

The Magazine  
of Dominican  
University

# Dominican

SPRING 2021

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DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

## A CONSEQUENTIAL LEADER

### 27 MOMENTS

Highlights from 27 years of extraordinary leadership.

### Q & A WITH DONNA CARROLL

"It is all, and always, about our students."

### A LEGACY BEYOND CAMPUS

Colleagues share thoughts on Donna Carroll's impact



# Dominican

The Magazine of Dominican University  
SPRING 2021

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Cover: Donna Carroll was named by the *Wednesday Journal* as the 2017 River Forest Villager of the Year. In a recent editorial, publisher Dan Haley referred to Donna as “a consequential leader” and credited her with “crafting a social justice platform that infuses Dominican with a progressive Catholic message, which is profound and expansive.”

*This page:* During her presidency, Donna Carroll has helped raise millions of dollars for student scholarships. Several students recently had the opportunity to visually thank her and other donors for their extraordinary generosity.



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# So Proudly Dominican

It is hard to say good-bye after so many years and shared experiences. I had hoped to spend the last few months visiting with you, presiding over events and attending parties; but that was not to be. Instead, I write with gratitude, knowing that this magazine cannot replace a hug or a toast or the exchange of a particular story.

It has been my privilege to be your president for the last 27 years. As you have heard me say so often, I came for the job, I stayed for the mission, and Dominican University and I grew up together. What a transformative journey it has been, positioning the university for a strong future.

I remember the first time that I ever saw the Rosary College campus, on an exquisitely beautiful spring day, buds bursting. The Gothic grandeur of the buildings and the intimacy of the setting called to me. And, that sense of place, purpose and possibilities has inspired my presidency every day, just as it has shaped the lives of generations of alumnae/i.

As I leave my Dominican home, there are so many people that I need to recognize, in particular the Dominican sisters who have been my steadfast companions, surrounding me with love. I also am very grateful for the leadership of the board of trustees and for the generosity of alumnae/i and donors. And, it is hard to imagine a more deeply committed faculty and staff, or a more industrious student body. In all, the extended Dominican family has been a special gift to me, enriched by engaged neighbors and a posse of professional colleagues.

It is time now, as the Dominican theologian Meister Eckhart, OP once said, to “trust in the magic of new beginnings”—for me and for Dominican University. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for your enduring support and confidence. Never doubt that I will be forever So Proudly Dominican.

Sincerely,

Donna M. Carroll, *President*

“It is time now, as the Dominican theologian Meister Eckart, OP once said, to ‘trust in the magic of new beginnings—’ for me and for Dominican University.”

## Blessing for Retirement

*This is where your life has arrived  
After all the years of effort and toil;  
Look back with graciousness and thanks  
On all your great and quiet achievements.*

*You stand on the shore of new invitation  
To open your life to what is left undone;  
Let your heart enjoy a different rhythm  
When drawn to the wonder of other horizons.*

*Have the courage for a new approach to time;  
Allow it to slow until you find freedom  
To draw alongside the mystery you hold  
And befriend your own beauty of soul.*

*Now is the time to enjoy your heart’s desire,  
To live the dreams you’ve waited for,  
To awaken the depths beyond your work  
And enter into your infinite source.*

—JOHN O’DONOHUE  
from his book *To Bless the Space Between Us*

Photograph: Donna Carroll’s office window





*WHEREAS*, Donna M. Carroll has led Dominican University with vision, tenacity and affection since her appointment in 1994 as the first lay president, transforming programs, structures, finances and reputation; and,

*WHEREAS*, following in the pioneering footsteps of the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa and with a deep respect for mission, she successfully navigated the institution's name change from Rosary College to Dominican University; and,

*WHEREAS*, President Carroll has led the university through four strategic plans, and three campaigns, raising almost \$200 million, and significantly expanding the scope, size and footprint of the institution; and,

*WHEREAS*, her dual pursuit of excellence and equity has positioned Dominican as a leading university in regard to social mobility, the only regional university that is ranked in the top 10 for both overall quality and economic diversity; and,

*WHEREAS*, she has fearlessly advocated for the rights of undocumented and marginalized students, strengthening Dominican's identity as a Hispanic-Serving Institution and guiding the university's public announcement as a Sanctuary Campus in 2016; and,

*WHEREAS*, President Carroll has fostered a strong sense of university community, maintaining an open door policy and enjoying close relationships with students, faculty, staff and alumnae/i; and,

*WHEREAS*, her relationships and reputation also have had regional and national reach, through her extensive board service, community engagement, speaking, writing, consulting, and mentoring future higher education leaders; and,

*WHEREAS*, her commitment to mission, affection for the Sisters and confidence in all things Dominican are unwavering;

*BE IT RESOLVED, THAT*, on April 15, 2021, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Board of Trustees of Dominican University commends President Carroll for her 27 years of extraordinary service and, in recognition, formally names the Learning Commons, the *Donna M. Carroll Learning Commons*.

Thomas D. Abrahamson, *Chairman*  
April 15, 2021



The Donna M. Carroll Learning Commons



# Reflections on a Shared Sense of Mission

**Sister Diane Kennedy, retired vice president for mission and ministry, and Chad Rohman, dean of Rosary College of Arts and Sciences and professor of English, offer tributes to Donna Carroll on behalf of their respective constituencies, the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters and the faculty of Dominican University. Both commend Donna for her commitment to Dominican's mission, culture and traditions and for her transformative, collaborative leadership—and for always “doing her homework.”**

TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS AGO, Donna Carroll was driving to the Mound in Sinsinawa, Wisconsin with Henry Lang, the chair of the board of Rosary College. They came upon a road sign for Benton, Wisconsin, and Donna exclaimed, “Henry, that’s where Father Samuel is buried!” Donna, of course, had done her homework on the Dominican roots of Rosary College and knew the importance of Samuel Mazzuchelli. That spontaneous detour and nascent affinity between Donna and Samuel must have called down Father Samuel’s blessing on the mutual discernment that named Donna as the first lay president of Rosary College.

To celebrate the achievements and remarkable legacy of Donna Carroll’s presidency of Dominican University is to tell a story of providential call and generous faith-filled response of a gifted young woman who would carry the mission and tradition of Rosary College into the future. The spirit of the founder of the Sinsinawa Dominicans, Samuel Mazzuchelli, infused the traditions and culture of Rosary College—love of learning, appreciation of beauty and the arts, sense of mission, and openness to a possible future. A dominant theme of Father Samuel’s life was that “a Christian’s native country is wherever God calls her.” And so it was

that in 1994, Donna Carroll became a Jesuit expatriate in the Midwestern outpost of the Sinsinawa Dominicans. In the tradition of a founder who was a builder, educator, and visionary, Donna intuited the spirit that had shaped the culture and mission of Rosary College and opened herself to a future that would reveal her to be a builder, educator and visionary—a worthy daughter of the gifted missionary.

Donna brought gifts of imagination, intellectual brilliance, strategic planning, and personal warmth to the mission of Rosary College. But, most of all, she brought her personal spirit of openness to all, appreciation of diversity, wit and keen intellect as well as warm humor and compassion. The

open door of her office was a visible sign of a leader committed to the living community of students and faculty, staff and administration, and to the relationships that sustained community.

In turbulent times, she has embodied her philosophy of leadership: absorb chaos, give back calm, build confidence. The 2020 President’s Report is entitled “Forward Fearlessly.” That could be the motto for the many years of Donna’s leadership of Dominican University. Parmer Hall and Murray Hall, the soccer field and the Learning Commons in Crown Library, surrounded by a beautiful campus, are lasting structures that give witness to an understanding like Father Samuel’s—that the community needs places of beauty and learning that image lasting values and the fullness of human experience.

But for the Dominican Sisters, Donna has become a cherished member of our family and a beloved friend. Her personal warmth, generous spirit, and gift of humor have created an atmosphere of joyful community and sustained celebration of *caritas* and *veritas*. But most of all, we are grateful



“Donna intuited the spirit that had shaped the culture and mission of Rosary College and opened herself to a future that would reveal her to be a builder, educator and visionary.”



“Donna’s regular outreach reminds faculty and staff of her steadfast commitment to their well-being, and it signifies her relentless effort to work always in community with her colleagues.”

for her unfailing understanding of and commitment to the mission of Dominican University and for her transformative leadership. Sinsinawa Dominicans’ core conviction is “at the heart of ministry is relationship.” Our relationship with Donna Carroll is rooted forever in *caritas* and *veritas*, and she will be forever remembered and cherished by her Dominican Sisters.

**Sister Diane Kennedy**  
Retired Vice President for  
Mission and Ministry



DONNA CARROLL, Dominican University President. These five words, conjoined for more than a quarter of a century, speak volumes. Specifically, they represent President Carroll’s 27-year commitment to supporting our Sinsinawa Dominican Catholic mission in its multiple dimensions: relationship building; Hispanic serving; liberal arts and sciences and pre-professional preparing; vocation and career supporting; and social justice seeking.

“Donna,” as she is known by her colleagues, will leave Dominican at the end of this academic year with a strong legacy across multiple fronts. However, her support for students who would not otherwise find a campus to call home stands out. She bravely committed Dominican as a Sanctuary Campus when other Catholic colleges and

universities were not ready to do so. Many in the Dominican University community have followed her courageous lead, resulting in ongoing equity and inclusion initiatives, which faculty and staff from across the university direct and support.

Always optimistic, Donna faithfully attends to the successes and challenges of growing a regional university into a leading institution in terms of quality, social mobility, and value. She has positioned Dominican for many more years of continued success, due to her vision, strong work ethic, and collaborative leadership style, particularly involving strategic planning initiatives.

Donna’s particular skill is her ability to relate to and communicate effectively with her faculty and staff. A fellow English major, Donna takes great pride in how she communicates, whether in person or through her writing—no dangling participles or split infinitives find a home in her prose. Sincere, forthright, and honest, Donna’s regular outreach reminds faculty and staff of her steadfast commitment to their well-being, and it signifies her relentless effort to work always in community with her colleagues.

No administrator is immune from missteps. Donna would not only admit to having made some missteps in her long tenure, but she would also confess to owning up to them quickly and sincerely. However, for Donna, owning up is never done as an excuse,

but rather as an attempt to get it right—and that is what she is about: getting it right.

Donna has gravitas. Those who have seen her at work among her peers, whether through the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), or the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE), for example, know when Donna speaks, her colleagues listen. I have observed Donna’s professional disposition closely during my 23 years as a faculty member, faculty trustee, and now administrator at Dominican. I know from first-hand experience that Donna does her homework, whether in preparation for a conversation with a room full of trustees, or in preparation for a one-on-one conversation with a faculty or staff member in her office. Diet Coke or no Diet Coke in hand, Donna is always prepared, always honest, and always present.

My running joke with Donna is that she hired me to Dominican three times; hers is that she was the reason I returned to Dominican after a brief detour in my early academic career. Regardless, we each feel a close kinship in this way, and we both share a deep sense of trust in each other, and in our shared love of Dominican’s mission.

Congratulations and thank you, Donna!

*In Caritas et Veritas.*

**Chad Rohman**  
Dean, Rosary College of Arts and Sciences, and Professor of English



# “I CAME FOR THE JOB, I STAYED FOR THE MISSION, and Dominican University and I Grew up Together”

**You began your higher education career in student affairs. How did this prepare you for your role as president of a university?**

There is no doubt that I have a particular way of inhabiting the role of president because I began my career as a residence hall director (University of Cincinnati) and director of student activities (Fairleigh Dickinson University). Like most student development professionals, I am process driven. I prioritize planning above all else, except students. Had I not started out in student affairs, I doubt that I would have had the skills or comfort level to work with the complexity of student needs and voices that a president faces today.

Student affairs work tests your resilience. I was 22 years old the first (and only) time that I had to tell a father that his daughter had committed suicide. Few challenges have matched that moment, and as a consequence, I lead differently. I have greater patience for helicopter parents; I believe in second chances; and I try to keep my door and my heart open.

My background in student affairs also taught me not to take myself too seriously, which was essential when trying to corral inebriated students while standing knee-deep in water (hopefully!), after they had flushed all the toilets in the residence hall at once. This was a good foundation for serving as a president, with its often messy and humbling challenges.

**Although you have always been a strong Catholic and a feminist, you were very different, at least outwardly, than the sisters. What was their initial impression of you?**

I think that the Sisters enjoyed my energy and optimism. I was younger than expected, from New York,



## Kindred Spirits

*In 2018, Donna Carroll was the inaugural recipient of the Cornerstones Award from the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters. The award honors four pioneering young Sisters who stepped into leadership roles in the mid-1800s, much like Donna did in 1994.*

and I wore short skirts and high heels, which I quickly learned were crippling when walking miles through the corridors of the Motherhouse. I remember an affectionate curiosity the first time I visited the Mound.

The Sisters have been my greatest cheerleaders; from the beginning, they understood that the institution was at a pivotal point and needed new direction and a stronger external profile. It was the Sisters' pioneering spirit and willingness to change in the best interest of the school/students that gave me the courage and context in which to build forward.

**You were appointed president of Rosary College at the age of 39, as one of the youngest college presidents in the country. How did that happen? Was there a particular moment that gave you confidence that Rosary would be a good fit for you?**

Early in my career, I was blessed to have strong mentors with high aspirations for me and it was their guidance and encouragement that helped me advance quickly professionally. An important mentor once told me, “Do not not do it out of fear.” That advice changed the trajectory of my career, got me to Chicago, and shaped many a decision thereafter.

There were two moments during the search process when I knew Rosary was a good fit. In the interview schedule, there was this ‘conversation with the college community,’ and I walked into the recital hall, and every living, breathing, ambulatory member of the academic community, from entry-level professionals to senior faculty to the Sisters from the convent, was there. There were no pre-designed questions. I gave some opening remarks and then we just talked—and laughed. It was a comfortable conversation, and mutually confidence-building.



Donna has enjoyed a special relationship with the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, who she has referenced fondly as her greatest cheerleaders. During the 2013 Fall Trustee Dinner, she gathered with (left to right) Sr. Patricia Mulcahy '63, Sr. Michelle Germanson, Sr. Jean Murray (front), Sr. Diane Kennedy and Sr. Marci Hermesdorf.



## Q&A

Th other moment came in the convent, with the Sisters. My father had died between my firs and second interview and so, I was still feeling that loss when I arrived on campus. As we were beginning my congregation interview, Sister Mary Woods said, “We’d like to take a moment and pray for your father.” Tha sense of caring—the *caritas* that we talk about—was present in that moment and deeply felt.

**You are one of the longest-serving university presidents in the country. When you started at Rosary, did you think that you would be here 27 years later? Is there something that kept you at Dominican this long?**

As I often say, I came to Rosary College for the job. I stayed for the mission, and Dominican University and I grew up together.

Like most academics of my generation, I was not raised to fi in—or to stay put—so the sense of place and relationship that I found at Rosary was unexpected. I came from academic privilege, and it was assumed, at least by my mentors, that I would settle among the privileged and pursue my individual pathway to success. But Dominican University offe ed me a diffe ent future—and the opportunity to advocate for students who would not otherwise have the educational opportunities that, in hindsight, I took for granted. I fell in love with the mission and the spirit of the place.

**You have often referred to the position of a college president as being a lifestyle rather than a job. Can you explain?**

Leadership is a lifestyle, one that overwhelms all else on occasion, but, if what is meaningful to you personally, and the priorities of your institution align, it is a distinctively fulfillin experience. I am not a big advocate of balance, truthfully, because that aspiration

always leaves you wanting. I prefer to think in terms of well-being and happiness.

For me, happiness is not just a feeling; it is a choice. For 27 years, in most of my major speeches to the university community, in writing or from a podium, I end my remarks with a simple statement—“It is my privilege to be your president.” I try to lead everyday with that outlook, focusing on the possibilities and recognizing that the work is not about me.

