as chaplain. The Newman Center serves Catholic students through programming designed to strengthen their faith.

“I’m enjoying getting to know the people of Maryville,” says Waldman. “The fit is excellent. I love the fact that this campus has deep Catholic roots, with special emphasis on my own favorite devotion, the Sacred Heart.”

Waldman currently pastors St. Martin of Tours parish in St. Louis. Previously, Waldman served as associate pastor at Sts. Joachim and Ann Catholic Church in St. Peters, Missouri; St. Joseph Parish in Cottleville, Missouri; and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and Queen of All Saints, both parishes in St. Louis.

While his family is originally from St. Louis, Waldman was raised near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and became a Catholic at age 23. Prior to becoming a priest, he was an architect, with concentrated studies in archaeology and philosophy as well as math and physics.

Along with a bachelor’s in architecture from Princeton University, Waldman holds a master’s in architecture from the University of Notre Dame as well as master’s degrees in sacred scripture and divinity from Kenrick-Glennon Seminary.

Waldman has published articles in the *Journal of the Institute for Sacred Architecture* and other publications, delivered talks on spirituality for the Archdiocese and hosted radio shows on classical music and spiritual matters. **M**







**MAKING THE ALUMNI CONNECTION**

[maryville.edu/linkedin](http://maryville.edu/linkedin)

**17,404** Maryville alumni use LinkedIn

**12,017** live in the greater St. Louis area

**TOP 3 INDUSTRIES:** Healthcare Services, Education and Sales

**TOP 5 CITIES:** St. Louis, Dallas, Chicago, Kansas City and New York

**TOP 4 EMPLOYERS:** Mercy, Boeing, SSM Health and Edward Jones



photo by Chris Reimer

**LUCKY SAINTS:** On the first day of fall semester classes, a late afternoon rain produced a double rainbow above Saints Hall. On Facebook and Instagram, this photo captured so much interest, it held distinction as Maryville’s most popular social media post to date.



photo by Richard Nichols

**CA<sup>2</sup> TAPS POTENTIAL IN YOUNG STUDENTS**

Maryville’s new Center for Access and Achievement (CA<sup>2</sup>), housed in the School of Education, is focused on one goal: To prepare students in low-income school districts with the skills and abilities they need to succeed in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields in college and in the workforce.

Steve Coxon, PhD, associate professor and director of programs in gifted education, directs the new Center. He continues to work on a variety of programs that give students in under-funded districts in St. Louis County the boost they need to thrive, including App Dev Camp with Riverview Gardens and the Maryville Science and Robotics Program, which offers open enrollment courses in all areas of STEM for ages 4-16.

“Access is for students who traditionally haven’t seen college as part of their future,” Coxon says. “We can show them that it can be and it should be. Then we give them experiences on both Maryville’s campus and in schools and afterschool programs to help them on their way.”

By Dale Singer

**Alumni Mentors Share Insights**

Communication Advisors is a new initiative launched by Maryville’s Communication program to provide students with added professional insight. Advisors are young alumni mentors who work in a variety of fields. They offer students job-shadowing opportunities and internship advice and serve on alumni panels in which students can listen to industry stories and ask questions.

Faculty also learn from Communication Advisors, who keep professors apprised of trending software and skills that current students will need to experience prior to graduation.

Students reach out to these alumni mentors through a course management system hub that connects them on LinkedIn.

To sign up as a mentor, email Dustin York, EdD, assistant professor of communication and director of the undergraduate Communication program, at [dyork@maryville.edu](mailto:dyork@maryville.edu).

**FACEBOOK’S SANDBERG SPEAKS IN ST. LOUIS**

As part of the Maryville Talks Books series, and speaking before a sold-out audience, Sheryl Sandberg, chief operating officer at Facebook, discussed her new book, *Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy*.



photo by Richard Nichols



Your comprehensive Maryville University online news resource.

[maryville.edu/mpress](http://maryville.edu/mpress)



# Award Recognizes Support for Boys & Girls Clubs

Maryville University recently received a National Award of Merit from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis in honor of outstanding support to local clubs.

Maryville has partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs on multiple projects throughout the past decade, including College and Me, Post-Secondary Readiness Program and Young Friends of the Club.

“The goal of the Post-Secondary program is to provide students with the foundation, tools and resources to be successful in their post-secondary endeavors, whether it be attending college or university, attending a trade school, joining the United States military, or entering the workforce,” says Turan Mullins, assistant dean and director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

The College and Me program offers tours of Maryville University and associated activities, while Young Friends of the Club provides young professionals a chance to gather with peers who are dedicated to raising money and support for the club. **M**



COLLEGE PREP: Turan Mullins, director of Maryville’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion, works with a Boys & Girls Club student during a summer program held on campus.

photo by Richard Nichols

# OUTSTANDING FACULTY

The four professors honored with Maryville University’s 2017 Outstanding Faculty awards share common threads. They support the University’s mission, pursue collaboration with campus and outside communities and elevate their professions by embracing technology as a learning tool.



**JOHN BALTRUSHUNAS, MFA**  
John Baltrushunas, MFA, director of the studio art program and associate professor of art, utilizes digital tools to create contemporary design courses. Through his knowledge of art history and his culinary expertise, he also weaves together quality study abroad and study away experiences. The lessons are deep in art, politics, history, class struggle, architecture, geography and culture.

**KRISTEN BRUZZINI, PHD**  
Kristen Bruzzini, PhD, director of the biology program and associate professor of biology, takes a creative approach to student learning by embracing both digital options and simpler models. Utilizing origami, video projects and iPad apps, she works all angles to make the complexities of her discipline accessible and memorable. Bruzzini received a Center for Teaching and Learning grant to develop a student lab manual.



**GUANGWEI FAN, PHD**  
Guangwei Fan, PhD, interim director of actuarial science and mathematics and professor of mathematics, has made contributions in all areas of teaching, scholarship, service and technology. He is a leader in contemporizing curriculum, tools and experiences for students and has co-authored e-books to replace actuarial science textbooks. Fan is committed to building career-centered relationships among students, faculty, alumni and industry experts.

**SANDY ROSS, PT, PCS**  
Sandy Ross, PT, PCS, professor of physical therapy, has been a motivating force behind the program’s transition from a bachelor’s degree to a well-respected clinical doctorate program. She has taught almost every course in the program, and her students’ research projects are chosen for presentation at the highly selective American Physical Therapy Association’s annual Combined Sections Meeting.



# HIGHLIGHTS

- 1

**A Play With Purpose** Being an actor in a theatrical performance may not sound like an effective way to help people cope with the reality of speech aphasia, a communication disorder caused by brain damage that affects people’s ability to think of words and understand them, but performers in last summer’s production of *Wizard of Oz* proved otherwise. The Aphasia Communication Theater, an innovative production implemented by graduate students in Maryville’s Speech-Language Pathology program, is designed to improve the speech, language and social rehabilitation of participants. “At times, I have been lacking purpose since my stroke, and this play gave me renewed meaning in my life,” says John Kindschuh, who played the role of King of Winged Monkeys. “It encouraged us that our brain injuries did not rob us of living fully.” **M**
- 2

**Farm First** Maryville is planting new seeds of sustainability by hosting the only freight farm in the state of Missouri and one of only a few in the nation. The Maryville freight farm is designed to grow a variety of leafy greens, like lettuce, kale and arugula, and is intended to supply the dining hall and the salad bar with a variety of organic greens. Such crops grow without any soil, natural light or large amounts of water because they’re raised hydroponically, with nutrient-rich water and LED UV lighting. This sustainable agricultural initiative is directed by Fresh Ideas, Maryville’s dining service. **M**
- 3

**Graduation Celebration** More than 1,000 Maryville graduates participated in the Commencement ceremony held in May. Bill Bradley, former U.S. senator from New Jersey and gold medal Olympian, delivered the 2017 Commencement address. **M**
- 4

**St. Louis Speakers Series** English actor and comedian John Cleese, best known for co-founding the Monty Python comedy troupe, enthralled his audience during his appearance at the 2016-17 St. Louis Speakers Series, presented by Maryville University. The 2017-18 series, which began in October, features such notable guests as President Bill Clinton, Prime Minister David Cameron and Jane Pauley. **M**
- 5

**MRO 2017 Sets Records** Maryville Reaches Out, held annually in the fall, is a day when classes are canceled and the entire Maryville community participates in community service throughout the greater St. Louis area. The 2017 MRO topped previous years in the number of volunteers and agencies served. Nearly 1,400 students, faculty and staff worked on clean-up, client engagement, landscaping and other projects for 108 agencies – and logged a record 4,000 hours of service. **M**



photo by Chris Reimer



photo by Richard Nichols



photo by Dan Donovan



photo by Jerry Naunheim



photo by Richard Nichols



HIGH-TECH BOOKWORMS: Students Katie Agosta (left) and Kelsey Vancil were invited to demonstrate research techniques in the Library of Congress lab this summer. Shown here with Tom Spudich, PhD, associate professor of chemistry and forensic science.



photo by Dan Donovan

Maryville students examine ancient texts in the U.S. Library of Congress

## STUDENT-LED RESEARCH TAKES MARYVILLE TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

BY JONG CAMBRON

Two Maryville University students and a professor took experiential learning on the road to the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., last spring. They checked out old books – but the content they were interested in had nothing to do with the printed word.

Forensic science majors Katie Agosta and Kelsey Vancil worked in the Library's Preservation Research and Testing Division laboratory, using instrumentation in the lab for their research projects as well as demonstrating their methods to the Library's scientists. The scientists are incorporating their methods into an ongoing research program.

"It was incredible to not only be doing research in an actual laboratory, but a laboratory at the Library of Congress," says Vancil. "To see what they do every day and to be working on a project of our own there was really a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

The Library of Congress houses more than 164 million collection items, making it the world's largest library. It serves as the research arm of Congress and as a valuable resource for scholars and researchers.

Tom Spudich, PhD, coordinator of the Forensic Science program at Maryville, says Agosta and Vancil were invited by the Library of Congress to share their knowledge after one of the institution's scientists saw a presentation the students gave during the 2017 PITTCON conference. PITTCON is a national conference on laboratory science.

Spudich says engaging in hands-on, on-site projects is an important part of the curriculum.

"These students were able to experience adapting to a new environment," says Spudich. "It also prepared them for a 'real-life' situation. Plus, they now have professional scientific connections for the future."

During PITTCON, Agosta and Vancil showcased a forensic method of determining various metals in distinct types of paper.

"There are trace amounts of metal in paper, and through analyzing different samples, we hope to be able to differentiate paper types based on the amounts of different trace metals they contain," says Agosta.



**"IT WAS INCREDIBLE TO NOT ONLY BE DOING RESEARCH IN AN ACTUAL LABORATORY, BUT A LABORATORY AT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS."**



photo by Dan Donovan

This type of analysis could help determine whether money is counterfeit or help identify the source of paper used during a crime, such as a ransom note — an investigation that intrigues Vancil.

"I have always been interested in the science behind solving crimes," says Vancil.

The Library of Congress asked the students to examine paper samples from the Barrow Book Collection, a reference collection of scientific research samples composed of 1,000 books dated 1507

to 1899. They are maintained by the Preservation Research and Testing Division and have been the subject of physical and chemical testing since the 1960s.

"The methods that the Maryville students brought to the lab have assisted us in moving a series of projects forward where we are examining historic papers," said Eric Monroe, PhD, supervisory physical scientist. "We are linking results of physical properties and chemical composition in order to better understand the state of our collections as well as identify materials that are most at risk to degradation. This can then guide preservation treatments in order to ensure the long-term stability and availability of the materials."

Agosta and Vancil weighed the paper samples and then digested them in nitric acid and 30 percent hydrogen peroxide. The solutions were weighed and analyzed using inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy, which detects the amount of metals in paper.

The students worked with specialized, high-end instrumentation in the Library's lab.

"I enjoy these types of on-site projects as you get to experience what it would be like if you got the job you are looking for right now," says Agosta. "You learn to be more adaptable with these types of projects, as well. Equipment and instrumentation may not be the same, and the way things work might be different, so you become a more knowledgeable and well-rounded person." **M**



# LONGTIME PROFESSOR NURTURES FUTURE NURSES

Prescribing skills confidence and a strong dose of empathy, Professor Geralyn Frandsen shepherds nursing students into a high-growth profession

By Janet Edwards



photos by **Richard Nichols**

In the 27 years that Geralyn Frandsen, '83, EdD, RN, has taught nursing at Maryville University, and in the three years she was a Maryville bachelor of science nursing student, she's observed stunning growth in the program in regard to enrollment, facilities and new learning formats. One thing remains the same, however: Frandsen is as enthusiastic today as ever about preparing students for the nursing profession.