**Everyone on campus, from the senior administrators to the students to the buildings and grounds crew, calls you “Donna” instead of “Dr. Carroll.” How is that a reflection of your leadership style?**

“Like most academics of my generation, I was not raised to fit in—or stay put—so the sense of place and relationship that I found at Rosary was unexpected.”

It is a holdover from my student affair days, like providing parents with my home phone number at orientation. I like to be approachable and welcoming. When I firs moved into my offi in Lewis Hall, I moved the bookcases that blocked my view into the foyer so that I could see the students walking past. I wanted to see who was dating whom! When I am in my offi and not in a meeting, my door is open because being available for students, faculty, and staff is my firs priority.

Th university is not only an enterprise, but also a community, and that relationship-centered approach always has define my leadership style. I can see the sense of belonging in the enthusiastic greeting of a dining hall staff member, saying “Hi Donna!”

**You have a mantra that has guided you through the challenges of your presidency. Can you share it?**

I have to credit the Dominican faculty for inspiring this one. After years of convening the Academic Council, engaging in lively, unfile ted conversations with colleagues, my mantra is—absorb chaos, respond calmly and, over time, you will build confidenc in your organization and your leadership.

Th president manages boundaries—in conversation, practice, and culture. I ensure that the lights get turned on and the bills get paid, so that the important work of the university, teaching and learning, can proceed with integrity and without distraction.

**What do you consider some of your greatest achievements and some of your greatest challenges during your tenure at Dominican?**

I suspect that history will describe me as the president who changed the name of the institution, and I am proud of that decision—and its successful evolution. I also raised a lot of money, relatively speaking, added academic programs and built buildings, all of which have reshaped the institution. At this moment, however, I think that the university’s impact on the social mobility of lower income, first-generation-to-colleg students is my most satisfying contribution, because it speaks to the heart of mission—and, in the best of circumstances,



changes lives and families and communities.

In terms of challenges, I told the board recently that, “What makes us distinctive does not necessarily make us wealthy!” Tha was a challenge 27 years ago and it is a diffe ent, but similar challenge today, if that makes sense. Catholic higher education is called to lead at the margins of society—“to go where the work is great and difficul ” and that often means tight margins financiall .

Otherwise, I would have to say that the issues of diversity, equity and inclusion have a particular urgency and a complexity today that I only began to tackle leadership-wise.

**You have been an advocate for the rights of undocumented students for more than two decades. Was there a particular incident or pivotal moment that sparked your interest in helping these students?**

It all started with one student on a bicycle in a snowstorm. I stopped my car to give him a ride and when I asked why he was on his bike in such weather, he explained that he was undocumented and, at that time,

**Students Above All**  
Dominican has served as the primary sponsor of the Frank Lloyd Wright Races in Oak Park for the past 15 years—and Donna Carroll gamely leads the pack every year.

The revitalization of the theatre arts program has been one of Donna’s greatest sources of satisfaction.





## Q&A

he could not get a driver's license. I then attended a student panel, endorsed legislation, spoke at a rally—all at the invitation of Dominican students. One day, I did a CNN interview and the trajectory of my presidency changed forever—and for the better.

Over the years, advocating for the rights of undocumented students has given me an experience of mission-in-action, like no other experience. It has challenged me to use my voice, my influence and the resources of the university to not only open doors for talented students, but also to address systemic injustices.

For me it is all, and always, about our students. The have risked so much in the pursuit of justice and opportunity. How can I not stand in solidarity with them!

the university's reputation in the community and beyond. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to hobnob with some great contemporary thinkers—David Brooks, Michael Eric Dyson, Helen Prejean, recently. And, I have hosted the great opera and Broadway stars of our day—Renée Fleming, Samuel Ramey, Audra McDonald, Matthew Morrison, and many, many more.

**In 2018, you received the inaugural Cornerstones Award from the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters. As Dominican's first lay president, this must have been a full-circle moment for you. Can you share why that honor, among so many honors that you have received, was especially meaningful?**

“At the time, I thought it was perhaps a career move for her. She would make her mark and move on. But she stayed, of course, and became devoted. It became her life. You could say she got the mission, but in reality, the mission gets you. And the mission got her.”

—Sister Marcella Hermesdorf

**Under your leadership, Dominican has developed a reputation as a venue for nationally known performers and speakers. Is there a performer or speaker who surprised you or who has made a lasting impression on you?**

Actually, it is the revitalization of the theater arts program at Dominican that gives me the greatest satisfaction. I love sitting in the back of the Lund or Martin and watching our students perform.

We have had some big anniversaries recently—the 20th year of DUPAC, our Performing Arts Center, and the 15th anniversary of the Siena Center, both of which speak to our educational mission and build

It was meaningful, because it was a gift from “my” Sisters, and because it was their first award. You have to understand the history.

In 1994, Sr. Kaye Ashe spoke passionately to her Rosary College board colleagues about the readiness of the community to appoint its first lay president. Not until the trustees were hanging my picture on the wall did I fully understand how different I was from previous presidents, and, therefore, the magnitude and generosity of Kaye's endorsement. Years later, I discovered the story of the cornerstones—four young, religious women stepping into leadership. What they lacked in years and gravitas, they countered

with resourcefulness, determination, and a deep and binding affection.

I don't dare equate my experience with the pioneering role of those four cornerstones, but we are kindred spirits.

**Because of your obvious affinity for Dominican, as well as for your role as its leader, the decision to retire must have been very difficult. Why did you think this was a good time to step down?**

When you have built a place and care for it as deeply as I care for Dominican, your last great gifts to the institution are a strong platform for continuing success and a smooth transition. I saw the moment.

Dominican weathered the challenges of COVID-19, opened robustly last fall and, despite the craziness of the pandemic, we have stunning rankings and relatively stable finances. I have great confidence in the board and the senior leadership team, so it is a manageable time for a transition in leadership.

Don't get me wrong, letting go is heart-wrenching. Then again, it is nice to leave on your own terms, when people still like you!

For every university president, there is a chapter and a voice. I like to think that mine have been transforming and compelling, at my best moments.

**You have been president of Dominican for almost your entire adult life. How do you envision your next chapter?**

I am not pressuring myself to make any big decisions at this point. I have a number of continuing professional commitments, which I look forward to giving more time. I want to do a bit of writing, and walk on the beach. Ultimately, I want to experience the freedom to be “ordinary,” if you know what I mean.

## 27 SIGNATURE MOMENTS IN 27 YEARS:

Highlights of Extraordinary  
Leadership and Service

# 27



**Donna Carroll** has had an immeasurable impact on Dominican University and is leaving a legacy that will be felt by generations of students, faculty, and staff. Since her arrival as president in 1994, her vision and strategic leadership have dramatically changed the course of the university—and positioned Dominican for future growth. Below are some highlights of her 27-year tenure.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

In 1994, Rosary College's presidential search committee advanced the name of only one candidate, selected for the “combination of education, diversity of experience, high level of energy, and managerial skill” the committee deemed “perfectly suited” for Rosary's 10th president. They were looking for a strategic, visionary leader—and that is what they got with Donna Carroll.

In her inaugural address, Carroll cited a Confucius proverb, “Task and vision are parts of one whole: without a dream, even a strong leader is doomed; vision, however, remains only a vision without a task.” A strong leader, a vision, and a task proved to be a great recipe for the future of the college, and Carroll's first **Vision for the Centennial** strategic plan identified pivotal changes and opportunities that positioned the institution for growth.

Reflecting the institution's broad academic portfolio, including a growing number of graduate programs, Carroll thoughtfully managed a **name change to Dominican University in 1997**. The name launched a new era, while embracing the traditions and values of the institution's founders by maintaining the Rosary College of Arts and Sciences undergraduate college. Majors and programs were added to meet the anticipated demand for new





MOMENTS

career paths, and strategic partnerships were established to propel Dominican's growth—in size and stature.

When the university celebrated its Centennial in 2001, Carroll already was immersed in the **Launching Our Second Century** strategic plan that included a vision for a premier university with goals for size, scope, and reputation at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and a bold and comprehensive master campus plan.

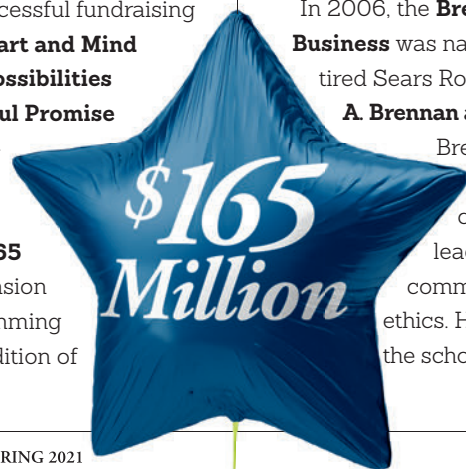
**Pathways to Distinction** represented the voice of a maturing institution. The plan introduced a new level of data-informed decision-making and included a comprehensive Information Technology Plan as well as new enrollment forecasting and financial aid leveraging models.

Now well into her fourth strategic plan, **A World of Difference**, Carroll remains determined to reach high benchmarks for degree completion, vocational discernment, intercultural competence, faculty recruitment and retention, building endowment, and financial stability.

Donna Carroll, indeed, is proven to be “perfectly suited” for Dominican University.

THREE CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS

Capital campaigns are massive undertakings and, under Donna Carroll's leadership, Dominican has launched and completed three successful fundraising efforts, including **Heart and Mind (2002)**, **Amazing Possibilities (2008)**, and **Powerful Promise (2019)**. These ambitious, transformative campaigns have raised more than **\$165 million** for the expansion of academic programming and services, the addition of



critical learning and living spaces, and the provision of scholarships supporting thousands of deserving students. Motivated by mission and inspired by Carroll's bold vision, the generosity of Dominican's community of donors and supporters helped bring dream projects to life.



THE VALUE OF A NAME

On a small campus, there is a special intimacy to a name, which comes with a story and anchors a place. While many of Dominican's buildings honor the legacy of Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, since 1994 several noted business and community leaders have demonstrated their confidence in the university's stability by lending their names and committing their resources to support particular initiatives.

In 2006, the **Brennan School of Business** was named in honor of retired Sears Roebuck CEO **Edward A. Brennan and his wife, Lois '55**.

Brennan was a highly regarded Chicago civic and business leader revered for his commitment to business ethics. His leadership gift to the school, in turn, attracted

contributions from fellow corporate leaders.

**Parmer Hall**, Dominican's state-of-the-art academic building, opened in 2007, and was made possible by a generous contribution from two stalwart university leaders, **John C. and Carolyn J. Parmer '52. Pier and Renee Borra '64** made a significant investment in the future direction of the university by funding the **Borra College of Health Sciences**, located within Parmer Hall. **The Elizabeth T. MacNeil School of Nursing**, named in recognition of WeatherTech founder and alumnus David MacNeil's gift honoring his mother, is launching students into high-demand, essential health careers.

These gifts have advanced the university's stature and demonstrate the impact of philanthropic leadership.

HALLMARKS OF REPUTATION AND PRESTIGE

Endowed chairs represent donor investments in reputation and financial stability and reflect the maturing of an institution's fundraising efforts. Dominican's four named chairs—the **Follett Chair** (School of Information Studies), **Lund-Gill Chair** (Rosary College of Arts and Sciences), **Christopher Chair** and the **Norman and Ruth Carroll Chair** (both in the Brennan School of Business)—have been vital resources for attracting globally distinguished scholars and thought leaders. **The John and Jeanne Rowe Distinguished Professorship** recognizes outstanding Brennan faculty whose teaching and research have enhanced Dominican's profile.



YEARS

FOUR COLLEGES, ONE UNIVERSITY

Dominican began the 2016-2017 year with a new academic structure designed to streamline operations while providing for agility and creative synergy between the undergraduate and graduate programs. The new model organized the university into four academic units, maintaining the **Rosary College of Arts and Sciences** and the **Brennan School of Business**, adding the **College of Health Sciences**, and consolidating the School of Social Work, the School of Information Studies and the School of Education into a new **College of Applied Social Sciences**. The restructure resulted in a more innovative, collaborative, and sustainable institution.

Today, Parmer Hall is home to the **Borra College of Health Sciences**, the **MacNeil School of Nursing**, the **Bluhm Science Center**, and the **Christopher Nutrition Sciences Center**. The building contains laboratories, cutting-edge equipment, and a state-of-the-art simulation education center. The physician assistant studies program and the post-baccalaureate pre-medical program were launched in response to student demand and to prepare students for careers in the rapidly growing health care field. Also housed within the facility is the **Borra Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence**, a dedicated space and



CENTENNIAL HALL

The opening in 2004 of Centennial Hall, Dominican's newest residence hall, marked a significant milestone for Dominican. Designed in response to a growing undergraduate student population, as well as a demand for suite-style rooms and common areas, the building added 500 beds to student housing. The Gothic-inspired residence hall, which was renamed in 2012 honor of former Dominican president, **Sister Jean Murray**, seamlessly matches the university's older buildings and has become a popular option for students.

PURCHASE OF THE PRIORY CAMPUS

With the 2002 purchase of the seven-acre Priory Campus, located just eight blocks east of the main campus, Dominican added space for academic programs, special events, and student housing. The facility housed the **Graduate School of Social Work** and the **Siena Center**, a program launched in 2003 to present programs engaging critical issues of church and society, before the programs were moved to the Main Campus. The campus continues as the site of the **Rose K. Goedert Center for Early Childhood Education**.

PARMER HALL—A SYMBOL OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The 2007 opening of **John C. and Carolyn J. Parmer Hall**, the campus' newest academic building, was a reflection of Donna Carroll's prescient grasp of the importance of the sciences to the university's future. Seizing on data projecting increasing interest in careers based in the sciences and technology, the university constructed a state-of-the-art facility for science-based learning and research.

Remarkable for its high-tech, student-centered, eco-friendly environment, Parmer Hall is the hallmark of the ambitious and immensely successful **Amazing Possibilities** campaign. In addition to Parmer Hall, the campaign raised more than \$53 million for student scholarships, academic programming and services, and campus-wide facility improvements, including the addition of a much-needed parking pavilion.

a concept for helping faculty succeed as teachers and scholars.

The heart of the building is the dramatic, two-story glass **Shaffer-Silveri Atrium**, which provides a popular gathering spot for students and a site for the student-run Recipe Box Café meal program. A wall near the atrium pays tribute to the Dominican sisters and, in the outside courtyard, a statue of **Father Samuel Mazzuchelli** reminds the community of the university's origins as a school offering science education for girls, at a time when that was considered controversial.

Parmer Hall is a reflection of Dominican's academic excellence and bold strategic planning, and an acknowledgement of donor confidence in the university's stability and potential.





## THE HEART OF THE LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

In 1997, incoming freshmen were introduced to what is now a distinctively Dominican experience—the **Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) Seminars**. The heart of the university's core curriculum, the seminars provide undergraduate students

with a shared learning experience in courses centered on a common theme. The core curriculum has evolved and, this year, the university incorporated the interdisciplinary **Critical Reading, Writing, and Speaking**

sequence for first-year students. The LAS Seminars continue to offer students the opportunity to explore with a cohort of peers some of life's universal, enduring questions.

## EXPANSION OF GRADUATE EDUCATION

Although Dominican offered several graduate programs long before its name change reflected the scope of its academic offerings, there has been substantive growth under Donna Carroll's leadership, and many significant achievements. More than **1,000 students** currently are enrolled in the university's **18 graduate degree programs** and the doctoral program in information studies.

This year marks the **20th anniversary of the School of Social Work**, a program incorporating a family-centered, globally focused curriculum and numerous dual degree options, specializations, and



## U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

certifications. This year also marks the **35th anniversary of the School of Education**, which has consistently redesigned its graduate degree programs to prepare educators to meet the learning styles and needs of diverse student populations.

Launched in 1930 as an undergraduate program in library science, the **School of Information Studies (SOIS)** now offers a breadth of programming reflecting the profession's emphasis on emerging technologies and their impact on society. The addition in 2009 of the doctoral program in information studies responded to a need for advanced professional development and reflected the school's maturation.

In 2014, the **Brennan School of Business** earned the prestigious **AACSB international accreditation**, an achievement held by only 5 percent of the top business schools worldwide. The school has expanded its global reach by partnering with universities in Europe, Africa, and South America.

Academic excellence has long been a hallmark of a Dominican education. This year, in a stunning moment of recognition, *U.S. News & World Report* for the first time included Dominican in the **top 10 of Midwestern regional universities**. The prestigious college report has ranked Dominican within the top 20 for more than 20 years. In addition, the report recognized Dominican as the **#1 Best Value School** in the Chicago area, the **#1 Top Performer in Social Mobility** in the state of Illinois, and **#11** in the Midwest in the Best Teaching category.



## STUDENT SUCCESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

While higher education evolves and adapts with a changing world, core components of the Dominican experience are unwavering, including rigorous academics, personalized attention, and a commitment to meeting students' needs—inside and outside the classroom. Still, many students face barriers that can derail their efforts to be successful.

Dominican's commitment to eliminating barriers to student success was affirmed in 2018 with a major reorganization to create the **Division of Student Success and Engagement**. The division focuses on helping students assess their strengths and interests, understand



their unique learning needs, and explore majors that are in step with their individual skill sets. The division intentionally integrates a number of programs designed to support student success, including academic advising, career development, co-curricular activities, tutoring, and disability support services. And, to help students facing challenges at home, Dominican became the first university in the country to incorporate NowPow, a personalized referral system that provides students and their families

27 YEARS

with health and social services within their own communities.

To streamline and simplify enrollment services, the university last year created **Stars Connect**, a one-stop shop for essential services such as financial aid, student accounts, and student registration and records.

As Dominican's student demographics have changed, the university has reinforced its commitment to fostering an inclusive campus environment by providing programs specifically designed for traditionally underrepresented students.

**Ministry en lo Cotidiano** and the **Beloved Community** offer paid, faith-based leadership and service opportunities for Latinx and African American students, respectively. **The Center for Cultural Liberation**, a student-led initiative, supports and celebrates students of color. These and other programs focus on ensuring that Dominican's most vulnerable students persist, graduate on time and with purpose.

Dominican's dedication to providing comprehensive support services for all students was reflected in impressive gains in the **2019 National Survey of Student Engagement**. In particular, students noted the university's efforts to support their academic success, social involvement, and overall well-being.

## COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL MOBILITY

First-generation and economically disadvantaged students have been an integral part of the Dominican fabric since its founding in 1901. This year, nearly half of our incoming students were the first in their family to attend college, and 99 percent received some form of financial aid.

Dominican's comprehensive efforts to help low-income students stay in school and graduate on time has garnered national recognition. The prestigious 2021 *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the university first in Illinois for social mobility, a measure of how well schools graduate students receiving federal Pell Grants compared to more advantaged students.

## LEARNING COMMONS

Innovation, collaboration, student support, and learning are the foundations of Dominican's new Learning Commons, opened in 2020 within the Rebecca Crown Library. The Learning Commons represents best practices in higher education by serving as a central, easily accessible hub for a number of departments and resources designed to enhance student learning and engagement with peers. Housing the **WeatherTech Innovation Lab** and featuring an enclosed glass atrium, the Learning Commons truly serves as a robust, bustling, one-stop shop for Dominican students.







## COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Social justice advocacy, as an expression of mission, has been part of Dominican's DNA since the university's founding in 1901. Inspired by the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, many of whom were involved in the Civil Rights Movement and other progressive causes, students have marched, protested, and advocated for the rights and dignity of historically marginalized individuals. Donna Carroll has supported and joined them at critical junctures, including, most recently, a student-led **Walk for Solidarity in support of Black Lives Matter**.

Throughout her tenure, Carroll has been an outspoken advocate for the rights of undocumented students and immigration reform. Her activism has garnered widespread praise and recognition, including honors from the Archdiocese of Chicago and Faith in Public Life, a national organization of faith leaders united for justice and equality. Her leadership of **Dominican's Sanctuary Campus Covenant** inspired the Village of River Forest to approve a Welcoming Resolution and led to the current partnership between the university and the village on initiatives designed to combat racism and systemic injustices.

Dominican's commitment to equality was formalized in 2015 with the appointment of the university's first chief diversity officer and the creation of an **Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI)**. The ODEI has established more equita-

ble hiring practices, offered professional development opportunities and cultural competency training for faculty and staff, and helped bring to campus influential thought leaders including **Ta-Nehesi Coates** and **Michael Eric Dyson**.

In 2020, Dominican was selected by the Association of American Colleges and Universities to develop a **Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation (TRHT) Campus Center** as part of a national program addressing the historic and contemporary effects of racism. The goal of the TRHT is to empower faculty, staff, and students to eliminate racial injustice—on campus and in our community.

There still is much work to be done, and Dominican is committed to continuing its efforts to create a more just and humane society.

## ACHIEVING HSI DESIGNATION

In 2011, the U.S. Department of Education officially designated Dominican as a **Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)**, with more than 25 percent of our student body self-identifying as Latinx. This fall, Latinx students represented 70 percent of the university's incoming class. Dominican is committed to expanding and enhancing educational opportunities for our Latinx students in culturally responsive ways.

Dominican's HSI status has made the university eligible for transformative federal funding. To date, the university has received more than **\$20 million in federal grants** to support Latinx and low-income students. National Science Foundation funding supports our efforts to increase retention and graduation rates



for students majoring in STEM fields. Title V grant funding is increasing Latinx student success, strengthening advising and teacher education, and expanding career services. The funding also is enhancing the university's identity as an HSI by building cultural awareness and inclusivity throughout campus.

Dominican's **TRIO Student Support Services** grant provides funding to assist students with fulfilling basic college requirements, and persisting and graduating on time.



In 2018, Dominican hosted "**El Futuro Is Here**," a national conference attracting representatives from 50 Catholic universities and focusing on ways of creating campus ministries that embrace the cultural heritage of Latinx students. Dominican since has received significant foundation funding to establish a national network to advance initiatives resulting from the conference.

## SANCTUARY CAMPUS COVENANT

Heeding the concern of the Dominican community for a safe, inclusive, and equitable campus, Dominican adopted in 2016 a **Sanctuary Campus Covenant**, stepping forward as a national leader in supporting and protecting undocumented students. The Covenant was used as

a model for a **Welcoming Resolution** passed by the Village of River Forest. The university renewed and expanded the Covenant in 2020 as a stronger anti-racism statement, reflecting a greater understanding of systemic injustice and a robust commitment to collective action. The Covenant pledges the university to combat racism in the surrounding community and on campus.

## DONNA CARROLL APPOINTED FIRST LAY PRESIDENT

When Donna Carroll was named **Dominican's 10th president in 1994**—the university's first lay president and one of the youngest college presidents in the country—it was a turning point for the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, for the university community, and for the newly appointed president. She was the **search committee's first—and only—choice**, selected as a visionary, strategic leader capable of boosting Rosary's external profile, while embracing its commitment to its Catholic heritage and mission.



## CELEBRATING CATHOLIC IDENTITY

From orientation to commencement, Dominican students are imbued with the spirit of *caritas et veritas*. This motto of love and truth is reinforced throughout the year through special events—and special places.

In 2010, the entire campus community gathered for the first **Caritas Veritas Symposium**, a day-long exploration of the university's motto. The annual event provides a pause in the academic calendar to focus on the university's mission and Catholic identity through presentations by students, faculty, staff, and board members.

**Rosary Chapel**, the spiritual heart of campus, was renovated in 2003 to provide a more welcoming space for students of all cultures and faith traditions. Reflecting the enduring importance of mission inherent in the university's operations, in 2006, **Diane Kennedy OP** was appointed as the first vice president of mission and ministry. Also in 2006, Dominican established the **Mary Nona McGreal, OP Center for Dominican Historical Studies**, the only center in

the country dedicated to the history of the Dominican order in the United States.

Generations of students, faculty, staff, and alumni have taken advantage of the university's sanctuary spaces for contemplation, including the peaceful Priory Campus gardens; the **Grotto**, which was restored in 2014; and the Labyrinth, an ancient symbol

and spiritual tool for meditation that was installed near the Grotto and dedicated in 2015.





## CONTRIBUTIONS TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Considered by her peers as a role model for her lay leadership of a Catholic university, Donna Carroll has mentored new presidents and shared her insights on vocation and mission with colleagues across the country. She has served on the boards of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU), Fordham University, the Catholic Theological Union, and the University of Scranton, as well as the Archdiocese of Chicago School Board, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, and Fenwick High School. Her commitment to mission has been recognized with numerous awards, including the inaugural **Cornerstone Award** from the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa and the **Veritas Award** from the Dominican Friars. Later this year, the ACCU will honor Carroll with its prestigious **Hesburgh Award** for her outstanding contributions to Catholic higher education.



## INTERFAITH YOUTH CORE MODEL CAMPUS

In partnership with the **Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC)**, a national organization working to bridge differences between people of different faiths and religious traditions, Dominican in 2010 became one of the first model campuses in the country to initiate interfaith cooperation and dialogue. Since then, the university has expanded interfaith programs, infused interfaith awareness throughout the curriculum, added an interfaith studies minor, and created an open online course

## MOMENTS

on interfaith leadership. Donna Carroll has served on the board of the IFYC since 2014. The IFYC has recognized Dominican as a national leader for interfaith excellence in higher education.

## STARS ON AND OFF THE FIELD

In 2000, the university's athletic program made the bold decision to join the NCAA Division III. The move has enhanced the university's reputation, while attracting academically talented students. Today, more than **240 student-athletes** compete on **14 varsity teams** each year. The program has had significant success, with both the men's soccer and volleyball teams competing in Final Four tournaments. But our student-athletes are equally successful in the classroom. In Fall 2020, they posted a combined **3.39 GPA**—their 29th consecutive semester above a 3.0. This year, Donna Carroll will be inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame for her enthusiastic support of the program.

## ON WITH THE SHOW

The opening of the **Dominican University Performing Arts Center (DUPAC)** in 1999 ushered in an exciting new era of live performances and presentations on campus. Throughout the year, a diverse range of nationally renowned performers such as Emmylou Harris, Judy Collins and Sweet Honey in the Rock, and speakers including Sister Helen Prejean, David Brooks and U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo have drawn thousands of patrons from the local community and Chicago metropolitan area.

The theatre arts program, which had languished for many years, was reborn in 2003 as a major with a reinvigorated curriculum.

Students have the opportunity to sharpen their acting skills in large-scale musicals, classic works and provocative contemporary plays.

**The Annual Trustee Benefit Concert**, which for many years featured afternoon recitals by nationally acclaimed opera stars, was restructured as a highly anticipated gala featuring a cocktail reception, dinner, and auction which has raised millions of dollars for student scholarships. The repertoire also has expanded to include acclaimed Broadway and popular performers such as Audra McDonald, Matthew Morrison, and Ben Vereen. During the evening, the Bravo Award is presented to an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to the Chicago arts community. This year, **Donna Carroll was surprised with the Bravo Award in recognition of her support of the arts** at Dominican.



## CAMPUS COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

Dominican's commitment to sustainability and energy efficiency are evident throughout campus. Parmer Hall, built according to **LEED specifications**, incorporates energy efficient sensors that adjust for heating, cooling, and lighting, while a nearby bioswale provides natural drainage and filtration of runoff water.

**Permeable pavers**, installed in the west parking lot, have served as a model for other campuses, and a 100-year-old cistern under the Magnus Arts Center collects and recycles millions of gallons of rainwater each year.

These initiatives support the Dominican Sisters' long-held priority on caring for Earth.



## ADDRESSING COVID-19

Faced with the unprecedented challenges of the **COVID-19 pandemic**, Dominican quickly pivoted during the spring 2020 semester, moving more than 800 classes online, providing students with the technological supports necessary for studying at home, and arranging for staff to work remotely. The university's senior leadership implemented stringent safety protocols designed to allow the campus to reopen, with modifications, in the fall.



This Herculean effort instilled confidence and ensured the continuity of operations. In fact, the fall 2020 semester started with strong enrollment and one of the **highest retention rates in Dominican's history**.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF RESILIENCE

Dominican's centennial anniversary in 2001 was a tribute to the university's vitality and a rededication to the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters' focus on compassionate service and the creation of a more just and humane world. Just two days after the horrific 9/11 attacks, President Donna Carroll addressed the Dominican community during Academic Convocation,

## THE RITUAL OF COMMENCEMENT

Since 1994, Donna Carroll has presided over more than **75 commencement ceremonies**—a tradition she relishes as the culmination of the hard work of students and the support of their families. Perhaps no other event so epitomizes Carroll's remarkably close relationship with students, most of whom she recognizes as they cross the stage. The traditional **Candle and Rose ceremony**, held for almost 100 years, is an especially meaningful event for graduating seniors—and for Carroll. This year, Carroll will "cross the stage" herself, as she receives an **honorary degree from Edgewood College**, Dominican's sister institution.



framing the university's milestone as "**all about hope—anchored in tradition and nurtured by possibility**." Her message served as a poignant reminder of the university's resilience in the face of challenges throughout its 100-year history.



To mark her retirement, the Class of 1968 presented President Carroll with a bronze compass, engraved with "To help you find your Veritas. Explore new paths with the Caritas of '68 in your pocket."



# Donna Carroll's Legacy Reaches Far Beyond Campus

While Donna Carroll has had an extraordinary impact on Dominican University, she also has made her mark on the national, regional, local and professional levels.

Nationally recognized for her commitment to undocumented students, Carroll also has made significant contributions to her profession through her service on higher education associations, her mentorship of emerging college presidents and her inspiring speeches on mission and vocation during the Council of Independent Colleges' semiannual President Institutes.

A key player in her community, Carroll was recognized by the *Wednesday Journal* as 2017 River Forest Villager of the Year.

Several of Carroll's colleagues share reflections on her legacy.

**Cardinal Blaise Cupich**  
Cardinal, Archdiocese of Chicago

The Dominican community has grown and prospered over the past 27 years due to Donna Carroll's extraordinary talents and dedication. She has also used those admirable qualities to enrich the Archdiocese of Chicago as a member of the executive committee of our School Board and as a board member of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School.

She has been steadfast in her advocacy of undocumented students, giving hope to countless young people seeking a better future. May she be blessed in knowing that her untiring efforts will continue to bear good fruit for many generations."



**Elena Segura**  
Director of Immigrant Affairs and Immigrant Education, Archdiocese of Chicago

"I call Donna Carroll "Our Lady of Guadalupe of DREAMers." She was instrumental in pioneering systemic change in Catholic universities throughout the country to open their doors to undocumented students. Donna has been a trusted and inspirational colleague, friend and mentor. She believed in our mission to form immigrant leaders who are protagonists of their development, as inspired by Pope Francis. She was the

first chair of our advisory board, giving four years of distinguished service.

Donna's leadership and support to Pastoral Migratoria, our immigrant-led ministry for service, justice and accompaniment in parish communities, has borne much fruit. Congratulations, Donna, on your retirement and the tremendous fruits of your labor!

**Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, CM**  
President, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities; chancellor, DePaul University

I think of four major ways Donna's legacy will linger long into the future. First and obviously, Dominican's programs and reputation were strengthened by her deft leadership. She also became a national leader in supporting DACA and first-generation students and challenged many others to follow. As laity progressively take the presidency of Catholic universities, Donna led the way in showing how laity—and especially lay women in the Church—can powerfully lead an institution's Catholic mission and culture. In that aspect, Donna created the path many others now walk. Finally, Donna befriended a generation of new leaders, supporting them in their most challenging moments as they turned to her for advice. Those stories will never be told, but many universities are better today because Donna mentored their presidents.

For myself, Donna has been a mentor, a conspirator, and a friend I admire very much. I am so blessed that we had the chance to work together these years.

**Andrea Lee, IHM**  
President, Alverno College; board chair, ACCU

It is a staggering understatement to note that Donna Carroll has been a successful president. Not only has she led Dominican University to its present position of stature and style among Catholic institutions, but she has done so over a quarter century of dramatic, and not always friendly, change in higher education. Amid such a swirling

sea of change, controversy and challenge, Donna's contributions to present and future Catholic higher education include intelligence, wisdom, humor, creativity and perseverance. Donna Carroll is, in my opinion, among the strongest and most accomplished leaders in Catholic higher education.



**Eboo Patel**  
Founder and President, Interfaith Youth Core

Over the last ten years, dozens of college campuses have done interfaith assessments, hundreds of institutions have launched interfaith courses and thousands of students have learned about interfaith leadership online. Behind this remarkable growth in the engagement of religious diversity in higher education is the influence of Donna Carroll. Dominican University, under Donna's leadership, was amongst the first campuses to do an interfaith assessment, and Donna advocated for interfaith education to be integrated into the formal curriculum, in both traditional and innovative ways. She has been a mentor, a friend, a trailblazer and a guide. We at IFYC are forever grateful.

**Arvid Johnson**  
President, University of St. Francis; former dean, Brennan School of Business

Donna is a visionary, big-picture leader who calls out the best in those around her to achieve what, otherwise, might be viewed as the "impossible." She has served as a role model for the lay stewardship of a Catholic university and is considered the "Dean of Higher Education" amongst the other, shorter-serving presidents in the Archdiocese of Chicago. To Catholic higher education, as a whole, she has called us to continue to acknowledge and serve the most vulnerable in our midst, especially those who are undocumented. She has made Herculean progress in supporting their progress and completion.

**Donald E. Graham**  
Co-founder, TheDream.Us

When a team of us started TheDream.Us in 2013, we wanted to find relatively low-cost colleges that provided a good education for "The Dreamers," the children of undocumented immigrants. Dominican University turned out to be one of our most important college partners thanks to Donna Carroll's personal commitment to these students. She understood what help they needed, and understood as well what outstanding students they might be. Her energy and optimism drove their success. Since the spring of 2015, 119 Dream.Us scholars have enrolled at Dominican, 90% have persisted and 23 have graduated. Scores more will do so. Each knows that Dominican and President Carroll are their friends.

Donna Carroll has been one of the outstanding university presidents of her generation. We at TheDream.US cannot thank her enough.

**Richard Ekman**  
President, Council of Independent Colleges

Beyond her astounding accomplishments as president of Dominican, Donna Carroll has played an outsized role in shaping

**Mary Jo Schuler**  
Community leader; former board member, Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation

Donna's journey and leadership have reached and served so many; both on and off-campus! In addition to leading Dominican University, Donna graciously shared her superpowers with the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation and Women Leaders in Philanthropy, entities focused on strengthening the community through strategic, collective action and investment. Donna's passion and guidance will be dearly missed, however, her multi-decade engagement has firmly rooted Dominican into the service fabric of Oak Park and River Forest.

On behalf of our colleagues and with infinite gratitude, thank you for enriching our visions of a better, more equitable future—your inner light and contributions will continue to bolster our platform of progress and impact!



the trajectory of all of higher education in America. Her service on CIC's Board of Directors demonstrated how much her focus, creativity, and energy could influence literally hundreds of colleges and universities. Her insights were key to the founding and development of CIC's Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education. And perhaps her greatest legacy—the preparation of the next generation of academic leaders for more advanced positions, as a long-serving



faculty member and mentor in the Presidential Vocation and Institutional Mission program—will extend for decades into the future through the careers of those who were fortunate enough to have worked with her.

**David Tretter**

President, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities

A heartfelt appreciation for the incredible work, leadership and commitment that Donna Carroll brought first to Rosary College, which she transformed into Dominican University. Her inclusive and collegial spirit as a groundbreaking college president benefited not only the Dominican University community, but her service on multiple boards and organizations, her guidance and mentorship of newer college presidents, and her distinguished service as chair of the Federation improved all of Illinois higher education. She is a tireless and fearless advocate for students, many first-generation and minority, whose lives were forever changed at Dominican University. On behalf of the 60 colleges and universities within the Federation, we are grateful and indebted to the great contributions of Dr. Carroll and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

**Mary Dempsey**

President, DePaul College Prep; former commissioner, Chicago Public Library

Donna Carroll's 27-year tenure as president of Dominican University has been transformative. Every step of Dominican's growth in academic rigor, enrollment and campus life has been guided by her steady hand and her commitment to independent thought and critical reflection.

In my career, I have had many opportunities to hire Dominican graduates and to send young people to obtain their degrees at Dominican. Without question, a Dominican graduate is prepared for professional success. However, Dominican's students also embody Donna's passion for intellectual curiosity, empathy, humor and service to others. Donna Carroll's personal stamp is



**Welz Kauffman**

Retired Former President and CEO, Ravinia Festival

Captivating. Energetic. Brilliant. Humble. Sincere. All of these and so many more describe Donna Carroll, a person I'm proud to count as a friend and a reliable and compassionate advisor. Someone who ignited a passion for education, a passion for the arts in so many young people. A brilliant fundraiser and advocate. A person who lights up a room with such ease and sense of humor and fun. Congratulations dear Donna on your decades of service to Dominican and to Chicagoland.

on every Dominican student and graduate, and that is a very good thing. Congratulations, Donna, and thank you.

**David Snyder**

President and CEO, The Economic Club of Chicago

When I think of Donna, I think of three characteristics of a great leader and an exceptional person: humility, commitment and vision. Donna approached her role at Dominican as a servant to University—with its mission and its students always central to everything she did. I am proud to consider myself a friend of one of the nation's leading advocates for first-generation students, including her advocacy for those who are undocumented.

Dominican is a jewel, but Donna always let the University shine without the pretense of many other university presidents of her stature. Though she is retiring as president, her vision will serve the institution for decades to come—and our friendship will be enduring.

**Cathy Adduci**

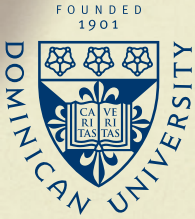
President, Village of River Forest

Throughout all of Donna's years as president, Dominican University has been a positive and important member of the River Forest community. Recently, Dominican's value to River Forest has been on display through the Village and University partnership to fight racial and social injustice, using the Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation framework. In 2017, the Village passed a Welcoming Resolution with the support and encouragement of Donna and members of the University, with the example of the University's Sanctuary Campus Covenant. Donna's leadership has led to further strengthening Dominican as an institution that the Village is proud to host, and we continue to be grateful to have such an exceptional resource in River Forest.

**John Rowe**

Retired CEO, Exelon; co-founder, with his wife Jeanne, of Rowe-Clark Math and Science Academy

Jeanne and I have had the pleasure of working with Donna Carroll for most of the last two decades. Because she has made Dominican such a welcoming place for first-generation college students of color, we feel we had a partnership between Dominican and the Chicago charter schools we founded. We have enjoyed working with her and were pleased to help sponsor a professor in the business school [the Rowe Distinguished Professorship]. She has been a hard-working, practical leader and a joy to work with. We will miss her and hope she stays near enough to stay a friend.



**Dominican University**

*Announces the creation of the*

**Donna M. Carroll Endowed Scholarship**

TO RECOGNIZE HER TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP over the course of her 27-year presidency, Dominican University has established the Donna M. Carroll Endowed Scholars Program with the creation of a \$1M scholarship fund.

This endowment will provide scholarship support in recognition of entrepreneurial skills, civic engagement and leadership. Carroll Scholars will be selected based upon need, outstanding ability and community involvement.

Dominican University is committed to advancing inclusive excellence. It requires addressing significant, systemic barriers to student success—academic, racial, and, inevitably, economic. The student with the greatest need for academic support is often the student with the fewest financial resources, talent notwithstanding. The intent of the Carroll Scholars Program is to enhance the hallmark Dominican experience by rewarding special civic engagement and entrepreneurial spirit. These experiences will deepen the Scholars connections to the world in which they live and work, and better prepare them to live the Dominican mission.

Carroll Scholars will be among Dominican's most creative, talented, and involved students—a fitting tribute to a President whose passionate vision of Dominican resonates with entrepreneurship and whose tireless commitment brought Dominican to new institutional and reputational stature.

To make a contribution to the Donna Carroll Endowed Scholarship or for more information, visit [dom.edu/give](http://dom.edu/give) or contact Sara Acosta, Vice President of University Advancement, at 708.524.6288.



## The Lighter Side of Donna



In addition to her strong leadership skills, Donna has a playful side, as evidenced by the following photos (clockwise): breaking ground for Parmer Hall; celebrating Founder's Day in garb meticulously curated by the Dominican Sisters; donning just one of the many hats she has worn over the years; participating in the dunk contest during Midnight Madness; seeing eye-to-eye with a friend at Brookfield Zoo; being serenaded by the great Betty Buckley, a fellow New Yorker.



## DU sports



### Director of Athletics Erick Baumann reflects on long-term partnership with Donna Carroll

In addition to succeeding on the courts and fields, Stars student-athletes are also breaking records in the classroom. Dominican student-athletes earned a **3.55 cumulative GPA** in the spring 2020 semester, which was dramatically upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. The combined mark was the highest ever recorded.

"We fully support the student-athlete experience, which stresses that our athletes are students first," Baumann said. "Their

"Academic success is something everyone here at Dominican takes great pride in—first and foremost our student-athletes. The 3.55 combined GPA they achieved, which is an all-time high, as Donna is winding down her time as our president, is something that she can take great pride in as well," Baumann said.

Baumann believes Carroll's leadership has impacted all areas of the university, as well as athletics. He credits her for supporting the athletic program's expansion.

In the spring of 1995, Erick Baumann returned to his *alma mater* as part-time head men's soccer coach and assistant director of athletics. A 1993 graduate of Rosary College, Baumann quickly formed a solid working relationship with Donna Carroll, the institution's recently appointed president of the newly renamed Dominican University. Their partnership was strengthened in 2006 when Baumann became the university's

director of athletics. In their 25-plus years working together, Baumann and Carroll have contributed to the university's robust growth and immense success, athletically and academically. The university has more than **doubled the number of sports** it sponsors, updated and improved many of the facilities it uses, and significantly expanded the department's staff.

Dominican's athletic teams have also experienced impressive competitive success, continually reaching new heights. Multiple men's and women's teams have produced historic seasons and recorded unrivaled win totals. All of this is highlighted by many NCAA national tournament appearances, including **Final Four runs by men's soccer and men's volleyball**.



**Men's volleyball** players show off their 2015 NACC Tournament Championship trophy—as well as several individual trophies.

academic success shows we are living the Division III philosophy here at Dominican. With that said, there's a reason we turn on the scoreboards and keep score in college athletics—winning matters, and we have improved that record in so many of our programs. I'm proud to say our department truly supports what a student-athlete should be all about and I know Donna does as well."

"Donna has grown the campus in so many ways with her strategic thinking and planning. One example would be with the creation of the **Division of Student Success and Engagement**. Creating that division, with all of the great work they do, has put tremendous support systems in place to help our students do as well as they do at Dominican," he said.

(continues on following page)



Dominican's continued growth in academic offerings and student services has not only bolstered the university's overall health and enrollment, it also has helped further stimulate the athletics department's recruitment efforts.

Baumann also believes the university's **commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion** plays a role in strengthening the entire campus, including athletics.

"We have an extremely diverse population of student-athletes and it is something that we take great pride in," he said. "Donna's leadership in diversity and inclusion makes an impact around campus in so many different divisions and departments."

While Baumann's work with Carroll dates back decades, their relationship truly blossomed in 2013, when he began directly sharing progress updates with her. Doing so helped them fulfill one of the guiding principles of NCAA Division III schools: establishing and building a direct relationship between the president's office and the director of athletics. He credits the trust and respect that the two have for each other for advancing the university's athletic program. He states that he has always appreciated her advice and feedback.

Baumann feels fortunate to have constructed such a positive partnership with Carroll throughout their shared quarter century at the university.

"When you can call your president a **mentor, a fantastic leader**, a great listener, an outstanding communicator, and someone who has made such an impact on your life, you know you're in a great place. She'll leave behind a legacy that she can be very proud of —so proudly Dominican."

# DU STARS END SEASON WITH AMAZING SUCCESS DESPITE COVID-19

**Dominican athletes and staff made the most of challenging circumstances** this spring as all teams were juggling practices and competition, following the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference's halt to the fall season. Even so, the athletics program had a stellar season.

The men's volleyball team earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament, after capturing its conference tournament championship. The team advanced to the Final Four for the second time in three years but fell during the national semifinal. With a 17-2 overall record, the 2021 season was the Stars' seventh straight winning season.

The women's volleyball team capped off a memorable 13-3 season by capturing the NACC South Division Tournament Championship, an accomplishment not matched since the 2015 season.

With an 8-1-1 overall record, the men's soccer team enjoyed another dominant season, finishing at the top of the conference and winning the conference tournament. The win marked Dominican's fourth straight NACC tournament title and twelfth title in the last 15 years.

The women's soccer team swept through its conference with an undefeated record of 9-0, 6-0 in the NACC, and advanced to the South Division Conference Championship, where a victory sealed the program's third conference tournament championship in the last four seasons.

"A tremendous amount of planning went into the entire year, but especially this semester," said Erick Baumann, director of athletics and head men's soccer coach. "Our focus was on keeping our student-athletes healthy and giving them the best experience possible. They did a great job during an extraordinary year."



**Women's soccer:** The 2020-21 women's soccer team racked up an unblemished record before winning the NACC South Division Tournament Championship.

Dominican faculty help build awareness and boost the reputation of the university. We're pleased to highlight some of their recent accomplishments. For more information about faculty and their achievements, visit [dom.edu/faculty-focus](http://dom.edu/faculty-focus).

## Rosary College of Arts and Sciences

**Christopher Anderson**, associate professor of biological sciences, **Tina Taylor-Ritzler**, professor of psychology, and **Katherine Powers**, STEM learning specialist, presented a session at the "Building HSI Learning Resilience in the Face of Crisis" conference. They also presented a session at the 2020 LSMRCE Conference. Together with **Jeanette Mokry**, associate professor of mathematics, **Rahel Bokretsion**, lecturer in chemistry, and **Pliny Smith**, assistant professor of biological sciences, they presented a poster at the 2020 AAC&U Improving STEM Education Conference.



**Melissa Fernandez Carr**, associate professor of fashion, wrote a fashion business case for Bloomsbury Publishing titled "Amazon's Luxury Ambitions: Can Amazon Address its Luxury Credibility Gap?" January 2021.

**William George**, emeritus professor of theology, published "'Tongues of Fire': Hiroshima as Hell and a New Pentecost?" in *Theological Studies* 81/3, September 2020. He also presented a paper, "Towards an Ocean Ethics: Understanding the Human by Turning to the Sea," at the annual meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics. His 2019 book, *Mining Morality: Prospecting for Ethics in a Wounded World*, was featured in a "Discussion with an Author" session during that meeting.

**Jilana Ordman**, adjunct instructor of history, organized the Illinois Medieval Association's 37th

Annual conference. She is executive editor of the annual record of conference proceedings, "Essays in Medieval Studies," to be published in 2021.