"I wanted to be a nurse for as long as I can remember. I love every aspect of it, from education to patient care to community health," says Frandsen, who serves as both professor and assistant director of the undergraduate nursing program. "I hope I'm passing that passion along to my students."

Enrollment in the nursing program, both undergraduate and graduate, has skyrocketed from nearly 1,000 students to more than 3,400 students in just the past five years. When Frandsen began teaching in 1990, there were 259 undergraduate nursing students, and no graduate program existed.

By all accounts, the nursing profession is expected to grow at a much faster pace than most other occupations for the foreseeable future. Maryville has kept pace with the growth, Frandsen says.

Four years ago, with a generous gift, Mercy named Maryville's program — the Catherine McAuley School of Nursing — for the founder of the Sisters of Mercy. In 2015, the School of Health Professions, as it was known then, moved to Myrtle E. and Earl E. Walker Hall, Maryville's newest, signature, academic building on campus. In conjunction with the move, the school was renamed the Myrtle E. and Earl E. Walker College of Health Professions.

State-of-the-art nursing labs are a feature of the facility and provide realistic nursing simulations that are essential to today's education, says Frandsen.

"In the old lab, located in the Kernaghan building, we only had one mannequin on which to practice nursing skills," Frandsen says. "Now,

we have three labs, and each of the 16 simulator patients truly mimics the clinical environment — one of our mannequins even gives birth."

With these cutting-edge simulators, individual patient scenarios are recorded, and students are able to review their performance.

"That allows students to identify what they've done correctly or incorrectly and home in on the skills they need to practice," Frandsen says.

Frandsen has taught most nursing courses in her career, many of which involved clinical supervision of students and their patients. Now she teaches a course in end of life care, a subject for which Frandsen has plenty of personal experiences to share with students, given her 11 years of work with the St. Louis Visiting Nurses Association early in her career.

Frandsen is also an expert in the area of nursing pharmacology and has authored a textbook on the subject.

**"I WANTED TO BE A NURSE FOR AS LONG  
AS I CAN REMEMBER. I LOVE EVERY  
ASPECT OF IT, FROM EDUCATION TO  
PATIENT CARE TO COMMUNITY HEALTH."**

Four years ago, Frandsen worked with Maryville's instructional design team to bring her advanced pharmacotherapeutics course online. Many students reside in St. Louis, but others live in places like Washington, D.C., and New Jersey. Her students are quick to point out that the course is not just about various drugs used in healthcare.

"I remember Dr. Frandsen discussing analgesics and describing the pain sickle cell and cancer patients go through, and how she really wanted us to care and to understand the importance of this," says senior Sarah Kerr, a former student of Frandsen's.

After 10 years as a human resources specialist, Kerr is changing professions.

"In my HR career, I had to hide my heart a lot, but in nursing, you don't have to hide how much you care," she says. "Dr. Frandsen cares about us as students, and you can tell how much she cared for her patients."

Frandsen, who is known for her personable nature, is also revered for her practicality and efficient approach to teaching complex, content-heavy courses.

"She either has an example, a story or a mnemonic for all subjects to help students understand the material in a way that works best for them," says senior nursing student Ayat Mohsen. "It's important to Dr. Frandsen that her students succeed and become independent as nurses."

Frandsen's ability to model a calm demeanor when exams or personal crises arise is also appreciated by students.

"I still use her visual and auditory calming methods when I'm confronted with strenuous professional situations," Mohsen says. "This allows me to calm my nerves and focus on what best to do."

Frandsen shares lots of stories of patient care in her classes, hoping first of all to instill a greater sense of empathy among students. That effort does not go unnoticed.

"I appreciate when our professors can integrate experiences and different parts of their lives to aid in teaching their students, because it helps us apply information to a realistic situation," says Megan Preuss, senior. "Nursing is a continuous cycle of learning, because things are always changing. Dr. Frandsen made us realize it's OK to not always know the correct answer off the top of our heads, but to make sure we



use our resources to find out the correct answer."

When Frandsen was asked to be the guest speaker for a Maryville nursing program pinning ceremony, it was a special moment.

"This particular class had endured great trials and tribulations during their education. They experienced births, deaths and the severe illness of one of their classmate's child," Frandsen says. "I was teaching neurological nursing care and brain tumors on the day of this child's surgery. As a class, we had to first deal with the emotions related to their classmate. Experiencing this with my students brought me closer to them and assisted them in learning to apply compassionate care to other families experiencing illness or loss."

Along with helping her students develop greater empathy and navigate difficult professional and personal circumstances, Frandsen says one of her greatest achievements is the legacy in education she has fostered over the years. From 2005 to 2013, she coordinated the MSN program in nursing education.

"I taught future nurse educators," Frandsen says. "I am proud to say two of my alumnae, Rhonda Pugh and Elizabeth Stuesse, teach full-time in Maryville's McAuley School of Nursing, and many others serve as our adjunct faculty." **M**





By Maureen Zegel

ST.  
LOUIS

## TWO CITIES, TWO PROGRAMS — ONE UNIVERSITY

First-year nursing student Sam Slaughter lives on Maryville's campus, while his father, Kelly Slaughter, studies for his MBA online in Callaway County, Missouri

ALL IN THE FAMILY: Dad's not sporting a "Big Red M" shirt because he's a Maryville parent — he's a student, too! In an exciting new partnership, Slaughter is earning his MBA online as part of a program launched specifically for employees of Ameren's Callaway Energy Center in Callaway County, Missouri. A semester after he joined the Maryville community, his son, Sam Slaughter, arrived on campus as a first-year nursing student, creating a new family legacy.



Kelly Slaughter is a 23-year veteran of Ameren Missouri's Callaway Energy Center, a senior outage scheduler, and now a member of the first MBA cohort offered through a unique partnership between his employer, Maryville University and Westminster College. He thanks his son, Samuel Slaughter, for his student status.

Last year, Kelly Slaughter had reached a point where he wanted to advance his career by furthering his education.

"At the same time, Sam was looking at colleges," says Slaughter. "He decided early that he wanted to go into the nursing program at Maryville. Meanwhile, Ameren announced they would offer an on-line MBA program with Maryville and Westminster. Sam encouraged me to apply immediately. He kept saying, 'You gotta go, Dad, you just gotta go.' So, I applied."

Kelly Slaughter began his classes last January. Maryville's newest academic partnership offers the flexible education opportunities required by Ameren employees and others who are balancing their time among a host of professional and personal responsibilities.

"Ameren's leadership wanted to provide access for employees to graduate education," says Katherine Louthan, executive director of Maryville's School of Adult and Online Education. "Utilizing Westminster's established relationship with Ameren, we were able to offer Ameren our online virtual classroom, which accommodates the reality of shift work and the very specific needs of these highly specialized employees."

It's the job of Caitlin Ladd, associate director of adult and online

education, to identify ways in which organizations can best invest in their employees.

"Maryville doesn't deliver the same education package to everyone," she says. "We work closely with a company's human resources leaders, listen to their needs, then discuss how we can best meet them. In this case, we were able to creatively design an online course delivery model, complemented by either virtual or face-to-face engagement."

The online format opens a door to education long sought by Ameren employees in Callaway County. Traveling to nearby Columbia or St. Louis for classes had always been out of the question.

"With our busy lives and varied work schedules, we simply don't have the time, nor the physical and mental energy, to be sitting in classes," says Slaughter. "Maryville has just been great to work with. They have helped make our cohort a cohesive group. We support each other and congratulate each other on a great online post or comment. And with a son in college, partnership benefits like tuition reimbursement make it all possible."

Sam, who began classes this fall, has quickly immersed himself in academics and campus life. Two serious knee injuries playing football in high school helped steer him toward a nursing career.

"I toured Maryville and looked at the nursing program in June, before my senior year of high school," he says. "It was a great decision, because someday I can help kids like me. And now, I get to tell people how cool it is that my dad is going to the same school."

CALLAWAY  
CO.



# DESIGNING A DREAM FOR CHINESE FAMILIES

By Maureen Zegel



MARYVILLE STUDENTS,  
PROFESSORS AND  
ALUMNI CREATE A 'SPARK'  
TO HELP ESTABLISH THE  
CHINESE EDUCATION AND  
CULTURE CENTER IN ST. LOUIS

People at our Chinese school had a dream that some day we would have our very own school,” says Guodong Li, actuarial science instructor at Maryville. “But we needed a spark, something that would help others visualize our dream. That spark was Maryville.”

Founded in 1997 by a group of Chinese families, the St. Louis Modern Chinese School, as it was called then, rented classrooms in various schools for their Sunday afternoon classes in language and culture.

## SEEKING A SPARK

In 2010, Li, who was chairman of the board for the nonprofit, volunteer organization at the time, attended an exhibit showcasing the capstone work of Maryville’s senior interior design students. Impressed, he contacted Darlene Davison, director of the interior design program, the very next day.

In the students’ work, he had found the spark he needed.

In the intervening seven years, a community partnership has grown exponentially. Maryville students, alumni and their professors, along with one of the largest architecture firms in St. Louis, all stepped up to help realize the dream.

As they celebrated their 20th anniversary this fall, they had a new name — the Chinese Education and Culture Center — and a new identity to give their very own building.

## DESIGNING A DREAM

“Guodong came to my classroom and told the students he needed a design proposal that would excite the Chinese school’s membership about having their own building,” says Davison. “The students formed teams, each with five weeks to create a design. It was a great experience for them to have a real client, a real proposal. They got to see how design works in every way possible.”

The student designs successfully inspired the school board. The following year, the group bought a three-story office building that allowed the Center to expand services to include tea ceremonies, exhibits and performances.

“We started with 40 students,” says Yingwen Huang, president. “Today there are 750 students.”

In anticipation of its 20th anniversary, the organization once again turned to Maryville for help. The board was looking for an adaptable design for the main floor to accommodate all the activities.

## ALUMNI EXPAND THE PROJECT

“In 2015, the Lawrence Group celebrated its 30th birthday,” says Danielle Krueger, ’12, an interior designer at the company. “They weren’t going to throw a big party. Instead they would take on 30 different community design projects pro bono. I called Darlene to see if she had any projects that needed help.”

Krueger turned to five other Maryville alums at the Lawrence Group who took the Chinese school design project to the next step.

“We came up with a realistic design that included a space plan, floor plan, the finished palate of color samples, fabrics, patterns and wall coverings,” says Krueger. “Our manufacturing representatives offered discounts and donations of materials.”

## NEW NAME, NEW IDENTITY

Once the new building opened, Maryville designers saw the need for an identity overhaul. This time, Caren Schlossberg-Wood, instructor of graphic design at Maryville, took on the challenge.



“My identity class formed teams to design a logo,” she says. “We started with a deep dive into Chinese history and politics, culture, traditions, heritage, the meaning of symbols and colors.”

The board chose a design by seniors Courtney Ferguson and Casey McDonough, who used the distinctive China Pavilion at the 2010

Shanghai Expo as inspiration. The learning experience went far beyond creating a beautiful design.

“We knew all about logo guidelines, but not about the visuals associated with China,” says McDonough, who worked with the typography to complement the image. “We learned a lot about Chinese culture.”

## NEXT STEPS TO GROWTH

The list of the activities and classes now being offered at the new center is extensive: 40 different levels of Chinese language are taught, along with classes in martial arts, drawing, painting, yoga, SAT prep, ping pong, elementary and high school math competitions, income taxes and dozens more.

As the board of directors works on long-range funding goals, they are realistic about the progress, Huang says.

“We are most thankful for all the help we have received from Maryville,” says Huang. “We want to continue to improve this facility, but we know it’s not going to happen in a year.”

**CREATIVE TEAM:** Over the past seven years, a small team of Maryville faculty, students and alumni helped open and design the new Chinese Education and Culture Center in St. Louis. (shown opposite page): Guodong Li, actuarial science instructor, and Darlene Davison, interior design program director, were the first to initiate the remarkable partnership. (above right) Yingwen Huang, president of the Chinese Education and Culture Center, is shown (left to right) with students Casey McDonough and Courtney Ferguson, graphic design instructor Caren Schlossberg-Wood, Davison and Danielle Krueger, ’12.



photos by Jerry Naunheim







## MARYVILLE PROGRAM USES CREATIVITY TO EMPOWER PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA

BY NANCY FOWLER

For people with dementia, a once-busy life can narrow to a world of isolation as jobs, friends and hobbies fall away. But a Maryville program encourages creativity and socialization to bring bits of joy into a changing existence.