## Brennan School of Business

**Loreto Peter Alonzi**, professor of economics; **Anne Drougas**, professor of finance, department chair, accounting, finance and entrepreneurship; and **Daniel Condon**, professor of economics, department chair, economics, business law and ethics, co-authored the article "When The Rising Tide Lifts All Boats Differently: Income Distribution Matters" in the *Journal of Applied Business and Economics*, volume 23(3), 2021.

**Anjali Chaudhry**, professor of management and department chair, management, marketing and international business, presented a session on leadership at the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, India. She also published a book review titled "Originals: How Non-Conformists Move the World" for the Academy of Management Learning and Education and co-authored the article "Two to Tango? Implications of Alignment and Misalignment in Leader and Follower Perceptions of LMX" in the *Journal of Business and Psychology*.

**Elizabeth Collier**, professor of ethics and Christopher Chair in Business Ethics, contributed an entry on "Migration" in the January 2021 publication *T & T Clark Handbook of Christian Ethics*. Collier is serving as North America Chair of UN PRIME.

## College of Applied Social Sciences

**Bill Crowley**, professor, School of Information Studies, was interviewed about readers advisory service and how reading can be encouraged in public libraries for the Panorama Project.



**Leticia Villarreal Sosa**, professor, School of Social Work, co-wrote an article titled "Constructions of Race and Equity in a Suburban School: Teachers, School Social Workers, and Other School Staff as

Nepantleras and Border Crossers" in *Children & Schools*, January 2021. She also co-wrote an article titled "School Social Work in Vietnam: Development and Capacity Building through International Collaboration" in *The International Journal for School Social Work*, Vol. 5, 2020. She presented sessions at several international and national conferences and universities, including "Clinical Social Work through a Racial Equity Lens" for the NASW Virtual Forum and "Los Derechos Humanos y el Acompañamiento Terapéutico" for Fundación ATALyC in Argentina.

**Debra Vinci-Minogue**, associate professor and director of teacher development programs, School of Education, graduated from the two-year Mindfulness Meditation Teacher Program and completed a life coach certification program at Coach Training Alliance.

## Borra College of Health Sciences

**Sarah Jones**, assistant professor in nutrition sciences, co-authored the article "Dietary patterns and associations with body mass index in low-income, ethnic minority youth in the United States according to baseline data from four randomised controlled trials" in *British Journal of Medicine*, published online in September 2020.

**Julia Sonnichsen**, clinical assistant professor in physician assistant studies, presented a session on "Executing a Virtual Standardized Patient Experience" at the Illinois Academy of Physician Assistants (IAPA) conference in September. She has been accepted into the Doctorate of Medical Science program at the University of Lynchburg.



**Allyson West**, lecturer in nutrition sciences, co-authored the article "Baseline red blood cell and breast milk DHA levels affect responses to standard dose of DHA in lactating women on a controlled feeding diet" in

*Prostaglandins Leukotrienes and Essential Fatty Acids*, January 2021.

## Other Accomplishments

**Claire Noonan**, vice president for mission and planning, presented "Keeping Mission Front and Center in a Virtual Environment" at the annual meeting of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities.



## You Always Belong to Dominican

Class News items are submitted by alumnae/i and do not represent positions, policies, or opinions of Dominican University. Items have been edited for length and content. Class News published in this issue was collected before January 13, 2021; news submitted after that date will appear in the Fall 2021 issue. If you have news or questions, please contact the Office of Alumnae/i Relations at [alumni@dom.edu](mailto:alumni@dom.edu) or (708) 524-6286. For up-to-date information about alumnae/i, go to [dom.edu/alumni](http://dom.edu/alumni).

Thank you for sharing your news!

## Undergraduate Alumnae/i Class News

## 1951

**Dr. Margery Swint**  
Class Agent

May you have a healthy & blessed New Year! Dominican Sisters provided six freshmen at Rosary College in 1947 with care and attention. We were away from home and they visited us in our rooms and nurtured us during our time away from families.

We get together by mail and phone after years of meeting in person. At 91, we reminisce about those years at Rosary. We thank God and you for your dedication to us. We remember Sr. Marie Stephen Regis, Sr. Sheila Treston '27, Sr. Gretchen Hessler, and many more.

Sincerely,

**Margery Swint, Margaret Stoeckinger, Mary Conrad, Margaret McGivern Joynt, Lois MacDonald Simms, Margaret Carteaux Yuska**

Some of us visited Sr. several years ago. Cathy reports Sr. Mary Eileen Scully '49 participated in a virtual chat with those who knew her when she worked at Blind Service Association. Marie Valleau '58 and Sr. Mary knew each other from childhood. Cathy is waiting out the pandemic but keeps busy with book groups, phone conferences, relaxes with great CDs and medical appointments. Cathy hopes our classmates are safe.

I heard from **Jean Horrigan-Delhey** and **Mary Whalen**, telling me they are staying home, awaiting the vaccination; Jean is hopeful to come to Chicago for her annual summer visit.

I look forward to hearing more news. We will be praying for one another.

## 1958

**Marilyn Bongiorno Doherty**  
Class Agent

**Dorothy Bachner Sauer** sent that she and husband Jack have lived in Glenview/Lake Bluff/Lake Forest and now in Naples. She has two married sons, and two single grandsons. (We reconnected at a French event recently, which was fun).

**Helene Gross Harvey:** "My husband, Paul, and I are now living in WI near our youngest daughter, Julie. Two of our other children live nearby. Paul has had a few health issues, but I have none, so far. We are being very careful."

**Mary Roberta Fitch Skach** lives in MI and has four married children with families. All were being very careful, so no holiday together, which was strange. She keeps busy with Church, Garden Club, lunch and dinner groups, along with a Euchre group. The church is sanitized, but the rest are not meeting until the whole country gets vaccinated. (That may take a while)

**Sharon Oelerich Mitchell**, who has lived in New Mexico for 56 years, has been the longest volunteer at the hospital for 47 of its 107 years, doing everything, including being on the Board. She has broken two hips and a leg, due to vertigo. (It was good to talk to an old friend and fellow French major.)

**Jude O'Malley Ryan** and husband Terry are leaving their house of 38 years in Fort Worth, Texas and are downsizing to an apartment- not ready for a retirement home yet, she says. Due to COVID, they had to miss a family wedding. (I didn't have to make something up after all.)

**Judy Page Clark:** "No news because COVID has me inside with my husband who has Alzheimer's. I am grateful to have him. My daughter lives in South Carolina and visited but not as often and without her children and husband. We kept distanced and masked. My three boys live here with nine children and wives. We feel fortunate that they are very helpful if we have a need that I can't handle. We have not been to Florida in over a year...construction in our complex, some health issues, and Covid. I am hoping to spend time there in 2021. Stay safe!"

**Jerry Kearney Scully:** "I married senior year, Charlie Scully. We had four children. Charlie was transferred to Kansas City, Missouri. We elected to live in Kansas. I began teaching. Since I had been out of school for eleven years, I wasn't able to be certified in Kansas; however, the Catholic schools weren't so choosy. I taught 6th grade in the Catholic system while working on my master's. I graduated from the University of Kansas with a Master's in Special Education and began a degree in reading/literacy at the University of Missouri Kansas City. With my new credentials, I applied in the public system. I decided on an urban high school with problems such as poverty,

students lacking basic skills, and gang violence. I taught reading and ESL. After many years, I became head of the English department. I stayed for 30 years! At 69, I retired. I found I missed the kids. After one semester of retirement, I began substituting. I found this was what I wanted. When COVID struck, I had reservations about being in schools and then our schools closed. My license was up for renewal in 2020 and I didn't renew. My 51-year career has ended! I loved my career and have felt God guided me into teaching. Charlie and I will celebrate our 63rd anniversary."

## 1960

**Jo Scaccia Maday**  
Class Agent

Our class would like to thank Donna Carroll for her service to our Alma Mater. Under her leadership, Dominican University has become a premier university in the Midwest. May God shower her with many blessings in the years to come.

Our condolences to the members of our class who have lost loved ones during this past year. Because of the pandemic, reunion plans had to be cancelled. Our prayer is life will return to normalcy and we will be able to meet again.

## 1962

**Mary Beth Vander Vennet Tallon,  
Gloria Adams Mills, Carolyn  
Sweeney Judd, Elizabeth  
Freidheim, Kay Pielsticker  
Coleman, Corrine Carnivele  
Hanley**  
Class Agents

**Corrine Carnivale Hanley:** "I work with my husband Robert on marketing his book *Do You See What I See? Discovering the Obvious*. The Spanish and French versions are on Amazon. His ministry *The Fireside Fellowship*, which

*"Donna had a bold vision from the start."*

**Carol Anderson Kunze '68**



### It was like talking to a friend

On February 24, the **Class of 1968** honored Donna Carroll's long tenure as president of Dominican University with a virtual celebration featuring toasts and tributes from class members, a Q&A, and the presentation of meaningful gifts, including a beautiful brass compass engraved with the words, "To help you find your Veritas. Explore new paths with the Caritas of '68 in your pocket."

"We had a very broad audience, with classmates joining from across the country," said **Carol Anderson Kunze '68**, a former Dominican trustee and an organizer of the event. "Everyone was impressed by how candid Donna was in answering our questions—it was like talking to a friend."

The event was part of a bi-monthly series of get-togethers that the Class of 1968 launched after its highly successful 50th reunion in 2018. Focusing on a different theme each session, the series helps classmates stay connected with one another and with their *alma mater*.

Reflecting on the president's legacy, Kunze said Carroll was the right leader at the right time for Dominican. "Donna had a bold vision right from the start," she said. "And she was sensitive to changes in the job market, so Dominican was positioned to offer relevant programs in growing fields like the health sciences and social work. She is leaving big shoes to fill."

The life-long friends, members of what they affectionately refer to as "The Posse," ended their poignant celebration with Carroll by making her an honorary member of the Class of '68.

is based on his book, is available on YouTube with monthly Zooms. We thank the Lord for technology in this era of COVID, allowing for work from home. We pray you all are safe and healthy. For a look inside Robert's book, visit <https://robert-hanley.com/book.php>"

**Mary Beth Vander Vennet Tallon:** "We spent a wonderful Christmas Eve with our family gathered around a fire pit in the yard, sharing mulled wine, carols, gifts, and the feeling of being together despite the challenges. I send my

best wishes to my classmates for a more promising 2021!"

## 1963

**Susan Flynn**  
Class Agent

**Judy Jedlicka Koubek** writes: "We spent the first months of 2020 in Florida. The weather was lovely and we had a few guests. Then the virus struck and we hurried to Chicago. We didn't have doctors in Florida and the general feeling was lackadaisical. In the summer, we sold our Florida condo since

there was no point having a place we didn't feel comfortable in. In Chicago, things got chaotic. Rioting began and continued through summer. Much of it happened within sight of our condo. In September, we had a fire in our high rise, and fortunately the fire and police put it out. No damage on our floor. We have seen our daughter who lives in Boston once since 2019. That is hard to bear. 2020 and 2021 have found me with a few medical issues. They all seem manageable. The political situation seems on its way."



“[Donna] has made a difference in so many people’s lives, including mine, and she has made the university what it is today.”

Kevin Killips ’79



Repaying the debt

When Donna Carroll invited **Kevin Killips ’79** to join the board of trustees in 2004, he was delighted. Appointed chair of the board in 2013, Killips, who recently retired as chief financial officer of CIBC US (formerly PrivateBancorp. Inc.), stepped down in 2019 as the longest-serving chair in Dominican’s history.

“It was a big honor for me,” he said. “I was the first in my family to go to college, and Rosary set me up for a successful career on LaSalle Street. Serving on the board was a way to repay that debt.”

Killips also served as chair of the board’s finance committee and continues to serve as a member of the executive committee. This year, he has chaired the search committee tasked with finding a worthy successor to Donna Carroll, a responsibility that he has not taken lightly, given his high regard for Carroll.

“When Donna came in, she brought tremendous vitality and insight,” he said. “She also had the financial acumen to understand the importance of fundraising. Donna was the energizing factor in three comprehensive campaigns that raised almost \$200 million. Because of her leadership and vision, we’ve been able to expand our programs and our campus in a significant way.”

Killips and his wife, **Cindy Gizzo Killips ’82**, who were married in Rosary Chapel in 1997, are passionate about their *alma mater* and co-chaired the Annual Trustee Benefit in 2019. He also relishes the opportunity to welcome new graduates to the Alumnae/i Association, which he has done during commencement for the past seven years.

“I am very grateful for my relationship with Donna,” he said. “And I’m grateful for her work at Dominican. She has made a difference in so many people’s lives, including mine, and she has made the university what it is today.”

**Helen McCauslin** reports: “Even in isolation, I keep busy with a group starting a program to give graduates of Three Rivers High School a scholarship for post-secondary education and training at a community college, trade school, or university in Michigan. The pandemic has slowed our fundraising, but we have printed materials, a website, and started meetings with donors via Zoom. It is all challenging but exciting! I am reading and have three books going at once. Sending wishes for a healthy year.”

**Kathy Markley Scruggs** is “involved in addressing the reality that many in Arlington, VA do not have access to reliable internet nor devices. With schools closed, I’ve been tutoring a first-grade English learner on my cell phone since her household does not have internet. We need public broadband. I’m attending meetings and writing letters with an advocacy group for municipal broadband. I’ve added that to my participation on the Policy Committee of The Alliance for Housing Solutions. We advocate for affordable low-income housing and changes to local zoning to allow “Missing Middle” housing of triplexes and quadrplexes.” Kathy has always traveled and reports that she “keeps making travel plans but they are wishful thinking.” Kathy loved Trevor Noah’s autobiography, *Born a Crime*.

**Marianne Brabec Powers** sent news from California: “I’ve returned from a drive to the bay to view the blue sky, sail boats, big waves. Even opened the sunroof. This is my method to escape ‘stay at home’ restrictions. Sundays, I drive to San Carlos Cathedral for drive-up communion (with my arthritic knees, I don’t need to get out of my car). My parish streams the Saturday Mass with great music, familiar faces of lectors and pastor. Though Mass is not open

to the public, I am hoping to participate with the musicians on my birthday. In normal times, I would be singing with the choir and cantoring. I had hoped to celebrate my 80th with family and friends with background music provided by well-known performers who also turn 80 like Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Simon and Garfunkel. Maybe by the time of my late husband John’s 80th in October celebrating will be possible.” Marianne notes “it is hard to know what date each day is. They all blob together.”

I did not reach two goals. Granted I made them up, but still! I wanted to walk 2 times each day but only managed 500 walks. But that is 300 miles. Not as good as Forrest Gump! My other goal was to read 100 books, but read only 65. In my defense, I read a lot more non-fiction—a number of political books, several on trees, and a couple on DNA. Remember when we feared that books would become obsolete?

So, we are using our education, our faith, and staying strong.

1966

**Judy Purvin Scully**  
Class Agent

**Kathy Kahler Matthews** represented our class at the Memorial Mass in Rosary Chapel. Her sister, Mary Jane “Janey” Kahler Kelly ’73 and Janey’s son, James, were remembered as well as **Mitzi Battista Witchger’s** brother, Joseph Battista, our classmate **Dorothy “Pat” Wagner** and **Judy Purvin Scully’s** parents, Ted and Mary Purvin. Attendance was limited, but it was possible to watch via live-streaming.

We’re still in COVID-19 mode, with many plans changed, but by the time this is published, hopefully restrictions will be fewer. We’ve been blessed with a roof over our heads and food on our tables as many struggle and are filled with

gratitude that our family is safe. The holidays were different for all of us.