Opening Minds through Art (OMA) involves weekly gatherings on the Maryville campus for people with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. Students use paint, paper and conversation to connect with the artist in those who once headed businesses or ran households.

Ashlyn Cunningham, OTD, OTR/L, assistant professor of occupational therapy, launched the program. She has witnessed participants undergo tremendous transformations.

the artists as well as the volunteers, who must acclimate to the slower pace of communication and engagement of someone with dementia.

"We do a lot of waiting, and that's very uncomfortable for the students sometimes, because they're quick, and their young minds are sharp," Cunningham says.

Patience is essential, agrees Kelly Monroy, a fourth-year occupational therapy student. She volunteered with OMA last spring and says simple rituals help everyone ease into the process.

"We begin each session with an opening song," Monroy says. "Usually we start with 'You are My Sunshine.' It's a familiar tune and gets everyone in the mood for a positive experience."

to display in their homes or for the artist to give as a gift."

### GIVING FAMILIES A BREAK

Barbara Cooney, '58, an alumna of Maryville's English program who now lives in Sedalia, Missouri, is a philanthropist and artist. Although Cunningham is quick to point out that Opening Minds through Art does not fall into the category of art therapy, which is a specific, degreed discipline, Cooney wanted to encourage Maryville's use of art-making in the therapeutic realm. She recently donated \$5,000 to OMA.

"Making art gives a person a certain sense of power over their environment," Cooney says. "It gives them a little more autonomy."

# OPENING MINDS THROUGH ART

"We often see a person come in the first week, quiet and confused, and by week three or four, they're attentive and engaged with other people," Cunningham says. "It's the relational aspect of the program, in addition to the art, that makes the difference. We support the individual by offering choices and a sense of purpose."

### A LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT, A BIG REVEAL

Opening Minds through Art participants are referred through the Alzheimer's Association or by word of mouth. Launched in the fall of 2015, it's the first program of its kind in Missouri and serves people who live in their homes and lack access to social activities provided by memory-care facilities.

"These families are looking for opportunities for their loved ones to still be engaged," says Cunningham, the state's first certified OMA facilitator.

To foster an ongoing relationship, each participant/artist teams up with one Maryville student for the full eight weeks. OMA challenges

The art projects are hands-on and abstract; there is no right or wrong method or outcome. An initial project during Monroy's term involved making designs with colored shaving cream, which produced the effect of marbled paper. The participant she paired with was a former banker who still held himself to a high standard.

"He would try to make a circle, and if it wasn't a perfect circle, he would grimace," Monroy says. But she noticed how much he enjoyed mixing colors into the shaving cream and called upon that observation to shower him with enthusiastic praise.

Volunteers ask the artists to name their projects. One participant could only utter a single word, "Wow," when he saw what he'd created, so "Wow" became the title of his work.

The framed work goes on display at the end of the two months. Cunningham says families relish the experience of viewing their loved ones' art for the first time.

"It's a big reveal," Cunningham says. "And then the work becomes an object for families

Cooney's donation will allow OMA to continue to purchase artist-grade supplies, including professional-quality paint and India ink. It also paid for Cunningham's "Train the Trainer" certification program this past summer.

OMA is a precious resource for the families as well as the artists, according to Debra Bryer, the Alzheimer's Association's early stage initiatives manager.

"It gives them an opportunity to have a little bit of a break and to hang out and talk with each other in a very informal kind of way," Bryer says.

Bryer and Cunningham would like to see OMA expand throughout St. Louis, and in particular, serve more African American participants. Recent research shows this population has a higher risk of developing dementia.

That kind of expansion would strengthen an already important bond between the nonprofit organization and Maryville University, Byer says, adding, "It's a wonderful, valuable partnership." ❧



# LEGENDS

## IN A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN



photo by Jerry Naunheim

"MARYVILLE IS  
THE 'ALABAMA'  
OF ESPORTS  
IN THE USA"

PRESIDENT MARK LOMBARDI, PhD



photo by Dan Donovan

BY JONG CAMBRON

ESPORTS CHAMPS: (l to r) Tony 'Saskio' Chau, Cody 'Walrus' Altman and Andrew 'Cackgod' Smith. (opposite page, bottom, l to r) Altman, Chau, Marcus 'Box' Kawak, Marko 'Prototype' Sosnicki, Smith and John 'Papachau' Le.



photo by Riot Games

How many student-athletes in their college career get to say they are the best in the nation at what they do? That their team is virtually unbeatable in division play? That's where Maryville University's esports team finds itself this year, standing proudly atop an 80-0 record in League of Legends match play and as hard-fought champions in three of the most hotly-contested college tournaments.

With an impressive overall record of 127-4, the success of the Saints team is, in fact, largely responsible for putting esports on the national map, with heavy hitters like the NCAA poised to promote the industry.

"We are leading in the esports arena; we're building it and creating the buzz," says President Mark Lombardi, PhD. "Maryville is the 'Alabama' of esports in the U.S.A."

Although they've garnered some of the most important championship titles and own a winning record, Maryville's esports club provides players far more than first-place trophies and accolades. While pursuing their passion for the game, they're also preparing for careers in the business of esports or other professions.

Derek Micheau, one of four new players on the squad this year, decided he needed to continue his academic career to reach his goal of working in the esports business. He had already made connections with esports-affiliated companies, such as Riot Games and others in the industry, because he's been a competitive player since the early 2010s.

"But I was missing that last step, which is an MBA," says Micheau, who

IN THEIR ELEMENT: Members of the Saints Esports club team work hard and celebrate victories with enthusiasm. (this photo, l to r) Tony 'Saskio' Chau, Marko 'Prototype' Sosnicki, Michael 'dawolfscaw' Taylor and Andrew 'Cackgod' Smith; (opposite page, top left) Derek 'West Coast Carry' Micheau; (opposite page, top right) Smith.



photo by Jerry Naunheim

expects to graduate in 2019. "I always put school before anything else, and Maryville offered that final little push towards getting the job that I've always wanted."

Maryville, which offered Micheau an esports scholarship, was one of the first schools to recognize an esports club team as a valuable pathway to follow one's passion and earn a college degree at the same time. Micheau accepted the scholarship and transferred to the MBA program from Robert Morris University in Chicago.

When he first started playing League of Legends as a teenager, Micheau didn't demonstrate much natural ability.

"I was awful when I started," says Micheau. "I played with my brother and his friends, and they would never let me play because I was so unbelievably bad. Being the little brother, I played constantly so I could be better than them. I got to be way better than them, and they quit playing against me."

Eventually Micheau became skilled enough to rank anywhere between the top 100 to 500 out of about 300,000 players. Because of his talents, RMU recruited the Washington-state native.

His Maryville coach, Mathew Perez, faced a similar situation earlier this year. Perez knew he wanted to continue being involved in esports while also furthering his education. He was ranked in the top 100, but that wasn't enough for him to become a full-time professional, so

"ESPORTS IS  
THE BIGGEST THING  
THAT NOBODY  
KNOWS ABOUT."

DANIEL CLERKE,  
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS  
MAJOR



photo by Riot Games



Perez needed another way to pursue his devotion to esports.

“Six years ago, my parents asked me what I wanted to do in life. I told them I wanted to play video games professionally,” says Perez. “They told me that wasn’t a thing because at that time, it wasn’t a thing. Shortly after my graduation (in 2011), Riot Games created the league for League of Legends, and my parents have supported me since.”

Maryville players who knew Perez reached out to him in January to gauge his interest in the coaching side of esports and offer him the position – with a scholarship. Perez accepted. He started classes this fall toward a degree in cyber security.

“I’m grateful, because had it not been for Maryville, I’d be back in California going to community college,” says Perez, a first-year student. “I was getting ready to go back to school because I had tried for so long to get into esports.”

As coach, he wants to continue the success Maryville’s team has enjoyed since the launch of its program in 2015. The team has won a national championship, an invitational and a league title.

Maryville is one of the six founding members of NACE, the National Association of Collegiate Esports. The organization has since expanded to over 30 schools, including universities in South Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio and Nebraska.

“Esports is the biggest thing that nobody knows about,” says Daniel Clerke, an international business major who was the team’s first coordinator.

By some estimates, the esports industry is a \$2 billion business, with the championship match attracting more viewers than all major sporting events except the Super Bowl.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

This past May, Maryville University became the first school in the United States to win the Collegiate League of Legends title following its defeat of the University of Toronto.

The Saints squad picked up another title in April, when it defeated Miami University in Ohio to capture the inaugural NACEsports Invitation-al championship.

Perez attributes the team’s success to two major components: the quality of players on the team and support from Maryville.

“I’m really confident in my players,” says Perez. “We have the best play-ers, and the school has supported us so much. When we were in China over the summer, President Lombardi and Vice President (for Athletics and Recreation) Marcus Manning even sent us videos of support.”

The squad traveled to China in July to compete in the League of Legends International College Cup. Maryville finished third after a loss to the University of Toronto in the semifinals – only the second loss ever recorded by the squad. The other came when Maryville lost to RMU earlier this year.

LOOKING AHEAD

In 2017-2018, four players returned from last year’s team, and four others joined the roster. As a new member, Micheau knows he may not be a starter, but that’s fine with him.

“I’m looking to contribute in any way I can,” says Micheau. “It’s a winning atmosphere.”

The season begins next spring, and the team is already practicing. 

“IT WAS AN  
INTEGRATED  
SCHOOL WITH  
SEGREGATED  
CLASSROOMS.”

By Dale Singer



# ADVANCING EQUITY IN EDUCATION

Charlotte Ijei, '14, EdD, longtime diversity advocate, has created an award-winning model of social justice in the Parkway School District

WHEN SHE FIRST WALKED the halls of Parkway North High School in 1996, Charlotte Ijei, EdD, '14, was struck by an unsettling situation.

“It was an integrated school,” she says, “with segregated classrooms.”

As a college counselor at North, and now in her current position as Parkway’s director of pupil personnel and diversity, Ijei has long sought to break down the boundaries that kept black and white students apart — in physical classrooms as well as in the minds of teachers and administrators.

Her mission to overcome bias and achieve social justice has led district superintendent Keith Marty, PhD, to dub her “the conscience of Parkway.”

Ijei says the issue wasn’t always overt racism. Most often, she observed that white teachers had lower expectations of their African American students, so they didn’t push the students to excel or enroll in challenging classes. But without a rigorous education, she says, black students are less

likely to seek demanding colleges or careers.

“They were good teachers,” Ijei says. “They were operating out of unconscious or conscious bias in the belief that African American students are not capable of being successful in rigorous coursework. They didn’t have a personal relationship with these students. They didn’t know much about their culture and did not understand why they needed to learn about their culture.”

A racial incident in Parkway in 2003 led to the creation of a district Diversity in Action committee to ease the disparities. Ijei says identifying the goal was simple; reaching it, though, remains a work in progress.

“How do white teachers build positive, sustainable relationships with African American students to affect their achievement, improve their willingness to be in school, close the academic achievement gap and lower suspension rates?”

For her doctoral dissertation

in Maryville’s educational leadership program, Ijei studied those relationships in depth at Parkway Northeast Middle School. She said the University’s approach helped her see the project more clearly.

“At Maryville, you have someone who wants you to succeed as much as you want to succeed,” she says. “You are taught by professors who have been principals, superintendents and school leaders. I could have gone to any university to get my degree, but it wasn’t about that. It was about having professors who really believed in you, and wholeheartedly in public education.”

One of those professors, Catherine Bear, EdD, says Ijei’s commitment to diversity and equality is inspiring to other educators.

“We owe education to all kids,” Bear says, “regardless of where they are born. Unfortunately, we have a lot of disparity between kids born in affluent areas and kids born in not-so-affluent areas.”


In helping to erase the effects of

that inequity, Bear says, “Charlotte Ijei is a force.”

Bear and Ijei are active in the Metropolitan St. Louis Consortium for Educational Renewal, a group of local educational districts and institutions that includes Maryville University and Parkway Schools. The model of building social justice awareness and education equity created by Ijei in Parkway serves as a roadmap for other consortium partners.

In fact, Ijei’s work was honored with the 2017 Nicholas Michelli Award for Social Justice by the National Network for Educational Renewal organization, which chose St. Louis for its annual conference, held in October.

Ijei’s mission is to ensure teachers and students build a relationship that inspires confidence, provides opportunity and results in achievement.

“We’re working to see that kids get what they need to be successful,” Ijei says. “Nothing disturbs me more than inequity.” 

GAME-CHANGERS: (l to r) Mathew 'xSojin' Perez and Dan 'clerkie' Clerke. Perez, esports coach, began classes this fall in Maryville's Cyber Security program. An international business major, Clerke (also bottom right) brought his vision for a competitive college team to Maryville – and the rest is legendary.



photo by Jerry Naunheim

BY SOME ESTIMATES,  
THE ESPORTS INDUSTRY IS  
A \$2 BILLION BUSINESS,  
WITH THE CHAMPIONSHIP  
MATCH ATTRACTING  
MORE VIEWERS THAN ALL  
MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS  
EXCEPT THE SUPER BOWL.



photo by Dan Donovan





By Janet Edwards



*"I've found that the trips that are most satisfying are the ones that leave you still hungry."*



For every college student who studies abroad, the experience is highly personal – and often life-changing in ways they never expected. Nearly 200 Maryville students traveled abroad this past year, all coming back with a story of how the overseas journey gave them a better understanding of their place in the world and at home.

Most Maryville students choose to travel during the summer, but options exist for a semester term, as well as shorter excursions – usually over winter or spring breaks – offered through academic programs.

"We recognize that learning must take place beyond our national borders for a 21<sup>st</sup> century education," says Jim Harf, PhD, director of Maryville's study abroad program.

"It's also part of a broader charge, which is the University's core value of global awareness." Maryville's strategy is two-fold, Harf says.



# YOU ARE HERE

## STUDY ABROAD STUDENTS EXPLORE EUROPE

"Through international students on campus, guest speakers and other programming, we bring the world to campus. Through study abroad, we take our students to the world."

This past summer, students studied in London and Oxford in England; Florence, Italy; and Lugano, Switzerland, with enrichment excursions to other cities and significant sites.

### DISCOVERING CLASSICS IN OXFORD

Mitch Elliott, a second-year nursing student, traveled to Oxford. He wishes he had packed less in his travel bags and put more padding in his shoes, but otherwise, he calls it "the opportunity of a lifetime."

"It was breathtaking," he says. "It seemed everywhere you walked, someone famous was there before you."

Elliott learned to budget his finances and to live without his car. He enjoyed the best hamburger he's ever eaten. He became braver, he says.

"I was a different person when I came out of the experience. I used to be an introvert, but talking with people randomly in the world made it easier and more interesting," he says. "I enjoy being with people a lot more now."

As part of a drama course he took with Art Santirojprapai, PhD, assistant professor of English and humanities program director, Elliott and his classmates attended Shakespearean and other classic plays in London and Oxford.

**SELF-EXPLORERS:** During her study abroad adventure in London, Erin Gaubatz (above, left) toured schools and museums, explored back roads and historic sites – and discovered a bit of herself along the way. In Oxford, Mitch Elliott (above, right) learned about budgeting, English theater and how history binds generations. As part of their study experience, a group of education students and faculty (right) visited the Tower of London. (opposite page) Zachary Morrissey.



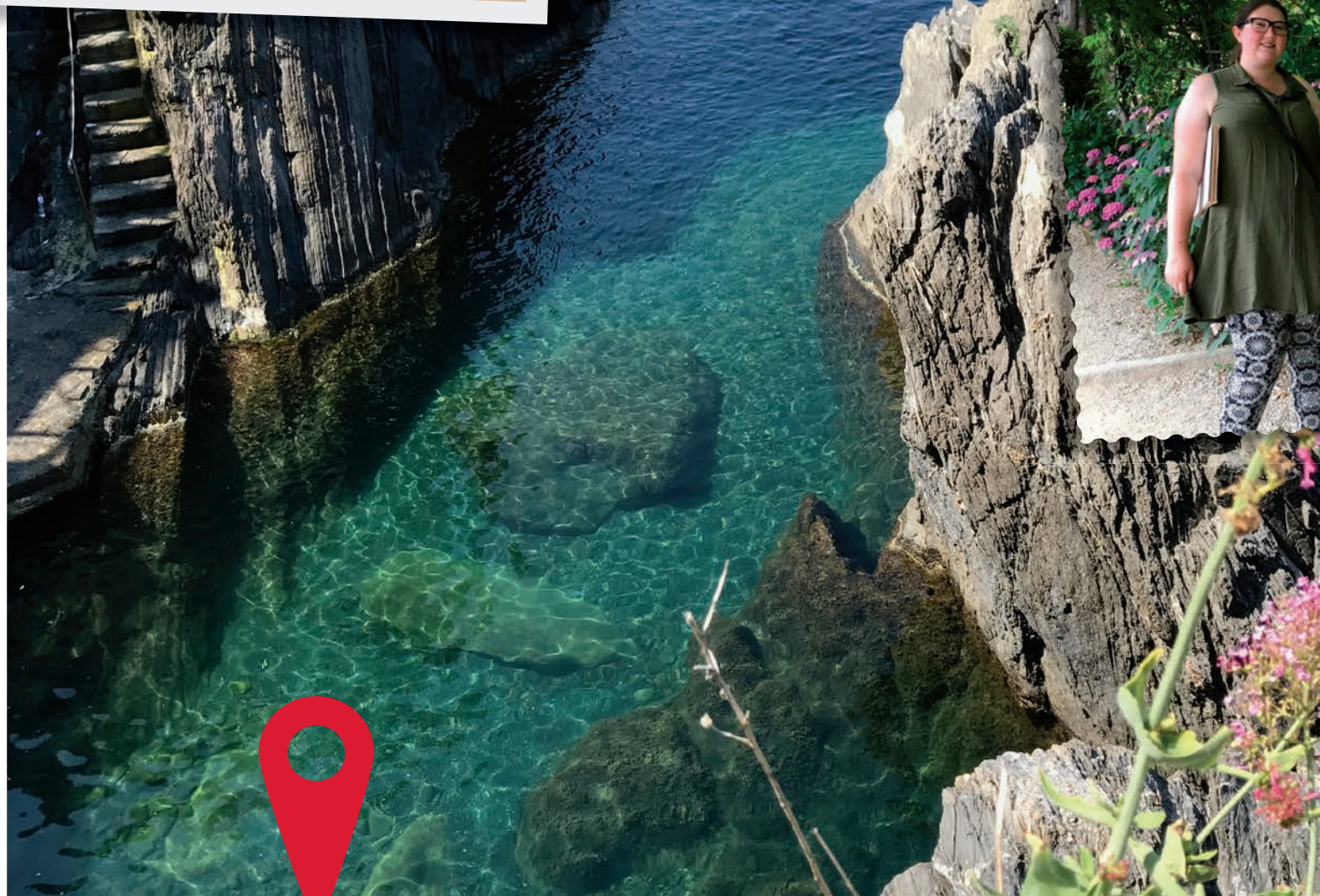


photo by Janet Edwards



ARTIST'S EYE: Senior interior design student Lauren Moore, who overcame her trepidations about traveling abroad, explored art wherever she found it in Florence, Italy, and during side trips the students experienced in Venice, the Amalfi Coast, Cinque Terre and Tuscan hill towns, among others. (opposite page, top left) During a day long excursion to Rome, a group of students explored The Stadio dei Marmi ("Stadium of the Marbles"), dedicated in 1932, which features 59 statues of athletes.

"Honestly, when everything is out of your comfort zone, you get used to it."

"It was inspiring to see students particularly moved by some productions," Santirojprapai says. "One student was moved to tears after seeing *Hamlet* at the Harold Pinter Theatre in London. Another student clearly connected with the complicated father and son relationship that he saw in *Death of a Salesman* at the Oxford Playhouse."

No matter where a student studies abroad, learning takes place naturally while walking down streets – and by exploring museums, unusual cuisine and historic sites. Friendships are forged. And while getting lost is a given, students say it's both a challenging and rewarding part of the experience.

## SCHOOLED IN LONDON

"I loved being able to wander and get lost and take the long way to get somewhere," says Erin Gaubatz, a senior education major who studied in London. "I watched the people and soaked in the sights and sounds."

As part of her class, Gaubatz visited local schools for a comparative study of education.

"They experience the exact same sort of roadblocks, such as standardized testing, and partner with universities for resources. It all sounded so familiar," she says.

Gaubatz left her home in St. Louis a week prior to the start of her study abroad schedule to visit the Netherlands. While she enjoyed her solo journey, she regretted not talking with more people and engaging in more unfamiliar activities. Time, however, may have been an obstacle.

"The frustration is knowing how much I want to see, and then when you get there, you add more and more to the list," she says. "I was ready to stay abroad longer. But I've found the trips that are most satisfying are the ones that leave you still hungry."

Not enough time to explore everything. Navigating with paper maps for lack of GPS. Squelching anxiety while squeezing into crowded subway cars. Walking for miles nearly every day. These were a few of the students' least favorite things – although it's fair to say they overcame, or perhaps learned to power through, the toughest moments.

## FLORENCE RENAISSANCE

Lauren Moore is majoring in interior design. Along with 40 other students, she chose to study in Florence. As a rising senior, she says, it was "now or never."

"Once I arrived, I was fine, but before I left, I had to choose whether to give in to my anxiety or ignore it," she says. "I knew I wanted to study abroad, and time was running out."

Despite blisters on her feet and sunburn, Moore faced every adventure with gusto.

"I was not going to waste even one day sitting at home," she says. "Honestly, when everything is out of your comfort zone, you get used to it."

Moore, a self-described art history nerd, made several trips to the renowned Uffizi Gallery in Florence to admire the classics.

"When you see them up close, how massive and detailed everything is and so exact and precise..." she says. "You just can't begin to describe the whole magnitude of surprise."

Associate professor of art John Baltrushunas, MFA, who has accompanied students to Florence for the past five years, understands Moore's astonishment.



# Developing a Taste for Italian Nostalgia

by John Baltrushunas, MFA, Associate Professor of Art

A bowl of soup can be a portal into the Italian spirit of nostalgia, an amnesia of past hardships, a respect of the bounty of the land, a marker in the development of a nation, and all the while it is also a comforting meal. We discuss this over dinner in my Florentine apartment during one of my history of Italian cuisine classes.

When my students arrive in Florence, they bring two decades of experience eating, but little understanding of how food arrives on their plate. A microwave is their idea of cooking. They also have no understanding of how tradition affects what is served. Hot Pockets will never have the connection to my students that pasta carbonara has to a Roman.

Their first trip to Mercato Centrale, the central market, gives students the surprise of tasting Parmesan cheese cut fresh



from the block. The colorful and pungent array of breads, cheeses, produce, fish and meats — many with their heads and feet still attached — is the other surprise.

By the end of the third month abroad, students have experienced what it is to live in the country that invented the slow food movement. They learn how food tastes when


it is locally raised or produced with little or no chemical preservatives. They experience the idea of a “cuisine of place” because they will taste foods from recipes going back to ancient times or the Middle Ages.

In a bowl of soup, Florentines savor nostalgia for the past, and what is typical and wholesome. Most menus in Florence will offer Ribollita, because there is a romance to eating like a peasant.

## The Story of Ribollita

This story of Ribollita begins with peasants who tended a cauldron of soup over a fire as a way to feed field workers. Usually, yesterday’s leftovers were reboiled with new ingredients. There was no recipe; rather, it was made with the ingredients at hand, such as onions, carrots, celery and other vegetables, along with scraps of meat and beans.

In the world of sharecroppers, nothing is wasted. So, as the soup cauldron simmers, stale bread is added. This soup continues over time, and some version makes its way to the cities. It proves to be a wholesome and thrifty meal.

In 1861, Italy becomes a nation of 20 regions. In 1887, a cookbook by Pelagrino Artusi brings together the recipes of the different regions comprising the new nation. His book documents the first recipe for Ribollita. The notation illustrates that what started as a necessity has traveled through time, from the countryside to the city. Along the way, Ribollita gains its place as a recipe. 