**Donna Freehill Land** wrote that she was really looking forward to things getting better. They had a great Zoom on Thanksgiving with her siblings, children and grandchildren. Her daughter Nora had put together an online place to post memories and greetings which was successful!

**Marysue Brown** shared: “2020 is gone! I did not stay up to see it slither away as I am excited about 2021. Last March, I was in Florida, not realizing the gravity, and flew home to CA on March 15th to lockdown on the 16th. We all know what followed. BORING! Just how many books can you read and TV shows can you watch? (a lot!) Outside activities were curtailed because of the smoke. I started decorating for Christmas before Thanksgiving since I would not be in Chicago for Christmas, and I put up things I had not used for years. So pretty! On Thanksgiving, I was alone with my dog eating a frozen pizza. My daughter was exposed to Covid and had to cancel at the last minute. She tested negative. I did get to spend Christmas at her home and have a wonderful dinner prepared by her husband who has been taking culinary classes. I am looking forward to seeing my son and grandson and other family this summer. Spencer has grown 4 inches and gained 35 lbs. of muscle. Will I even recognize him? I also have two adorable red-haired step-granddaughters.”

**Suzie Howard Bassi** said they ordered out for Thanksgiving, noting it would be just the 2 of them and their 2 dogs, but she’s grateful their 3 kids are employed & healthy. Zoom helps, but it’s just not the same. They’re looking forward to traveling again “to be with families in 3 states and hug the grandkids!” She reported, “Christmas was MUCH better—

Chicago kids quarantined, got tested, & came!! We got to hug our grandkids!! What a blessing!! Come on vaccine so we can visit the rest!”

**Jan Ciastko Lane** shared her two children live nearby. On Thanksgiving, they gathered in the yard, with masks, to say hello and see each other’s bodies, if not their faces. It helped that the weather was mild for Minnesota – 45 and sunny. After, they Zoomed with poems and music from the grandkids, noting she felt fortunate to spend time with family and appreciated the creativity in a new way of gathering. They had a lovely Christmas. Instead of a meal and presents, they met at a sledding hill where the temperature had soared to 20 degrees. It felt great to be in the sunshine and see them sliding.

**Terry Wilkinson Pawlik** wrote they put off celebrating her husband Ray’s birthday with their kids until everyone has the vaccine. They celebrated Thanksgiving, which was also their 52nd wedding anniversary, with a small turkey. It was quiet but they were able to Zoom with the 4 kids and families. She noted they were going to stand in line for a vaccine because they were sick of not being able to hug the grands. Their kids are planning a get together this summer if all goes well. They are thinking about St Simons Island, Georgia. Terry closed with, “Take good care and as Ray says, ‘Wash your hands!’”

**Mary Celine Baier Rutsche** and her husband Paul live near Zürich. Since Covid has put most of us in the same place - restricted and concerned. She limited her remarks to Switzerland, writing, “Paul and I have been riding our bikes and going to our gyms. Since mid-December, only supermarkets and drugstores remain open. Masks are obligatory. The second wave has been severe and

there are warnings about a third. This afternoon I’ll be meeting an American friend. We’ll wear masks, buy coffee, sit on a bench, go home to get warm. The vaccine gives us hope. Best wishes for health in the new year.”

**Beverly Doherty** shared, “This has been a difficult year. But we have been fortunate. We’ve been living a retired life in Florida. We kept up with meetings, took virtual classes, read books, and visited on Zoom. Mornings were spent consuming the news. We exercised at home, ran, and walked. It was a quiet time for bird watching and home projects. We made it to and from Milwaukee and Vero Beach. We were fortunate to be near Matt and Gretchen to visit outdoors. We braved the snow to meet Pete and Jenny in MN. Now we sequester in Vero until vaccines. Our family has tried to stay safe through the rising Covid cases. Matt and Gretchen have been working from home. Pete and Jenny are doing the same, while Jenny has begun studies toward a change in career. Their world (and ours) took a devastating hit when Jenny’s only sibling, Melinda, caught the virus. She was only 37 with a husband, Dave, and two school-age kids. Two weeks from diagnosis, three hospitals, and she was gone. Family and friends could not be with her. They stood vigil outside the hospital. Her mom Cindy sang her a lullaby under the hospital window. But the family could not gather to comfort each other. Pete and Jenny have been helping Cindy, Dave, Austin and Riley, one day at a time.”

**Julie Wendt Brundage** wrote that she was concentrating on being grateful for all the past gatherings with their family. They had to miss a grandson’s wedding in Washington, but made the best of it by celebrating through Zoom.

**Pat Carey** said she was reminded to include all “the good women of

’66 in her prayers” as we weather this pandemic. A friend remarked that “We are living a moment in history,” saying what I couldn’t find the words for.

Jack and **Suzu Wills Kessler** sheltered in place at their Wisconsin home or at their cabin in the Michigan U.P. woods. She reported, “When we were at our cabin, we saw other living beings, but none of whom were human. At either location there was a fire for warmth and memories. One of my memories as a student came into view when I read about one of Queen Elizabeth’s practices. The queen eats a banana with knife and fork, cutting off its ends, making a slit down the peel and slicing it into small rounds, which she eats with a fork. At a 1962 meal in the dining hall, Sr. Margarita gave an etiquette lesson on how to eat bananas. Though the queen does so, I am sure that no Rosarians have done so since that unforgettable lesson. A thought from Emily Dickinson that I found reassuring during 2020: ‘Hope’ is the thing with feathers that perches on the soul.”

Not hosting our Purvin/Scully family, all decorations, including our Christmas tree, went up the week before Thanksgiving. It gave us something special to do. Each ornament is part of our history and the crèches from around the world remind us of trips we have taken. The *Chicago Tribune* had a front-page article reporting people were decorating early because it felt good. We spent almost every night with a fire in the fireplace, reading or watching TV and enjoying the Christmas tree. John and I delivered meals to our kids for Thanksgiving, but only had Thanksgiving dinner with my sister and brother-in-law who had been sheltering at the same level. We appreciated being together and got in a great visit. We Zoomed to touch base



with extended family. Our Scully Family Christmas took place the Sunday before Christmas in our daughter and son-in-law’s backyard with masks, distanced seating, a bonfire to ward off the chill (the weather was a balmy 40°), a tree under which to place presents, and chili and hot chocolate to keep us warm. We hugged for the first time (masks on, faces averted, less than 10 seconds—as recommended if hugs were a necessity—which they were). It was very special and more treasured because we hadn’t been together since last Christmas. Christmas Eve found us participating in another Zoom.

John and I have Zoomed with **Linda Miller Drennan, Mitzi Battista Witchger, Donna Freehill Land, Maureen O’Rourke Cannon** and their spouses monthly. It’s gotten harder to get together, so this has been a great way to touch base regularly. We’ve also Zoomed with my Book Bags group. I led the discussion for *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah, which provides a great perspective on apartheid in South Africa. John and I were able to witness our nephew’s wedding on Zoom (We got all dressed up and toasted the married couple.) We should be able to fly to Tucson when they have their rescheduled reception next November. We watched our granddaughter’s ring ceremony at Clemson live-streamed and did the same for her graduation. We’re hopeful to attend her sister’s and our great-nephew’s graduations in May, but that remains to be seen. Other travel plans, including a trip to Israel and vacationing in Hawaii were cancelled, but we drove non-stop to Florida which we hadn’t done for more than 40 years and don’t plan to do again! Spending a few months away from Midwest winter was good for the body and soul. We walked every day and sat on the porch or on the beach (under an umbrella and wearing

sunscreen) enjoying the ocean. One of the positives of this pandemic has been attending Mass virtually with options from which to choose, distance not being a deterrent: St. Mary in Riverside, Holy Family in Woodruff, WI, Holy Name Cathedral and Old St. Pat’s in Chicago. We count on a 30-minute Mass when Cardinal Cupich is celebrating it because that’s all ABC Television has allotted! We do drive-by communion after the virtual Mass at St. Mary’s. Creativity has been the mother of invention. Vimla Homan ’13 MCR ’16, Director of Alumnae/i Relations at Dominican, has been helping us plan a virtual reunion for our 55th. It is unlikely that in-person reunions will be possible, but either way, we’ll get together, in whatever manner ensures the health and safety of everyone.

**1968**  
**Suzanne Engle, Susan Bakel Cohn**  
Class Agents

Welcome to our new Class Agent, **Susan Bakel Cohn**. Susan has hit the ground running with **Suzanne Engle MALS ’76** to connect with all of you and work on class activities. **Mary Duncan Gemkow** has resigned as a Class Agent after years. Many thanks to Mary! Mary will continue to participate in our class activities.

**Donna Renn** sends an update on Rosary68 Posse activities: “The Posse zooms weekly to plot our bi-monthly ’68Stars productions. Our first ’68Stars event featured our girls who joined the Peace Corps..what brave women. Next, we heard from our Junior-Year-in-Fribourg adventurers, who loved more than Swiss cheese. We then wondered where in the world we are now and zoomed to confess. From coast

to coast and outside the US, ’68 shared the journey wherever we landed. Finally, in February we zoomed with President Donna Carroll to wish her Caritas and Veritas. Posse ’68 will continue to produce ’68Stars events post-pandemic! Watch our Facebook or contact our class agents to receive notifications. And, if you miss any ’68 events, check the recordings. Stay tuned!”

**Esther Maresso Langlois** is a professional watercolorist and has works in a gallery in Québec. She is part of the Canadian Team exhibiting in Fabriano, Italy—an honor because of her Italian heritage. Esther was president of the Québec watercolor workshop for 13 years, as well as president of a watercolor art show for 11 years in Lac Beauport, with up to 50 artists each year. She has been a signature member of La Société Canadienne de l’Aquarelle-SCA. (the Canadian watercolor Society) since 2006. Because Parkinson’s disease has slowed her down, she has given up doing shows in France and Québec. She is taking a course in abstract art since her manual dexterity has begun to wane. She has learned to go with the flow!

**Edna Del Zoppo-Hancock** lives on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada. She is a weaver, raises vegetables, and runs a self-catered guest house, Point Michaud Beach House, on her property—a stone’s throw from the Atlantic Ocean. When asked on our January Zoom, Edna confirmed that Lewis Hall on the Dominican campus is named for her mother’s family, who highly valued education for women.

**Sr. Ann Henkel, OP** has been a Sinsinawa Dominican for over 50 years. She currently lives in Mobile, Alabama where, although retired from active ministry, she teaches ukulele and Zentangle classes. She gives mornings of

reflection based on prayer and poetry. She is working on one based on the work of Flannery O’Connor.

**Eileen Gross** lives in Ohio. Her interests include walking in nature, playing the trumpet, and making art, some of which ends up in her gardens. She was unable to join us for our January Zoom because she was packing food for the Ministry of Ursulines for HIV/AIDS clients.

**Peggy May Schrage** lives in St. Louis, Missouri, where she taught high school math for 30 years. She is retired, so was able to manage 8 trips to San Francisco to help her son’s family with remote learning. She made her service trip to Reynosa, Mexico. She joined her son and 2 grandchildren to help Homes for the Homeless build houses for families in need; she’s the house painter extraordinaire.

**Gail Rihacek Daniels** lives in California. She earned an MS from UCLA to teach math in California. She taught and tutored math while her children were young. Gail is now retired and volunteers for the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa and the Irvine Historical Society.

**Marilyn Dobes Placek** and her husband escaped the cold climate and settled in the Coachella Valley, California. She has been living there for 20 years, and spending the past 10 years quilting as a hobby and making quilts for various charities.

**Sharon Fleege McNamara** spent 3 years in Germany while her husband was in the Army, then they settled in Normal, Illinois, for 40+ years. They have visited El Salvador to build houses and taught for two years in Namibia. Sharon developed a passion for social justice. To raise awareness, she has facilitated extensive JustFaith experiences for ten years. She has done volunteer work with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Furniture Bank, which offers free furniture to needy families.

Sharon and her husband built an addition to their daughter’s house and moved in, where they are enjoying their grandchildren.

**Mary Corsiglia Joyce MALIS ’92** has lived in New Jersey since 1992. She served as the head hospital librarian for 18 years for the Morristown Medical Center. She has been retired for 8 years, traveling the local area and overseas. She misses Broadway, and New York and Philadelphia museums. (She lives 20 miles from New York City.) On our January Zoom, MaryK reminded everyone that the Statue of Liberty is in New Jersey! A gardener herself, she appreciates the beauty of the Garden State.

**Mary Eileen O’Keefe Bateman** is living in Chicago after living in other places for 25 years - Miami Beach, Manhattan and Bedminster. She says it’s good to be home. She is active in her business of marketing commercial patents in the US, Australia, South Africa, and Hong Kong. Things have been quiet because of the pandemic, but she is eager to start up again. Mary is busy with volunteer work. She reports: “I am busy with things in my community and in my parish. I am cooking for families in crisis and for people old and alone. On Thanksgiving, I cooked and a friend delivered 13 meals to people within walking distance. I am on call to cook. I have no particular expertise; to my knowledge no one has been poisoned yet! And I have been facilitating animal rescue and foster homes when owners’ illness, death, or extended stays in care facilities happen. I am busy, healthy, and grateful that I and my family are healthy.”

**Patty Diedrich** looks forward to our next in-person event. She enjoyed her garden during the mild weather at the end of 2020. Her gardener planted tulip bulbs that she looks forward to blooming in the spring. Patty loves hearing

*“I thought it was pretty cool that the president of the institution wanted to be so involved in campus life.”*  
**Tom Dutton ’96, MBA ’98**

about ’68 classmates. If you can, send her a card and a bit of news about yourself.

**Carol Anderson Kunze** lives on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan (Michigan side). She and her husband moved from Chicago 8 years ago and enjoy the small-town vacation area as well as proximity to Chicago. She has competed in the Chicago to Mackinac race 25 times! Last year, she and her husband made a voyage to Antarctica with Lindblad/ National Geographic which was fantastic. Carol wrote: “I suspect my past months have been like yours—enjoying friends outdoors, ‘attending’ a wedding via YouTube, and marking milestones with Zoom. As we’ve had to adapt, I’ve appreciated the creativity of a local arts organization transitioning their programming from indoor to outdoor concerts with a bring-your-own chair socially-distanced audience, and enjoyed working on production of a couple virtual concerts, with more to come in the spring. One positive has been the opportunity to reconnect with classmates as the Class of ’68 has pivoted to virtual gatherings. I applaud everyone who has worked on our class Zooms and/or attended them and encourage those who have not to consider doing so. It is heartwarming to see the smiling faces of our classmates. It seems we’ve not missed a beat. I want to recognize Donna Carroll, our president extraordinaire, who will retire this year. I had the pleasure of working with Donna as a trustee and am most appreciative of her strong leadership which is reflected in today’s vibrant university. To Donna, I send heartfelt thanks and best wishes.”

Stay safe, Phenomenal Women! Contact your Class Agents with news: **Susan Bakel Cohn**, susancohn@yahoo.com, or **Suzanne Engle MALS ’76**, nelsonengle@sbcglobal.net. Join the fun on our private Facebook page “Rosary College Class of 1968”.



**The president as role model**

When Donna Carroll became president of Rosary College in 1994, **Tom Dutton ’96, MBA ’98**, was immediately struck by her deep sense of engagement with students.

“I played on the soccer team, and Donna would come out during practice to say hello,” said Dutton, human resources director for Spectrum Health. “She seemed to really enjoy attending the games and sitting in the stands with students. I thought it was pretty cool that the president of the institution wanted to be so involved in campus life.”

Dutton served in a variety of leadership roles on campus, including captain of both the soccer team and the volleyball club. In his senior year, he served as president of the Student Government Association and had the opportunity to know Carroll from a different perspective.

“As president of student government, I had regular meetings with Donna,” Dutton said. “She took a real interest in students and focused on our development as leaders. Her leadership style helped shape my approach to professional life.”