## Ina Garten’s recipe for Ribollita

### Ingredients

- 1/2 pound dried white beans, such as Great Northern or cannellini
- Kosher salt
- 1/4 cup good olive oil, plus extra for serving
- 1/4 pound large diced pancetta or smoked bacon
- 2 cups chopped yellow onions (2 onions)
- 1 cup chopped carrots (3 carrots)
- 1 cup chopped celery (3 stalks)
- 3 tablespoons minced garlic (6 cloves)
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 (28-ounce) can Italian plum tomatoes in puree, chopped
- 4 cups coarsely chopped or shredded Savoy cabbage, optional
- 4 cups coarsely chopped kale
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh basil leaves
- 6 cups chicken stock, preferably homemade
- 4 cups sourdough bread cubes, crusts removed
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan, for serving

### Directions

In a large bowl, cover the beans with cold water by 1 inch and cover with plastic wrap. Allow to soak overnight in the refrigerator.

Drain the beans and place them in a large pot with 8 cups of water and bring to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer uncovered for 45 minutes. Add 1 teaspoon of salt and continue to simmer for about 15 minutes, until the beans are tender. Set the beans aside to cool in their liquid.

Meanwhile, heat the oil in a large stockpot. Add the pancetta and onions and cook over medium-low heat for 7 to 10 minutes, until the onions are translucent. Add the carrots, celery, garlic, 1 tablespoon of salt, the pepper and red pepper flakes. Cook over medium-low heat for 7 to 10 minutes, until the vegetables are tender. Add the tomatoes with their puree, the cabbage, if using, the kale and basil and cook over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, for another 7 to 10 minutes.

Drain the beans, reserving their cooking liquid. In the bowl of a food processor fitted with a steel blade, puree half of the beans with a little of their liquid. Add to the stockpot, along with the remaining whole beans. Pour the bean cooking liquid into a large measuring cup and add enough chicken stock to make 8 cups. Add to the soup and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer over low heat for 20 minutes.

Add the bread to the soup and simmer for 10 more minutes. Taste for seasoning and serve hot in large bowls sprinkled with Parmesan and drizzled with olive oil.

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photo by Janet Edwards

A TASTE FOR NEW ADVENTURES: During a visit to the Mercato Centrale (“Central Market”) in Florence, John Baltrushunas, MFA, assistant professor of art, sliced chips of pungent cheese for students to sample.

(below, right) Despite his acute fear of heights, senior Zachary Morrissey found himself at the summit of a mountain in Lugano, Switzerland, and walking across a quarter-mile long suspension bridge.

“I renewed my desire to find the interesting thing and do it.”

“After studying art history only from pictures and online, your eyes can’t leave the canvas,” he says. “Now, you finally understand what a masterpiece really is.”

## NEW HEIGHTS IN LUGANO

As part of a farming family that owns 500 acres in Des Moines, Iowa, senior Zachary Morrissey was enamored of the different approaches to farming in Lugano, Switzerland, where he studied this summer.

“They grow crops on hillsides and use smaller machinery,” he observed. Morrissey, a financial services major, took a global marketing class with accounting and management professor Karen Tabak, PhD.

“To learn about cultural and business practices from the Swiss themselves was very rewarding,” says Tabak. “We were able to tour offices and meet with business professionals in the hotel, insurance and wine industries, and with the partner in charge of the KPMG office in Lugano.”


Morrissey also took a course exploring the natural environs of Switzerland. The group made the most of hiking, biking and climbing, he says. Although he is a student-athlete on the Saints baseball team, he says some of these excursions tested his personal limits.

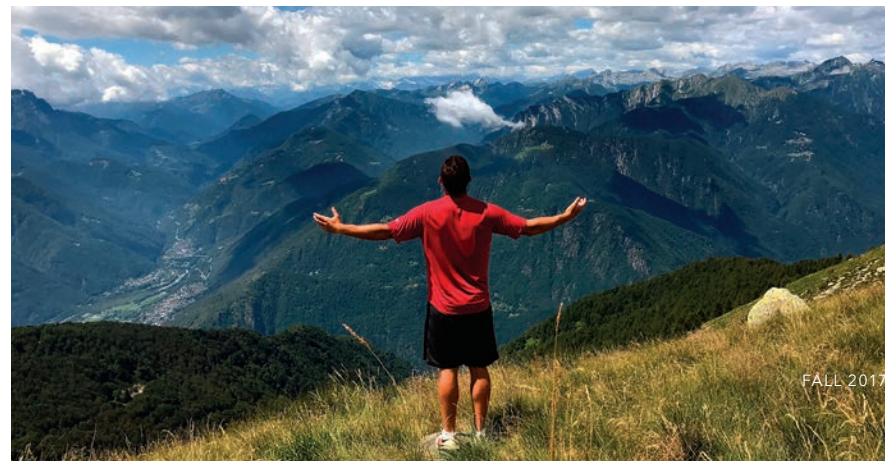
“I’m absolutely terrified of heights,” Morrissey says. “But I was determined to walk across the longest suspension bridge in the country, which is a quarter-mile long. It’s one of my proudest moments — even though I never let go of the railings.”

Another time, he was ready to quit during a climb to a high mountain peak.

“They had to coax me up,” he recalls. “I’m the athlete, and I was the one who needed help.”

But he made it, and Morrissey is thankful to be reminded of his can-do attitude.

“I like to think I’m open and up for anything, but I renewed my desire to find the interesting thing and do it.” 





# LEADING THE REVOLUTION ►► PRESIDENT MARK LOMBARDI



photo by Dan Donovan

Mark Lombardi, PhD, is observing 10 years of leadership at Maryville University. During his impressive tenure, Maryville has achieved unprecedented growth and national recognition, including being named the third fastest-growing private university in the nation. Since 2007, enrollment has doubled, six academic programs have been nationally ranked and 97 percent of graduates have a job or are enrolled in advanced education programs within three months of graduation. The University continues to develop key partnerships with strategic corporate entities such as Apple, Salesforce and Pearson.

Guided by his forward vision and strong leadership, Maryville University has gained a national reputation for leading an exciting revolution in higher education, one that empowers students to pursue an individualized path to learning and success. Here, he talks about that winning strategy with Janet Edwards, editor of *Maryville Magazine*.

**We claim Maryville is leading the revolution in higher education.**

**Why is a revolution necessary?**

There's a revolution going on in higher education for one very simple reason: the democratization of content in society is enormous and spreading rapidly. For centuries, you had to go to knowledgeable people, or to libraries or churches, to get information. Today's students are saying, "I need people to help me facilitate my own journey through this growing mass of information."

Therefore, we have to change our approach. Education is still vitally important, but we have to fundamentally reshape our notion of how to deliver it — and that's the revolution. Maryville is not just a leader in this change. We are *the* leader.

**How has the role of faculty changed in the classroom?**

Faculty are absolutely essential, but they are no longer sages on the stage; they're guides on the side. They're facilitators of a student's journey; they are not the keepers of that journey. We can no longer put a group of students in a classroom, teach them one way and assume they'll all get it.

We're creating an environment where students learn in their own way, based on their own brain development, and with their own learning styles. So, faculty are still vitally important, their skill and expertise is crucial, but they're important in a very different way.

We've invested millions of

dollars in the tools to facilitate learning and invested in faculty to help them develop new teaching and technology skills, including two weeks of paid professional development each year.

**How do Maryville life coaches and faculty use learning diagnostics to enhance student success?**

Learning diagnostics help reveal a student's strengths, and our life coaches and faculty help them leverage that knowledge for greater success throughout their Maryville journey and beyond graduation.

Education used to be luck of the draw. If you had a teacher that connected with you on any number of levels, you had a tendency to learn a lot more about that subject.

Maryville bases our personalized student learning model on the idea that everyone develops and grows at different rates — and those rates are affected by a thousand variables, including gender, race, socioeconomic background and much more. This foundation is based on decades of brain research and learning theory that is irrefutable. What's crucial to understand about this, is that *everyone can learn*. The question is finding the right key to unlock that ability.

**What are the markers of our success in this new approach to higher education?**

Students embrace the revolution because it is a much greater reflection of who they are and their

reality. It's one of the reasons our enrollment sets new records every year and why our retention rate is so high (88 percent), well above the national average. Our learning outcomes are also increasing.

The reality is, young people have thousands of schools to choose from. If they choose you, you're doing something right. But ultimately, the only measure of a successful university is what your students do after they graduate.

Maryville alumni make a huge difference in the lives of people in hospitals, in schools, in businesses and organizations. They bring their skill, their passion, their expertise to the effort of changing lives for the better. They are building stronger communities every day.

**Maryville's enrollment growth in part is attributed to expanding programs in online education. How will this learning format impact more traditional models of higher education?**

The best way to think about online education is that it's the next layer of convenience, particularly for the working adult, but also for traditional students. It is as robust and rigorous as an institution makes it, and Maryville's programs are very robust. In our online MSN program, for example, certification pass rates for students are equal to or higher than on-ground students.

Will online education replace all on-ground education? No, because of the important social-

ization dimensions that exist, particularly for 18 to 22 year olds. But for working adults, online education is the future.

**What are the inherent challenges and rewards of advancing our regional, national and global reputation?**

New technology is what leads an industry to question its fundamental precepts and to adapt and adjust to the changing world. Look at the entertainment, music and newspaper industries. Higher education is no different. In that environment, there are always entities, groups, organizations, individuals and businesses you hadn't heard of before who figure it out first. They end up being the leaders of that new iteration of that business. That's the opportunity Maryville is seizing right now.

Maryville has developed a new vision for higher education. We need to realize that we are in an amazing and unique position of leadership and that we have an enormous amount of talent and innovative energy on this campus to do whatever we decide we are going to do, within the context of our strategic plan.

Our corporate and community partners tell us over and over again that the energy and intellectual and creative passion on this campus are unique; they don't see it anywhere else. I challenge anyone to find a campus more vibrant and active than Maryville in this revolution of higher education.

M





REBOUND: Former Saints assistant basketball coach, Marc Stricker, returns to Maryville this season as head coach. Stricker is shown here with players (l. to r.) Nolan Berry, Teehjay Bogan, Forrester Sims and Casey Teson.

BY JONG CAMBRON


# > BACK TO < MARYVILLE



Becoming the new head coach of the Saints men's basketball team is a return to familiar territory for Marc Stricker. Stricker served as an assistant coach at Maryville from 2011 to 2013. His local basketball connections, however, go back even further: He led CBC High School in St. Louis to a state title in 1997. "The opportunity to come back home to St. Louis to be a head coach is a dream come true," Stricker says. "I knew I wanted to be a head coach at Maryville the second I stepped on campus as an assistant coach. I realized Maryville was a very special place from day one." Stricker has been away from St. Louis the last few years. He

spent last season with NCAA Division I Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and the previous three at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois. Maryville competes in the Great Lakes Valley Conference at the NCAA Division II level, but Stricker isn't worried about the adjustment. "There are differences in the way that you recruit and how you have to manage your roster at the DII level," Stricker says. "Since I've been at the DII level before, however, I feel prepared to adapt. As far as the Great Lakes Valley Conference goes, I'm excited to compete in such a great league that is stacked with talent, tradition and great coaches."

The Maryville Saints finished 3-15 in league play and 9-21 overall during the 2016-2017 season. A closer look at the Saints' record shows the team lost six games by five points or less. Stricker thinks the team can build on those tight contests to produce a better campaign for the upcoming season. "I believe this team will have a successful season, and we're going to give it everything we have," Stricker says. "We have a veteran group, and we need to make sure these seniors go out on a winning note." Stricker's past experience at Maryville should also be beneficial for a squad that will return six seniors, including the

top two point scorers – Forrester Sims, averaging 13.1 points per game, and Grant Sims, averaging 12.5 points per game. The coach's primary goal is to get to know his players better before setting any long-term objectives. "I have a great feel for the type of student-athlete that will thrive within the culture of Maryville," Stricker says. "The first thing I want to do is get to know my current players on a personal level and get on the basketball court and sweat with them. We have some talented players on this roster, and I can't wait to work with them." 

## NEW MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH RETURNS TO ROOTS



MEET THE COACHES



**David Reinhart** has been named head coach for the men’s and women’s tennis teams. Reinhart has coached in the St. Louis area for more than 15 years, most recently as the director of high performance at Sunset Tennis Center. Maryville will field an NCAA men’s tennis program for the first time since the 2012-13 season.



**Mitch Shafer** will serve as the head lacrosse coach for the 2018 season. Shafer was an assistant coach for the Saints during the program’s inaugural season in 2017. Last year, Shafer served as offensive coordinator for the Saints and acting head coach for the final five games of the season. He guided Maryville to the program’s first win in a victory at Lindenwood-Belleville.



**Bryan Niedbalski** has been named head coach of the Saints baseball program for the 2018 season. He has been on the coaching staff since 2015. Niedbalski has been the primary recruiter for the Saints and is credited with signing the majority of current players on the roster. The Saints posted 25 victories during the 2017 season, the highest total in the Division II era.



**Brittany Frankenfeld** has been named the inaugural head coach for the women’s lacrosse program, which begins official competition during the 2018-19 season. Frankenfeld previously spent two years as head coach at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas. In two seasons, she guided the Ottawa Braves to a 17-8 record, including a 10-3 mark in 2017. The Braves won the 2017 KCAC Tournament and earned the program’s first bid to the NAIA Invitational Tournament.

AT BAT FOR THE CARDINALS

By Jong Cambron

Last spring, sophomore Clayton Meyer was called up to the majors. Throughout the major league baseball season, he wore the uniform of the St. Louis Cardinals as one of the team’s three bat boys.


“It was a lot of hard work and a lot of hours, but it was definitely worth it,” says Meyer. “The best part was being that close and being a part of the game itself. I’m a lifelong fan of the Cardinals and baseball, so to be able to be out there during the game was really cool.”

He applied for the job when he saw it posted on Facebook.

“The connections I made at Maryville helped a lot,” says Meyer. “I had a good resume, thanks to my program.”

Meyer is a student in the Rawlings Sport Business Management program, which has created many partnerships with organizations in St. Louis and beyond to offer students hands-on experiences in the world of sports industry. Students are able to explore a variety of work environments and develop a network of industry contacts through these partnerships, giving them a competitive edge in the job market.

The duties of a bat boy include much more than just handing players their bats. Meyer also helped the team unpack after returning to Busch Stadium from road trips—which often led to some late nights. He also set up Gatorade and water for players and umpires, got the sunflower seed tray ready, organized the dugout and bullpen after games, and cleaned equipment and shoes, among myriad other duties.

Meyer hopes he’ll be asked back for the position next season and that it will be a springboard to move up in the organization after graduation. 



CARDS ACE: Sophomore Clayton Meyer, a Rawlings Sport Business Management major, wore the uniform of the St. Louis Cardinals this summer as a bat boy for the MLB team.



JERSEY GIRLS

THE SAINTS’ WOMEN’S SOCCER TEAM AIMS TO HONOR ITS HISTORY – ONE NUMBER AT A TIME

By Jong Cambron

One through 11: Each number represents a position from goalkeeper to striker on a soccer team.

But it’s a different set of numbers that three members of the women’s soccer program sought to highlight through a recent legacy project — the digits on the backs of their jerseys.

“We realized we didn’t know any history about the Maryville Saints soccer program and wanted that to change,” says Kaley Ruff, junior midfielder. “There was no one better to ask than the girls who had previously been in our shoes. We knew their stories would give meaning to our jerseys and inspire us to be the best versions of ourselves.”

These accounts were compiled into a book that highlighted each player and the personal story behind the jersey number she chose. Ruff, along with teammate Allison Verville and former teammate Montana Krause, were instrumental in gathering stories for the book.

“It’s a great honor to put on a Maryville University soccer jersey,” says Verville, a midfielder on the Saints. “In order to fully appreciate that honor, we think it is important to have some knowledge of who wore the jersey before you, sweating in it and giving everything they had. This is why remembering the history of past players is important for the program. It gives players the chance to continue traditions and discover the legacy of those who came before them.”

The goal was to create one book for each number — a book filled with stories from only those who wore the same number. Launched last year, the project was completed at the beginning of the Fall 2017 season.

“We received a lot of letters that were full of amazing stories,” says

Verville. “This year, we put all the letters we received into a book for each player, and we are going to update the books every year.”

The team held a ceremony to present each player with a book corresponding to her own jersey number.

“We believe you have to know where you came from to get to where you are going,” says Verville. “Our goal is to build on the foundation alumni have built for us in the past.”

“Lori (Chalupny, assistant coach), myself, and the rest of the team are very proud and excited they came up with this idea, and that they spearheaded the efforts to put this project together,” says Coach Eric Delabar.

Verville wears 7, famously worn by international soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo. England’s soccer


sensation David Beckham also wore 7.

“Some of the greatest players in the world have chosen to play in a jersey with a number 7 on the back,” says Verville. “I have had this number for as long as I can remember. It means a lot to me.”

Ruff wears 24.

“I have been 24 forever, so it was a no-brainer to wear it again in college,” says Ruff. “I didn’t choose 24. It chose me, and I’ve worn it with pride since I was nine years old.”

Just two numbers that tell a story of the players who are entwined with Maryville’s soccer team.

“Our hope is that one day, putting on the Maryville jersey will be a meaningful event and that the player wearing the jersey plays for the past, present and future of the program, rather than just for herself,” says Ruff. 

“OUR GOAL IS TO BUILD ON THE FOUNDATION ALUMNI HAVE BUILT FOR US IN THE PAST.”





DRIVING HISTORY HOME: As an intern for the 2018 PGA Golf Championship, junior Colleen “C.J.” Donegan looks forward to a busy spring and summer. Observing its centennial year, the event will be held in August at Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis. The historical significance of the championship is especially exciting for Donegan, who is a member of the Saints women’s golf team.

# ABOVE PAR FOR THE COURSE

C.J. Donegan earns competitive internship for the 2018 PGA Championship

By Jong Cambron

As an avid fan of golf and a member of the Saints women’s golf team, junior Colleen (“C.J.”) Donegan feels like she’s won the lottery. During the 2018 PGA Championship, one of the game’s most prestigious events — and in its centennial year — she’ll be in the middle of the action.

Donegan was selected from a competitive pool of student applicants as the only marketing and administrative intern for the tournament, which will take place in St. Louis at Bellerive Country Club, located just two miles from Maryville University.

“AS A GOLFER, I UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EVENT LIKE THIS, AND THE HISTORY AND THE DRIVE TO MAKE IT PERFECT.”

“It’s a once-in-a-lifetime event,” says Donegan. “This is the reason I got into sports. There’s only one 100th championship, and I realize the importance of that. It’s unbelievable that I get to work at it.”

Donegan applied for the position in early August, but not without some hesitation. As a second-year student, she expected senior-level students to be considered more highly. However, thanks in part to a trio of sports industry experiences she gained in just one year through the Rawlings Sport Business Management program, her resume is strong.

Her volunteer positions all took place during the 2017 spring semester. Donegan first worked with Rawlings for the St. Louis Cardinals Winter Warm-Up. She also volunteered during the NCAA Division I wrestling championship Fan Festival held in St. Louis and traveled to Des Moines, Iowa, to work a women’s basketball championship.

Bellerive offered her the paid internship after phone and in-person interviews.

“I was so excited I can’t put it into words,” she says. “I hung up the phone and was smiling the rest of the day.”

Her parents, who are also avid golf fans, were ecstatic.

“My mom screamed when I told her,” says Donegan. “My dad cried, because he was proud of me. Most sophomores aren’t getting internships like this.”

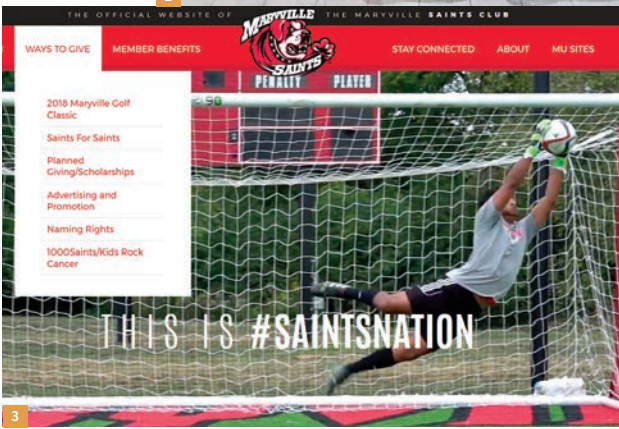
The tournament is scheduled for Aug. 9 – 12. “I’m planning to spend my summer living in their office,” says Donegan. “It’s probably going to be really intense. As a golfer, I understand the importance of an event like this, and the history and the drive to make it perfect.”

## HIGHLIGHTS

**1 Golf Classic** The 29th annual Maryville University Golf Classic raised nearly \$38,000 for Maryville Athletics and Recreation. The event, held in June at Old Hickory Golf Club in St. Peters, Missouri, was sponsored in part by Paric. Next year’s Golf Classic is scheduled for Monday, June 18, 2018, again at Old Hickory Golf Club. Registration opens in January.

**2 Inline Hockey Revived** After learning Maryville would drop its inline hockey club program after the 2012-2013 season due to a lack of student interest, then first-year student Drake Smith pledged to bring it back. Smith, a physical therapy major, achieved his goal this year when Maryville’s inline hockey team returned as a member of the National Collegiate Roller Hockey Association (NCRHA). The team competed in the Great Plains Conference in Division II and finished 8-7-1 for a total of 17 points in the regular season, placing second.

**3 Show Your Support** The Department of Athletics and Recreation has launched a new website to support student-athletes, athletic programs and general needs. The website contains links to all upcoming Saints Club events as well as ways to donate online. Fans and alumni can sign up to provide the most up-to-date contact information, and stay in touch with all developing news in athletics, esports or club sports. Visit the site at [SupportMaryvilleSaints.com](#).



## SAINTS 2016-17 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

215

A record number of student-athletes named to Academic All-Great Lakes Valley Conference (3.30 cumulative GPA or higher)

The number of Maryville teams earning the GLVC Team Academic Award for achieving a 3.30 cumulative GPA or higher:

13

Graduation rate for student-athletes:

90%

Number of seniors earning the GLVC Council of Presidents Award with a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher:

24

3

Academic All-Americans, the most ever in a single academic year:

- Nico Andrade – Men’s Soccer
- Emily Mauch – Cross Country/Track & Field
- Nate Rodriguez – Wrestling

15

Student-athletes earned the inaugural GLVC Brother James Gaffney Award for achieving a 4.0 cumulative GPA

1

At-large Academic All-American of the Year

- Nate Rodriguez – Wrestling, with a 3.97 cumulative GPA





By Mindy Schlansky

# NEW BOOK SHARES HISTORY OF SACRED HEART SCHOOLS

Alumna Jane Shannon Cannon, '57, traces two centuries of teaching and learning

When Philippine Duchesne embarked from France on her famous journey to Missouri in 1818, she could never have imagined how important it would be. Landing in the settlement of St. Charles, she and her four fellow travelers from the Society of the Sacred Heart quickly established the Academy of the Sacred Heart — the oldest free school west of the Mississippi.

From these roots grew Maryville University, which was founded by the Society in 1872.

In celebration of this historic journey, and all that has happened since, Maryville is partnering in the 2018 Bicentennial celebration of the Academy's founding. The University has underwritten a book by Jane Shannon Cannon, '57, which traces the Academy's history through two centuries: *Two Hundred Years: a Legacy of Love and Learning*.


Philippine Duchesne figures prominently in the story, from her arrival in St. Charles through her years in Florissant, St. Louis, Kansas and back to St. Charles. The book also discusses her death and burial as well as her beatification and canonization.

Cannon, who recently retired from teaching and administrative

positions at the Academy, was tapped specifically for the project. "I was invited to write it by the Head of School, Sister Maureen Glavin," she says. "It was a wonderful opportunity."

Cannon unveiled her book during a reception at Maryville on August 29, the birthday of Philippine Duchesne, presenting a sneak peek to a delighted audience — many of whom attended Maryville during the Sacred Heart era. The book is vibrantly illustrated with archived images and includes key timelines and traditions unique to Sacred Heart schools.

"Jane is a great writer and a very engaging storyteller," says Tom Eschen, Maryville's vice president for institutional advancement. "The book should be of great interest to our alumnae, and frankly anyone connected to the 20-plus Sacred Heart schools that branched out from the original Academy."

Not only does the book give testament to key events of the past 200 years, it preserves this history for future generations. "I thought I knew a lot about the Sacred Heart," Cannon says, "but I learned a lot more through this process." 

CLASSNOTES

# 3 Teachers of the Year. A publicist for Rio Olympians. And a new career teaching quilting.

- 1960s**  
**Julianne Greenley Archibald, '64**, Greendale, Wis., celebrated her 15th anniversary with her husband, George. They have five children, four of whom are married, and 21 grandchildren.