Dutton says his experience at Rosary had a profound impact on him. So he was delighted when his daughter Katie expressed an interest in attending Dominican to study social work—and he immediately reached out to Carroll to see if they could stop by on their college visit.

“When I told my daughter that the president had invited us to lunch, she didn’t believe me,” Dutton said. “She had no idea how welcoming Donna would be. That made a big impression on her.”



1969

Susan Kreuz McCoyd  
Class Agent

Not surprisingly, this edition does not include any exotic or even ordinary travel tales. Most of our lives have been on pause since March of 2020, masked, hands sanitized, locked down, waiting for the Covid-19 vaccination.

Some may not be retired and are working in person or virtually or you are helping out with virtual learning grandchildren. If you are not in one of those categories, you occupy your time with reading, crafts, exercise, home improvements, walks, jigsaw puzzles, cleaning, or participating in Zooms for meetings, happy hours, visits with family and friends. And then, there is Netflix, Hulu, HBO Max, Britbox, etc. Endless screen time!

Our Class of 1969 Facebook page has been a way to stay connected with pictures and posts, mini-quizzes, and Dominican news. Posts have linked us to the London Royal Opera House performing “Handel’s Hallelujah chorus, to Andrea Bocelli’s “Easter Music for Hope,” to a July 4th concert by socially distanced members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

**Nancy Schumacher Piedlow** reported “No news. No accomplishments.”

**Anne Wilson** posted fun quizzes - identifying 39 Beatles songs being the best!

**Judy Dodane O’Dwyer** has posted uplifting messages for reflection. Judy’s 46-year-old daughter Meredith, was recently diagnosed with cancer. Keep Judy, Meredith, her husband, and young son in your prayers as she undergoes treatment.

After posting a picture of Rosary/ Dominican Presidents Sr. Candida Lund, OP ’42, Sr. Jean Murray, OP

’49, and Donna Carroll, and the announcement of the 2021 retirement of President Donna Carroll, classmates had comments:

**Lana Placek Cappitelli:** “...we were so blessed having these strong yet gentle women leading Rosary/ Dominican. Thank God for these remarkable women.”

**Judy Dodane O’Dwyer:** “Donna’s leadership and service have made it possible for our alma mater to maintain the high standards that we enjoyed as students.”

**Judy Gaudio Scala:** “Huge shoes to fill. Can’t say enough to describe all the good that Donna has accomplished. May she enjoy happy healthy years in retirement!”

**Joanne Capito-Corwin:** “We have been blessed to know the most amazing women as presidents. I wish Donna joy, peace, and blessings in her adventures while she remembers her journey touching the lives of so many over her years. Donna Carroll is *Caritas/ Veritas* and we are so lucky!”

Additional information and plans for Donna’s retirement will be forthcoming.

Sincere sympathy is extended to **Joanne Capito-Corwin** on the death of her husband, Ric and to **Kathryn Stangl Feilmeyer** on the death of her husband, Robert. Prayers and condolences go out to both the Corwin and Feilmeyer families. Rest in Peace Ric and Robert.

We mourn the death of Sr. Joan O’Shea (Deirdre) ’52. Sr. Joan was professor of theology and 4th floor Power rector during our years. From her obituary: “As a Dominican Sister of Sinsinawa, Joan shared her gifts over 70 years as a teacher, administrator, dean of students, chaplain, professor, minister, and University Director of Mission Integration. Her bright light, abundant talents, and deep faith were shared in New York, Illinois, Italy, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Indiana, Florida and



The Dominican Legacy

**Calvin ’01 and Vanessa ’03 Jackson** regularly come back to campus to attend alumnae/i events and play basketball in the gym, and Vanessa chairs the Alumnae/i Leadership Council. Both say that their ongoing engagement with the university stems from their close connection with Donna Carroll.

“To us, Donna is Dominican,” said Calvin. “And I just hope that whoever comes after her follows her lead in understanding how to make a student feel recognized, important, and necessary.”

Calvin, founder and president of the LemonAd Stand creative agency, got to know Carroll through his work as an undergraduate resident advisor. For Vanessa, the connection grew after graduation.

“For me the most pivotal moment was three or four years out of college, when I was trying to find my professional footing,” said Vanessa, who worked in higher education before joining Calvin as the LemonAd Stand’s vice president of sweetness, marketing and communications. “I emailed Donna with a question, and she invited me to come talk to her. She had such clarity and vision about my career path.”

The Jacksons point to Dominican’s growth as a legacy of Carroll’s strong leadership. They also appreciate the institution’s stance on issues close to their hearts.

“We’ve always been proud that in times of tough conversations—whether it’s immigration or social injustice—the school always comes out on the right side. And that comes from Donna,” said Jackson.

“That, for us, is the Dominican legacy,” added Vanessa. “That is who we are as members of the Dominican community.”

“The school always comes out on the right side. And that comes from Donna.”

Vanessa Jackson ’03

Wisconsin.” Joan’s wit and wisdom will be missed.

**Gail Kniewel Johnson:** “A true example of a kind and caring teacher and mentor. We were blessed to have her in our lives.”

**Kim Smyth Roufs:** “A saint among us.”

**Joanne Capito-Corwin:** “Holding her memory in my heart as she rests in the arms of the Good Shepherd whose life she imitated during her own.”

**Eileen Willenborg:** “We were blessed to have known Sr. Joan and fellow Sisters. Eternal peace to Sr. Joan and the others who had such an impact on our lives.” Eileen Willenborg’s passion for social justice moved her to establish the Civic Learning Academy at Dominican University wherein faculty are trained to incorporate civic learning and engagement into their curricula. Faculty from a broad range of disciplines—sociology, nutrition sciences, nursing, theology, business, psychology, political science, social work, criminology, ministry—have attended the Civic Learning Academy training seminars the past two summers to explore and create courses and experiences to build student skills in activism and democratic engagement. Lessons in civic learning will address social and economic inequality, inadequate access to healthcare and other services, social and racial justice, immigrant and workers’ rights, food insecurity, and other issues that confront people of color and the poor and underserved in our country. This year, the Civic Learning Academy will expand its scope as trained faculty begin to place qualified students in paid internships at area non-profit organizations that address issues from their class work. The goal is to help students gain hands-on experience and create networks that will help them find post-graduation jobs that focus on civic en-

gagement. Thank you, Eileen, for your unending passion for social justice. *Caritas/Veritas*.

The first recipient of the Class of 1969 Scholarship, Garrett Boston from Utah is majoring in Biological Neuroscience. He is a member of the Dominican Men’s Soccer Team. Garrett is looking toward going to medical school and becoming a neurosurgeon. Garrett writes: “It is an honor to receive such an award. It really means something to receive a scholarship established by a class who went through the same challenges at the same university[college].

Thank you to all who have contributed class news. And thank you to all on our private FB page. If you don’t have FB but would like something posted, send it to: sfmccoyd@aol.com with Class News in the subject. News may also be sent directly to alumni@dom.edu. Stay well, safe, and healthy!

1971

Kathy Klem Large  
Class Agent

Greetings Class of 1971! And, now for the news...

On a sad note, I need to tell you of the loss of beloved Sister Joan O’Shea ’52. Many had her for theology/philosophy and I think she was our freshman class advisor. She was an inspiration and her warm smile, soft voice, and beautiful blue eyes will be with us always. In addition, I received word from **Judy Gaglione Zitlow** and **Ellen Havlik Turney** of the death of classmate **Valerie Burrer Danek**. Judy wrote that her “dear friend’s gentleness impacted not only her family, but her friends and her young students. She is dearly missed.” Her obituary can be found at kurtzmemorialchapel.com.

Congratulations to **Kathie Schwall Boley** and her husband

Paul as they celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary. They have been hiking the trails near their CA home and she is very anxious to get back to riding her recumbent bike.

**Ruthmarie Hamburge Mitsch** shared her memories of Sister Jean Murray ’49 (formerly Sister Meredith.) She remembered being intimidated by her. “No nonsense. A serious scholar.” Not only did she have her for French (notably 20th Century French Lit), but Sister was her advisor in the BA/MA program, serving as her thesis advisor. Ruthmarie continued that by the time she was a junior “I had proven my studying chops and she warmed to me.” After graduation, they continued to correspond and would occasionally meet at Rosary. When Ruthmarie lived in Columbus Ohio, if Sister attended a meeting there, they would squeeze in a visit. When Ruthmarie moved to FL, her mentor would drive down with Sr. Mary Philip. Ruthmarie noted that it is such a lovely feeling to move from student to friend. She greatly appreciated Sister influencing her to pursue graduate studies, keeping up with her professional milestones, her husband Bill’s achievements and her daughters’ names and interests.

Between Covid lockdowns, **Sue Mackiewicz Sowa** enjoyed a lovely lunch with **Linda Grzesiakowski Hanrath MALS ’74**. Sue’s daughter’s wedding has been postponed for the 4th time—perhaps this September? She wrote that gratefully no one has contracted Covid in her family and hopes that blessing will continue.

**Niki Petrakos Chibucos** wrote that my suggestion to write about impactful people was enticing and took the ball and ran. She wrote, “I would begin with **Nancy Sidote Salyers MA ’72** who was my “Match Mate” freshman year. Nancy was such a wonderful friend to cultivate early and watch bloom

through her career as a judge.” Niki continued that two professors who impacted her greatly were Mrs. Leota Hirsch, who nurtured her love of writing and literature, and Mrs. Tillieux, professor of Art History who ignited her interest in art. They were instrumental in her satisfaction with her career in public relations with not-for-profit organizations. Her liberal arts education proved to be a tremendous resource and her desire to work for the betterment of society was amplified by Rosary. As the mother of three and grandmother to two, she has often called upon the qualities she developed at Rosary. She ended by saying that it was “wonderful to put into words what has gone so long unarticulated.”

In a humorous vein, **Molly Schafer DeDominicis** noted that she and Ken are “regrettably boring and did I say completely boring? Covid does that to people!” Not so her daughter Claire, whose husband retired as an Air Force fighter pilot. They loved their time in the EU and have moved to Portugal. The grandchildren are in school and Portuguese is becoming part of their brains, as is Spanish and a little Turkish. Molly remains hopeful for the vaccine and grateful for FaceTime.

**Nancy Sidote Salyers MA ’72** wrote that, as an English major, there were many icons to choose from as far as mentors. She does not discount any but her thoughts immediately were drawn to two. Sr. Candida Lund ’42, who showed great courage by saying “Yes to Time Out for Change” and then leading the implementation of things that have led to Dominican today. Next, Mrs. Mary Magee, the school nurse with the little office that welcomed so many of us. “She had a wonderful way of listening while encouraging us to solve our own problems.”

“We feel so blessed to still have our health and no scares this year”



noted **Lin Fosnacht Siebolds BLS '19**. She and John are both working which has been good as there's not much else to do. They can't wait to get the vaccine and travel.

I send congratulations to **Margaret Kramer Sprague** on her 50th wedding anniversary. She and her husband, Dr. Bill Sprague had a Zoom with their children, Luke, Jenn and Jacqueline. She is in correspondence with **Mary Jo Senica, Leslye Kalnes Madden** and **Sue Koroski Bielawski**.

**Martha Yancey Hellar** began by saying she and Don have the good fortune to live on their farm in Kansas and decided to hit the road in their camper to discover more of their home state and nearby Oklahoma. They welcomed two grandchildren this year. They drove to Las Vegas to meet Amelia. They stopped in national parks and visited monuments along the way. They hope to continue traveling that way as it's safe and comfortable. She said Rosary will be remembered not because of one person, but by camaraderie with friends and faculty. She has fond memories of those years that will never be forgotten.

From Texas, I heard from **Peg Rohr Duran**. They travelled to PA from Corpus Christi in 2019 to welcome a grandson. After that, she immersed herself in the League of Women Voters. Like many, she celebrated the centennial of women getting the right to vote! On a Rosary note, she was sorry to hear of the death of Sister Joan O'Shea '52. Peg loved her theology class and that Sister encouraged students to check out other religions and philosophies. She loved the "liberal outlook that Rosary encouraged."

**Vicki Woodward** sent a snapshot of three of her Rosary "impactful personalities." She started by listing dear Sister Cephass Windbach-

er who served as a patient dorm mother on First Floor Coughlin our freshman year. She noted Sr. Candida Lund '42 as a brilliant leader, who inspired Anne Vonderhaar's "spot on" characterization of her at the 1970 Christmas party and Sister took it in great humor. (Too bad there were no cell phones to record Anne's performance!) She noted Sister Joan O'Shea '52 as a beloved mentor. On a family note, she and John have purchased property in UT. They will work with an architect to build a home to enjoy the year-round activities. Despite Covid, John's consulting business keeps him busy.

**Mary Ann Campbell Swalling** sent word she and Chris are enjoying a reprieve from Alaska in Coachella Valley. With Chris retired, they plan to golf, bike, eat on their patio. She plans to do some watercolor painting and acrylic pieces. She can enjoy the wonderful desert light and the cacti offer her a new subject matter. Before they left, they were able to enjoy a family Christmas as their kids have been working from home and with negative tests, they were confident that they could meet outdoors in their "Bubbles."

**Pat Harnett Farrell MALS '81** sent a touching remembrance of Sister Joan O'Shea and the Sinsinawa Dominicans. Her older sister enrolled at Trinity High School, down the way on Division St. Pat attended some events at the school and got a sense of who she was meant to be as a young woman of faith. After graduating from Trinity, she became a member of the Class of 1971 at Rosary. She continued that we were fortunate to attend when many Sisters were present. Her first encounter with a sister was Political Science 101 taught by Sr. Candida Lund '42! I quote Pat, "I was a little shocked and intimidated that the college president would take time to teach

freshmen and sophomores. But she made it clear that teaching was her passion. She was incredibly gifted. I will never forget the title of her dissertation for her Ph.D. at the Univ. of Chicago. I paraphrase: Sunday Closing Laws: The Kosher Pickle Shop. And yes, I read it. As a Sophomore, I took a theology course called 'The Problem of God.' The professor struck me as a bit of a leprechaun, with her twinkling blue eyes, gentle demeanor, and inner peace. Need I name her. Sr. Joan O'Shea '52! We Irish seem to recognize each other as 'Anan Cara'—soul friends. There was one sticky point I started teasing Joan about—was God the problem or was it us? That was the beginning of a lifelong friendship and I am still working on the problem of God." Pat related that Sr. Joan eventually became a hospital chaplain at Lutheran General in Park Ridge. Pat enjoyed visits with Joan while she was there. About 15 years ago, she returned to Dominican as the first Director of Ministry and Mission. They were able to continue years of friendship, plays at Dominican (Pat's son Joe Farrell '17 was a theater major!) and many heart-to-hearts. One of Pat's most treasured "gifts" from Sister was her sponsoring Pat to become a Dominican Associate, a layperson who vows to live and work the Dominican Charism in everyday life. In Pat's words, "She rests peacefully with her loving God."

Lastly, my mentor was Sister Jeanne Crapo (formerly Sister Anna) '46. As an English major, I took as many classes from her as I could. She was an excellent writing professor and I enjoyed her classes on American Literature and the English Novel. Despite arthritis, she continued her teaching and served as advisor to the newspaper. We rekindled our friendship at the reunion and exchanged Christmas greetings. During one of my last visits to

Rosary, I found her in the old Library with Sister Mary Clemente Davlin '50 as they worked to collate the programs for the Easter Vigil. She was a gentle soul who loved her students and cared deeply that we each developed our potential. Thank you for your remembrances. They touched me deeply and I hope they will touch you too..