**Susan Schurk Emerson, '65**, of St. Louis, is now retired.

**1970s**  
**Kathleen Witscher Armstrong, '70**, of St. Louis, is a 5th grade language arts teacher at Mary Institute and St. Louis Country Day School (MICDS).

**Steve W. Teczar, '70, '72, '86**, of Randolph, N.H., is a retired Pillsbury Professor of Art.

**Christine BredenKoetter, '73**, of Florissant, Mo., is now retired.

**Eugene A. Dorriere, '76, '88**, of Creve Coeur, Mo., is retired, and recently returned to Missouri after working in New Mexico for seven years.

**Lynne Ramsey Jones, '78**, of St. Louis, is the president and chief operating officer of Solarity by Edco.

**Don D. Schisler, '79**, of Arnold, Mo., retired in 2016 after 32 years as an actuary at Willis Towers Watson. He is enjoying life as a grandfather with his 12 grandchildren. He is also actively involved in his local church.
- 1980s**  
**Kristin M. Gray, '88**, of St. Louis, is a case manager at Mercy Hospital.

**Joseph H. Thaman, '89**, of St. Louis, retired as regional sales director of Nestor Sales, Tampa, Fla.

**1990s**  
**Donna B. Jacoby, '94**, of Valrico, Fla., is loving retirement, and has recently begun teaching quilting.

**Susan Brody Merideth, '94**, of Bedford, N.H., is a program coordinator and professor at Nashua Community College.

**Laurie Isaak Whorton, '94**, of Navarre, Fla., received her doctorate of physical therapy degree from A.T. Still University.

**Patrick T. Kalish, '95**, of Lake Saint Louis, Mo., is a cellular therapy account manager at Kite Pharma.

**Lisa Schorb Meyer, '95**, of Columbia, Ill., joined Life Care Centers of America as regional rehabilitation director for the Missouri region.

**Lisa Brown Sitler, '97, '09**, of Hawk Point, Mo., received her PhD in nursing from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 2009.

**Katie Moses Swope, '97**, of Centennial, Colo., is the owner and publicist of MoSwo PR. She opened the business in 2014. This

- past year, MoSwo PR proudly had two Olympians win gold and silver, a Paralympian win silver in Rio and a 12-year-old skateboarder become a World Champion.
- Maria Cabo Moise, '99**, of Papillion, Neb., is a senior manager of information technologies at Union Pacific Railroad.
- Ben A. Unk, '99**, of Issaquah, Wash., is a senior manager of in-stock management at Amazon.
- 2000s**  
**Holly Fox Simmons, '01**, of Ballwin, Mo., received Claymont Elementary School's Teacher of the Year award for 2017. She went on to receive the Parkway School District Elementary Teacher of the Year award.
- Casey Schroeder-Jenkinson, '02**, of Cleveland, Ohio, is an assistant professor and director of simulation and outcomes at Case Western Reserve University.
- Kevin M. Holleran, '03**, of Chesterfield, Mo., is an executive director at Mercy Health.
- Sarah Scheidker Autry, '04, '08**, of St. Charles, Mo., announces the birth of a son, Jacob Henry Autry, born on July 10, 2017.
- Abby Brockfeld Strother, '05**, of Lake Saint Louis, Mo., is the manager of development and key initiatives at The Wireless Experience.
- Jessica Ernst Weick, '05**, of St. Louis, received Rockwood School District's 2017 Early Childhood Teacher of the Year award.
- Deanna Lehnen Baker, '06**, of Wentzville, Mo., is the clinical therapy manager at SSM Health Rehabilitation Hospital in Bridge-ton, Mo. She is also the lead for the Cardiac Recovery program and co-lead for the ReVital Cancer program.
- Katherine Messmer Luner, '07**, of St. Louis, welcomed another son, Matthew Hans, born on June 27, 2017.
- Aften Strieker Zurliene, '07**, Aviston, Ill., is a sales representative at Arc-Com.
- Jake C. Thoma, '08, '10, '12**, of Ballwin, Mo., is a senior engineer of business operations at MasterCard.
- Rachel L. Vogler, '08**, of St. Charles, Mo., married Craig Vogler on October 25, 2014. She is a pediatric nurse at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.
- Lauren Dieckmann Piel, '10**, of St. Louis, married Jake Piel on September 23, 2017, in Washington, Mo.
- Jorge Wallace, '10**, of St. Louis, is a clinical coach at Magellan Health.





OLYMPICS COVERAGE: Katie Moses Swope, ‘97, is the owner and publicist of MoSwoPR in Centennial, Colorado. Among her clients, she represents eight Olympians and Paralympians, some of whom are shown here.

- Tameka A. Gibson, ‘11**, of Houston, Texas, is a nurse at Memorial Hermann Orthopedic and Spine Hospital.

**Callan A. Howton, ‘12**, of McLeansboro, Ill., opened a women’s sober recovery living home called Haven Recovery Homes. She has also opened the Center for Program Development to help growing businesses and nonprofits expand and improve efficiencies.

**Emily I. Kracht, ‘12**, of Centralia, Ill., is the owner and photographer of E. Kracht Photography.

**Michelle Lawrence, ‘13**, of St. Louis, is an events and communications specialist for the Missouri Botanical Garden.

**Kristen D. Wann, ‘12**, of St. Louis, is a human resources generalist at
- Mid-America Transplant.

**Mycah Hudson Faulkner, ‘13**, of St. Louis, married Kory Faulkner on September 2, 2017.

**Andrea Kountzman Navratil, ‘13, ‘16**, of Pevely, Mo., married Dean Navratil on April 23, 2016.

**Brett T. Stuppy, ‘13, ‘16**, and **Samantha Hoffman Stuppy, ‘10, ‘16**, of Ballwin, Mo., announce the birth of their daughter, Adalynn Grace, born on December 20, 2016.

**Amanda K. Arcangel, ‘14**, of Arcadia, Calif., is a junior publicist at Warner Bros. Worldwide Television Publicity.

**Danni Wydra Billig, ‘14**, of Lockport, Ill., married her high school sweetheart, Kyle Billig, in September 2017.

- Valerie Finger Bugger, ‘14**, of Perryville, Mo., married Ross Bugger on November 6, 2016.
- Alison Werner Demetrulias, ‘14**, of Pacific, Mo., married Aaron Demetrulias on June 4, 2016. She is an event accountant at Maritz Global Events.
- Sheryl L. Mueller, ‘14**, of Festus, Mo., is a marketing coordinator at Coldwell Banker Gundaker.
- Libby A. Barbey, ‘15**, of St. Louis, is a territory manager at Nestle Purina.
- Zach W. Bradford, ‘15**, of Creve Coeur, Mo., is a mortgage banker at Commerce Bank.
- Rachel Gorin Gardiner, ‘15**, of Omaha, Neb., is a sales associate at Designer Shoe Warehouse.

**Kristen A. Kenney, ‘15**, of St. Louis, is an actuarial assistant at RGA.

**Elizabeth A. Kiblinger, ‘15, ‘16**, of St. Louis, is a fourth grade teacher at Most Sacred Heart Eureka.

**Jessica L. Besancenez, ‘16**, of St. Peters, Mo., is an actuarial analyst at Midwest Employers Casualty.

**David D. Boyd, ‘16**, of Ballwin, Mo., is a regional sales manager at MiTek USA.

**Pamela M. Cipriana, ‘16**, of Thomaston, Conn., is the owner and president of The Practice of Health and Wellness, which opened in November 2016.

**Evan M. Grossman, ‘17**, of San Diego, Calif., is an associate at True Search.

**Greg S. Hegarty, ‘17**, of St. Charles, Mo., married Kaitlyn Murphy Hegarty on June 3, 2017.

**Julia DeGise Zamacona, ‘17**, of Wentzville, Mo., is a financial service coordinator at First Community Credit Union.

**Laura A. Zambrana, ‘17**, of Cleveland, Ohio, received her MBA from Maryville in Spring 2017. She is a 2017-18 intern with the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics.

## In Memoriam

### Mary Blish, RSCJ (1928 – 2017)



Courtesy Archives of the United States-Canada Province of the Society of the Sacred Heart

Sister Mary Blish served as President of Maryville College of the Sacred Heart from 1960 to 1964. During this time, Maryville moved from its original south St. Louis campus to its current west St. Louis County location. She showed calm, kindness and grit during the transition, a testament to her dedication to the students, staff and faculty of Maryville during a time of enormous change.

Sister Blish received her BA at Maryville, graduating with honors in 1949. As a student, she served as president of her class in 1948, Sodality president and Gong staff associate editor. She also belonged to the science club, choir and Eta Sigma Phi honor society.

Sister Blish entered the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1950. She

continued to learn throughout her life, receiving both her MA and PhD in English literature. Her master’s dissertation, titled “Cosmic Order Versus Individualism in the Tragedies of Christopher Marlowe,” is a prime example of her keen intellect.

After a time at Manhattanville College from 1964 to 1977, Sister Blish departed for the University of the Sacred Heart in Tokyo, Japan, where she stayed until 1996. Correspondence from those she met with and taught in Tokyo make it clear that living and working in Japan was the highlight of Sister Blish’s long, successful career.

Sister Blish was born in Chicago in May 1928, an only child who was educated by the Dominican

Sisters. She passed away on June 21, and was laid to rest in Albany, New York.

In her convocation address to Maryville College on October 2, 1961, Sister Blish encouraged her students to create their own paths in the face of adversity, insisting, “You young women are in the classroom today, and tomorrow is being decided in you today, for you will play a prominent role in the world of tomorrow.”

by Sarah Henkel

### James Jacobsen (1935 – 2017)



Jim Jacobsen, Trustee Emeritus, joined Maryvilles’s Board of Trustees in 1989 and became Trustee Emeritus in 2008. Jacobsen remained active, serving on the Investment Committee and the Trustee Affairs Committee.

Jacobsen died on July 15, 2017. “Jim’s long commitment to Maryville was inspiring. His wise counsel and gentle wit will be missed,” says Thomas Boudreau, ‘73 president of the Board of Trustees.

Jacobsen retired from Kellwood as vice chairman. Over the years, he supported many causes, including Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis, as well as other colleges and universities that he and his family attended. He had a great interest in education.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy Jacobsen, three children, four grandchildren, sister, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and friends.



In Memoriam

(continued)

1940s

Rosemary Schaffler Ozanne, '48  
Ann Rachel Gross, '49  
Louise Fredericks Schmidt, '49

1950s

Julia Miller Dick, '50  
Margaret Vatterott Danna, '51  
Marjorie Zoercher Rhodes, '51  
Mary "Pat" Johnston Wirthlin, '51  
Mary Joyce Hoppe Chollet, '52  
Rosalie Carroll Gibowski, '52  
Mary Lou Downey Harter, '52  
Mary Broderick Lundeen, '52  
Marian Vogler Willoughby, '52  
Felicie "Bet" Waguespack Basile, '53  
Mary Ann Cawley-Shickman, '54

Fay Stickford McKenna, '54  
Mary Lou "Tippy" Guillory, RSCJ, '57  
Mary "Lynn" Gannon Hudson, '57  
Barbara Gunther McMenamy, '57  
Celeste "Susie" Reardon Wolff, '57

1960s

Mary Stuart Katis, '61  
Cary Harwood Hailey, '62  
Eleanor Lampe Reichert, '62  
Kathleen D. Ribaud, '62  
Georgia Mudd Britt, '63  
Marianne Sausville Payne, '64  
Deedrie "Dee Dee" Dwyer Jepsen, '67  
Jane Worth McCall, '68

1970s

Elizabeth "Beth" McCoy, RSCJ, '72  
Judith Ellen Gallagher, '79

1980s

Rhonda L. Curtis, '82

1990s

Frank A. Mushkin, '91

2000s

Judith A. Sahn, '01



photo by Jerry Naunheim

**50 YEARS STRONG:** During the 2017 Alumni Weekend, the Class of 1957 was honored as it became part of the distinguished Golden Circle.

ALUMNI PROFILES

PUTTING VETERANS FIRST

Supporting those in need has always been a priority for Thomas Wolff, '14, so when he learned that Maryville's graduate program in rehabilitation counseling focuses on a person-first approach, he enrolled.

"I have a passion for helping others," says Wolff. "It was always there, but I didn't know where to go with it. The program gives a student great knowledge of the field, in multiple counseling categories, and the professors become trusted colleagues you can rely on after graduating."

Wolff says his studies are integral to his job as veteran service coordinator for MERS/Goodwill in St. Louis.

"I was taught to see the individual as a whole instead of someone who has a mental health issue, like post-traumatic stress disorder,"

Wolff says. "The disorder doesn't define them as a person."

Wolff works with veterans who are involved in treatment court. He accompanies them to court, works with them to secure required community service hours and helps them transition to the workforce. He also works with veterans to develop resumes and interview skills and guides them through the job application process.

Wolff is not a veteran, but his father, grandfather and an uncle all served in the armed forces.

"Veterans are going through a very rough time and need help finding their way," says Wolff. "After I graduated, I pitched a different aspect of veteran services to MERS/Goodwill. They got on board and have supported me ever since."

The mission of the St. Louis Veterans Treatment Court system is to divert offenders who are veterans with mental health or substance abuse disorders from the normal criminal justice process by providing frequent judicial oversight, intensive supervision and treatment through a holistic approach.

"There are over 70,000 veterans in St. Louis County alone," Wolff says. "That's why there is a definite need for this program. The specialized court system that has been created in the St. Louis metro area for veterans takes into consideration the numerous barriers these men and women face. I have made countless phone calls, sent emails and bugged the heck out of judges in order to get my foot in the door because I truly feel that I can help."

By Jong Cambron



Thomas Wolff, '14

MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY

TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, March 10, 2018

[maryville.edu/trivia](http://maryville.edu/trivia)

Supporting the Alumni Scholarship Fund and the Walker Scottish Rite Clinic

WALKER SCOTTISH RITE CLINIC



# ROYALS HOMECOMING



Greg Hegarty, '17

Greg Hegarty, '17, was a two-time Division II All-American wrestler at Maryville. After graduating last May, he returned to his native Kansas City to work in ticket sales for the Royals — a job he landed with the help of skills learned in the Rawlings Sport Business Management program.

“It’s definitely a dream job, getting to work with the Royals,” Hegarty says. “And I got to come home where I wanted to be. I could say I’m lucky, but I worked hard to get here.”

As a student, Hegarty worked with the St. Louis Cardinals for a year — six months as an intern, and another six months in a part-time job.

Hegarty reports to work at Kauffman Stadium.

“Sometimes, when I’m parking in the morning, it catches me off guard that I really work here,” Hegarty says. “Or, I’ll walk around the stadium over my lunch hour and see some of the players. I try to act professionally, but at the same time I’m thinking, ‘This is so cool.’”

The job primarily involves inside sales, Hegarty says.

“I make many phone calls and send many emails every day, so I have to stay focused,” he says. “I love talking to hardcore, loyal fans and selling them the whole experience of Royals baseball.”

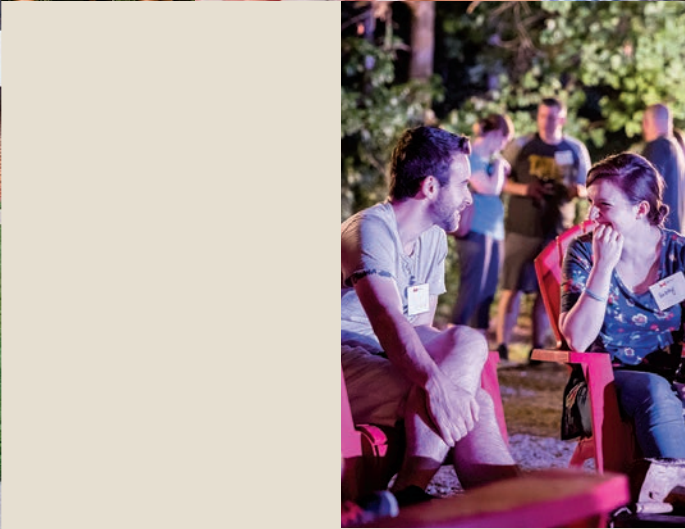
He credits program director Jason Williams, EdD, and others in the Rawlings Sport Business Management program with helping him land the position.

“It’s a program you’re not going

to find anywhere else,” Hegarty says. “They give you lots of hands-on experience that allows you to put things on your resume which set you apart from anyone else in the industry. They really work to get your name out there and get you into the workforce. They helped me advance to another level.”

Hegarty came to Maryville as a recruit for the Saints wrestling program after a stellar athletic career at Blue Springs High School. As a Saint, he qualified for two national tournaments and earned two second All-American Honors. Hegarty stays involved with the sport by helping to coach the Blue Springs Wildcat youth wrestling club. **M**

By Dale Singer



# College Guide

Brittney Curtis, '13, works at College Bound, helping people transition to higher education. As a college completion coach, she supports traditional and non-traditional students facing a wide variety of circumstances, such as working several jobs, supporting parents or raising children, all while continuing to pursue a college degree.

As a coach of sorts, Curtis helps to create a plan of action that meets each student’s needs — whether it involves academic success, financial aid literacy or personal growth.

“If College Bound was around when I was in high school, it would have helped me out profoundly,” she says. “We help students and

their families understand the intricacies that come with entering college and what resources are necessary to ensure they receive their degree in a timely manner. We don’t just tell students what they need to hear; we make them part of the process.”

After high school in north St. Louis County, Curtis dealt with issues ranging from tight finances to adjusting to college life to logistics like a long bus commute to campus. She appreciated the help she received along the way.

“I’d been through every kind of struggle you can imagine,” Curtis says. “I had so many people work with me closely; the Maryville staff was exceptional. Because I’m a first-generation college student

myself, the fact that I can give back to these students means a lot to me.”

But Curtis isn’t just focused on high school students. To better understand the needs of student veterans, she joined the Army Reserve.

And to help ease her clients’ emotional transition to college, she’s working toward a master’s in counseling.

“This is the most direction I’ve ever had in my life,” she says. “After college, I tried to figure out what to do with my degree. I’m so thankful I serve a purpose. All of these things are tied together. That means the world to me.” **M**

By Dale Singer



Brittney Curtis, '13





Jerritt Johnston, '95

## NARROW COMFORT ZONE

As the first person in his family to attend college, Jerritt Johnston, '95, felt like a fish out of water when he arrived at Maryville University. Now, he makes a living taking other people out of their natural habitat.

Johnston challenges individuals and groups to solve mysteries, scale heights and spark fire to build teamwork and leadership skills. It's all part of his True North Consultants business in Ely, Minnesota.

"Being in a place that you're not comfortable with requires some confidence," Johnston says. "It requires the ability to step out of that comfort zone and take some risks."

The political science and liberal studies major honed his outdoor

skills during a Maryville internship with the American Youth Foundation, an organization dedicated to character building.

"I never really camped until I was in college," Johnston says.


Eventually, his outdoor pursuits surged from scouting-level to near Fear-Factor intensity. Braving temperatures as frigid as 30-below zero, Johnston completed — on foot — the 135-mile Arrowhead trek across the wilds of northern Minnesota. He also completed it on cross-country skis and is registered this year to compete on a fatbike. If successful, he'll be one of only a handful of people to ever finish it in all three modes.

In 2008, Johnston launched True North to help others reach their potential. The outdoor com-

ponent of his work drops people into the yawning unfamiliarity of outdoor adventure with a set of goals that can only be met through team effort.

He also works with teams and boards in their work settings, but even then, participants are required to leave their comfort zones to experience success.

With each adventure, he brings home something new. It reminds him of a favorite phrase he learned from his former English professor, Germaine Murray, PhD.

"She always said, 'Put that in your quiver of knowledge,'" Johnston says. "And I really liked that, because it gives you that sense of lifelong learning." 

By Nancy Fowler

## Missouri's High School Principal of the Year

Renee Trotier, EdD, '15, is Missouri's 2017 High School Principal of the Year, which comes as no surprise to those who work with her.

Trotier, who is principal of Rockwood Summit High School in the Rockwood School District, located in west St. Louis County, has earned the respect of colleagues because her students are provided a learning environment that helps them succeed.

When you enter her school building, says Eric Knost, EdD, superintendent, "You can see kids are acting in a positive, respectful manner. You can tell the kids feel comfortable and safe. You can see how kids feel about their school and the learning environment."

Trotier earned her doctorate in

educational leadership at Maryville University. In 2014, a few years after she became principal, she realized the school needed to take a fresh look at where it was going. Its decade-old mission and vision statements were outdated, she says.


"They really weren't part of the school's culture," Trotier says. "It was just words on a piece of paper. We wanted to have a really shared vision so that we would all have the same concepts and ideas about what an ideal school would be."

It took a full year, but Trotier says the resulting theme — "One Summit. One Legacy. Inspiring Excellence." — sums up what a school should be about: community, connections, leadership

by students and adults, strong academics, social and emotional learning, and an environment where everyone feels safe physically and feels comfortable taking risks.

With 1,300 students, Summit is the perfect size, says Trotier. It's large enough to provide a variety of experiences and classes, yet small enough that individual students don't get lost.

"They know the adults care about them," she says.

The annual Principal of the Year competition is hosted by the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals. 

By Dale Singer



Renee Trotier, '15

# Your Legacy Their Future



Join Pat Thompson, '62, and other Maryville alumni and friends who have continued the Maryville legacy with an IRA Charitable Rollover Gift. Her gift is added to an endowed scholarship fund which will benefit students of future generations—a wonderful legacy!

If you are at least 70½ years old, you can use your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to support Maryville. You direct your IRA administrator to distribute the amount you choose to give to Maryville. Your charitable rollover to Maryville can count as part of your Required Minimum Distribution for the year. It is not taxable income to you.

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[mroock@maryville.edu](mailto:mroock@maryville.edu)





# JOIN THE REVOLUTION

Are you inspired by a particular story in this issue of *Maryville Magazine*? Readers often tell us an article resonates because it brings back memories, or it showcases talented students who represent the future of their own profession, or they see a need they can help fill. If you're impressed by the people, spaces or programs of the Maryville community, consider taking action to support them. A gift to Maryville helps us continue to lead the revolution in higher education and provides a powerful legacy for future generations.



## 1900s SCRAPBOOK

Many historical treasures are preserved by University Archives, from 1800s class composites to significant remnants of the original south St. Louis campus, and from glass plate negatives of old yearbooks to early student newspapers.

Are you part of the classes of 1953, 1958, 1963 or 1968? Your reunion years are coming up! Consider honoring your reunion by **donating items** pertinent to the experiences of you and your particular classmates, such as the scrapbook donated by the family of Mary Adaline Kennedy, 1905.

To donate items related to Maryville heritage, email Emma Prince: [epince1@maryville.edu](mailto:epince1@maryville.edu). To support ongoing efforts to digitize photographs and papers, visit [maryville.edu/giving](http://maryville.edu/giving) and make a contribution to the **Library Collections Fund**.

## TRAVELING SCHOLARS

The opportunity to travel abroad is life-changing, as testimonials from the students in our study abroad feature story this issue attest. Do you still tell tales of your own study abroad adventures? We'd love to hear them! Whether you're reminiscing, or currently traveling, please **share your stories** using the hashtag #MaryvilleAbroad on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. We'll repost as many as possible. Meanwhile, search [#MaryvilleAbroad](#) to see what Maryville students and fellow alumni experience as they explore the world.



## PEOPLE, PLACES & SPACES

As Maryville's academic, technological and facilities innovation continues to draw national attention, many more students find career relevance in our programs, along with the individualized learning opportunities they seek. To ensure that every student who wants to attend Maryville is able, consider making a gift to support the **Maryville Scholarship Fund** at [maryville.edu/giving](http://maryville.edu/giving).



## WALKER COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

In these pages, you've read about the heart-warming collaboration involving occupational therapy students and adults with dementia, and the life-changing Aphasia Communication Theater, produced by students in the speech-language pathology graduate program for people with communication barriers. But these are just two of many wonderful opportunities for students to engage in meaningful community service work and gain practical experience. You can support these and other programs by making a gift to the **Walker College of Health Professions** at [maryville.edu/giving](http://maryville.edu/giving).



**ALL EYES ON THE SKY:** More than 1,200 people gathered for several hours in the Quad area on Maryville University's campus to share the experience of a total solar eclipse on Aug. 21, 2017. It was the first time since the year 1442 that the greater St. Louis region witnessed such a cosmic event – and Maryville was fortunate to be located in the Path of Totality, the 70-mile-wide swath of Earth in view of the moon's full shadow. Special glasses, themed snacks and guest speakers highlighted the program, but the real event, of course, was the eclipse. For campus viewers, totality began at 1:17 p.m. and lasted 1 minute, 27 seconds.





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