1976  
**Mary Gallagher Banaszak**  
Class Agent

**Carl Sirotzki**: "I am celebrating the 5th Anniversary of being an ordained ELCA Pastor on Nov. 21, 2020. My wife Jo and I celebrated our 34th wedding anniversary on November 8, 2020."

1979  
**Hilary Ward Schnadt**  
Class Agent

Our class has experienced joy and sorrow in these past months. Several lost family. **Kathleen Johnson Williams** lost her Aunt Honey (Elnora Johnson) and her Aunt Mary. **Lynette Cabell** lost her Aunt Ceola Cook in January 2021. **Margaret Foy Shields** lost her brother Jim and **Sue Junkroski** lost her brother John. **William Dicker** lost his mother Roberta. Sue was sadly correct when she wrote, "I suppose we are in that stage of our lives where the good-byes are all too frequent." Let me speak for all of us in wishing them consolation and support.

**Joy (Karen Allegra) Davy** wrote in response to my query, are there things from our four years together that sustain you? "Rosary was no less than a magical portal into a world of study and brilliant women who guided me and served as mentors. It was an enlightening place. The beauty of the campus was part of the wonderful experience. I turned from one

*"Donna always heard me out and respected my point of view. At the same time, she pushed me to to think more deeply about what I was doing."*

**Hedi Belkaoui '04, MAEA '09**



**Passion for Social Justice**

**Hedi Belkaoui '04, MAEA '09**, admits that he was something of a rabble-rouser during his college days. Spurred by a passion for social justice, he wasn't afraid to critique the Dominican administration, which he wove into his Mulroy Award speech during his senior year, or to take his concerns directly to President Donna Carroll.

"I was always protesting about something, from the residence hall policies to Dominican's stance on the Iraq War," he recalls. "But Donna always heard me out and respected my point of view. At the same time, she also pushed me to think more deeply about what I was doing."

Belkaoui, the son of longtime Dominican faculty member Janice Monti, was inspired by his Dominican experience to pursue a career in social justice and education. A former teacher and school principal, including a stint at the Jay Pritzker Academy in Cambodia, he recently joined the Archdiocese of Chicago as director of school improvement. Today, he maintains a strong personal and professional connection with Carroll.

"I've had conversations with Donna about everything from teacher recruitment to partnerships," he says. "She's also been a great influence on me as a mentor. I've had several points in my career where I wasn't sure what my next step should be, and she's always been willing to sit down with me and talk it through."

road and took the one that would bring out more of the person I was supposed to be. Looking back, I realize that many were experiencing the same transformation. The influences of those four years are in my heart and color the way I approach life, and yes, they sustain me."

**Bridget and Joe Cortina MBA '82** have been sheltering "in their own paradise" in Florida. They have traveled only for family reasons. "Good news is our son Rick Cortina '06 MBA '08 got married to his fiancé Erin Hennessy. This was the highlight of the year. They had a celebration planned but it was slimmed down to a cozy party of 8. Everyone was tested before arriving. They married at sunrise on a beach at their home in Michigan. The 8 of us enjoyed a lovely brunch and later, a wedding banquet fit for kings and queens. The weather on the day was 70-75! God was looking down on Rick and Erin. Food was catered by a famous Detroit chef who drove up to cook for the wedding. On Sunday everyone went their own way home. Joe and I stayed a few more days, then we, too, flew back to Florida. It was a glorious weekend, and we couldn't be happier with Rick and Erin." When Bridget wrote to me in December, they were also preparing for a trip to visit the family of her sister Carol, whose husband was seriously ill.

**Nancy Greco** bought her first house. "I lived at my former address for 43 years and have never lived in a house, so this is a big change." She hopes to host her classmates when it is safe to do so. Her performance schedule is on hold due to COVID but she hopes to resume in 2021, including directing for the Italian American Theatre of Chicago, founded by a fellow DU alumna, Cathy Sweitzer '73.

**Alice Heinze** added a golden retriever puppy to her household,

named "Nifty," in honor of the dog her Dad had as a kid. "Yes, having a puppy seems like a full-time occupation. I had a dog as a kid and always wanted another. It is hard to get much else done as it is always time to go for a walk. He is great company, but I am looking forward to when he stops his biting."

**Helen Hollerich** convened a Zoom session on Halloween to replace an annual tradition of classmates gathering for brunch. Helen, **Teresa Anderson Shultz, Laura Graf Holden, Nancy Greco, Ann Van Hoomissen Bixby, Kathleen Johnson Williams, and Augusta Simpson**, and I were able to join for the conversation, which ranged from current news to reminiscences of Dominican Sisters. Helen added, "I have to say that I have never been more grateful for technology. My cell phone, email, Facebook, and Zoom were key to getting through the pandemic as a person who lives singly. We've come a long way since calling home from sweaty phone booths in Power or Coughlin, typing letters on a manual typewriter, purchasing postage stamps at the bookstore, and dropping letters down the mail tube in Lewis to the basement mail room!"

**Sue Junkroski** recounted an adventure with **Michelle Jackson** entitled How We Spent a Weekend in Bogota, Colombia. "Michelle and I were booked on a 10-day tour. There was such conflicting news, that when the tour company said, 'We're going, but you can cancel if you like,' we checked the virus stats for Colombia and said, 'Ok, we'll chance it!' When we left on Friday the 13th (we should have known), Colombia had no restrictions. By the time we landed, there were rumblings about closing the national parks. On Saturday, museums closed. By Sunday, the company was sending us home on a 10pm flight, because



Colombia was closing its borders. We hope to go back because we liked what we saw!" Fingers crossed for a longer visit!

**Kevin Killips** wrote, "I retired at the beginning of 2020. Who knew what we would be getting into!? I am spending my time on two Boards. I was asked to join the Board of Brookfield Zoo—or more correctly the Chicago Zoological Society. COVID-19 has really impacted the operations. I finished my 6-year run as the Chair of Dominican's Board and am still the immediate past chair and member of the executive committee. The University has done a great job of operating in the COVID-19 environment. Donna and her team have done a magnificent job of creating a stable and safe environment. The work that has been done at the leadership, staff, faculty, and student levels is extraordinary. As you have undoubtedly heard, Donna is retiring after a magnificent 27-year run during which she transformed the institution from Rosary College to Dominican University and a whole lot more. I have been asked by my board colleagues to chair the search committee as we seek a worthy successor to Donna. I hope you and all my 1979 classmates stay safe." I'm sure that we are all grateful for Kevin's work on behalf of our alma mater and wish him great success in this most important search.

**Jeanne Sullivan Goss MALIS '82** wrote, "We relocated to Green Bay. Our daughter lives here, and we wanted to be closer to her. My husband, Lee, retired from CDW. We were offered a great deal on our Libertyville property. We sold, found a house, and are now residents of Wisconsin. We're so happy to be here! I'm working for W.W. Grainger and have been remote since March. Ellie graduated from UW Green Bay and has landed a job with Nature's Way.



Grateful for Personal Support

As an undocumented high school student in suburban Chicago, **Arianna Salgado '15** was told that her immigration status would prevent her from going to college. Undaunted, she explored her options and found her way to Dominican.

"Dominican was on my list because I knew an undocumented student who was having a good experience there," said Salgado, a social-justice advocate who works with Organized Communities Against Deportations (OCAD), a Chicago-based nonprofit. "I had gotten accepted and I had gotten some financial support, but it wasn't enough."

A mutual acquaintance arranged for Salgado to meet with President Donna Carroll. "I talked to Donna about who I was and explained my financial situation," Salgado recalled. "She reached out to some people, and she found someone who was willing to cover a good portion of my tuition for all four years."

Salgado says she'll always be grateful to Carroll for her personal support. But she also appreciates Carroll's work on behalf of the broader community.

"Donna has always spoken out in favor of federal and state policies like the Illinois Dream Act," she said. "She really embodies what Dominican stands for."

One last thing...I refuse to become a Packer fan, but that may change due to self-preservation instincts! Go BEARS!"

**Rick Wilk** wrote, "I visited a relative in a nursing home in Florida after COVID prevented visiting until fairly recently. I drove cross country and stayed at state parks and other venues for safe outdoor hiking. It resulted in a slow trip, but what else is there to do? I'm still playing outdoor tennis in December as indoor doubles has been shut down. I prefer playing outside; however, tennis players prefer constant conditions so indoor is their preferred venue. I'm thankful to be playing at all after a 3-year stint on the tennis disabled list. Wishing everyone a peaceful 2021!"

Washington State Supreme Court Justice **Mary Yu** received the William O. Douglas Judicial Service Award in 2020, "in recognition for over 20 years of diligent service on the bench and your commitment to the justice system in the State of Washington."

I share Helen's appreciation for the technology allowing us to stay connected. I was a late adopter of text messaging but am grateful for an ongoing conversation that keeps me connected with **Margaret Foy Shields** and other childhood friends. I participated via Zoom in the Court Theatre's seven-week "Deep Dive" into Tom Stoppard's latest play, *Leopoldstadt*. That took me back to our 1977 semester in London because my research project was on Stoppard. And, yes, I have the copy of his monograph on Stoppard that Ronald Hayman autographed for me when he visited our class. Tucked inside is a signed notecard from Stoppard himself, politely declining to be interviewed by this visiting American student, alas. Keep well and keep in touch!

**Hilary Ward Schnadt**  
hwschnadt@gmail.com

**1980**  
**Linda Rohde**  
Class Agent

**Larry Regan** is in Ground Operations with Southwest Airlines at San Francisco International.

**1985**  
**Lisa Chmela Grzywa**  
Class Agent

**Elisabeth Chmela Grzywa:** "My family and **Karen Kaufmann Migaldi** and her husband were able to road trip to Springfield, Illinois, sharing a two flat and a very fun time! I joined the board of RRAF, a day program for those with developmental disabilities that one of my sons attends. I have learned and continue to learn a lot about services for that population. And it turns out, the Director is also a Dominican alum!"

**1989**  
**Garett Auriemma**  
Class Agent

I hope you've all been safe and healthy. Like many of you, my family and I have been working (and learning) from home. **Brenda Groeper MAT '01** has set up a virtual classroom in our basement where she teaches AP Psychology and Sociology to her Morton West High School students. My "front room office" looks less like a front room and more like an office. Our son, Evan, is finishing his senior year at Fenwick High School and is getting ready to begin as a college freshman, while our daughter, Rowan, is a freshman at Fenwick. Both are active in Fenwick's music and theater programs and have found innovative ways to take part in "pandemic performances." Our dog, Maddie, doesn't know why we're at home, but she approves wholeheartedly.

**Laura Brown Schmuck MAT '07** is in her 10th year of teaching at Sandburg High School in Orland Park, and is working toward becoming a certified Pilates instructor. She hopes to finish her certification this year. Assuming COVID-19 is under control, Laura and her husband, Ron, who retired after 27 years with the Chicago Police Department, hope to travel to Finland.

**Korin Heinz** has adapted by taking advantage of virtual classes and events all over the world. She has enjoyed being able to Zoom with long-distance friends. Korin is grateful to have learned a lot about technology and creative approaches to teaching due to remote instruction this year. Her stepdaughter Zoe is a freshman at U of I Urbana-Champaign, while stepdaughter Phoebe is a high school sophomore. Her new kitten, Beau, is a ton of fun!

Be sure to join our Facebook group. It's a private group, but you can request to join by searching "Rosary College Class of 1989."

**1991**  
**Michael D. Ruggiero MBA '94** won the Five Star award and was featured as one of the outstanding wealth planners in Chicago as well as in the US. He was also featured in 2020 issues of *Chicago* magazine and *Fortune* magazine.

**1992**  
**Melissa Mascari Santo Pietro**  
Class Agent

**Carlene Jaworowski Reeves:** "My son's high school theatre class is featured in episode 8 of the Disney+ documentary *Marvel 616*. He appears on camera a few times. The kids performed and did sets for two Marvel stage productions. It was a year-long and the film crew was at his school documenting the process from start to finish."

"[Donna] really embodies what Dominican stands for."  
**Arianna Salgado '15**

**1994**  
**Rosaisela Herrera Bueno** became the President of the NAHREP (National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals) for the Chicago North Chapter 2020.

**1999**  
**Christy Miklausch Gumbach, Kara Green Hanak**  
Class Agents

**Shelley Watson Maglangque:** "I married Earl Maglangque in OR on May 27, 2019. In addition to working as a Speech-Language Pathologist at Howard Elementary in Eugene, OR, I am an Augmentative and Alternative Communication specialist at the University of Oregon's HEDCO Clinic."

**Sr. Kimberly Rose Prohaska**, OSB was elected the 13th Prioress of St. Scholastica Monastery on January 20, 2020, and was installed in the Diocese of Little Rock by Federation President Sister Jeanne Weber, OSB and Bishop Anthony Taylor. **Sister Kimberly Prohaska** will serve a six-year term in leadership.

**2000**  
**Gigi Benitez, Christopher Phills**  
Class Agents

**Sr. Glenna Marie Czachor, OSF:** "I was elected to serve my religious community on our Leadership Team, the Wheaton Franciscans, also known as the St. Clare Region of the Franciscan Sisters Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. We held a simple installation service on October 5th, the Feast of our Foundress, Mother Clara Pfaender."

**2003**  
**Mary Sobczak Minster, Yvette Vazquez Pratt**  
Class Agents

**Tamara Gordon:** "After graduating from Dominican with BS in Nutrition and Dietetics, I completed a Dietetic Internship/Master's in Clinical Nutrition Program at RUSH University Medical Center in 2006. I found my dream job at the University of Virginia Medical Center and moved to Charlottesville. I worked as a Clinical Dietitian Specialist for 14 years until I decided to pursue a second career. I was accepted to the to the top clinical nurse leader program in the country and have begun my journey to become a Master's educated nurse at the University of Virginia. I met my now husband of 8 years. We have a 5-year-old son, Henry, who likes to wear his Dominican University hoodie!

**2006**  
**Diane Schultz Meske MAEd '15, Annie Hughes Halsema**  
Class Agents

**Jennifer Miller Adams:** "I am halfway through completing the program to earn my Principal's License. I moved to Wisconsin a few years ago with my husband. I currently teach 6th grade ELA and Social Studies at a public school."

**2007**  
**Stephanie Adams Taylor, Mark Carbonara, Stephanie Lieberman**  
Class Agents

**RoJenia Judkins Jones** was promoted to North American Regional Product Manager for Natural Colors at Givaudan, a leading flavor and fragrance company. RoJenia joined Givaudan 3 years ago as an R&D Color Specialist. RoJenia will be responsible for collaborating with cross-functional teams to ensure the growth of



the North American natural color product line within Givaudan.

**Stephanie Lieberman** is the owner of a small law firm in Park Ridge, IL and works as a property tax analyst. She has been regu- larly engaging in advocacy work surrounding Alzheimer’s research, hunger awareness, and children’s rights work.

2008  
**Eileen Terrien, Catherine Calixto**  
Class Agents

**Erika Corona-Owens** announced her Candidacy for Berwyn Town- ship Supervisor. This will be the first time a Latinx Woman runs for this position. Social Justice and Civic Engagement are at the core of who Erika is. The Township exists to fill a need in the commu- nity—from general assistance to tax appeals to vaccinations and referrals.

2010  
**Ann Hussey Bala, Michelle Schultz**  
Class Agents

**Patrick and Jessica Salinas Hughes** welcomed the newest addition to their family as Patrick Nolan Hughes was born on October 29, 2020. He is adored by his fellow, future Stars sisters Margaret and Rosemary.

**Nico Toro** was promoted to an Account Executive at Lockton Companies under their Interna- tional Private Equity practice. He and his wife celebrated the first birthday of their son Leo.

**Maryann Dreas Shaikha:** “I re- ceived an M.S.Ed. in International Educational Development from the University of Pennsylvania. I

served as a teaching assistant to a professor and managed a film- making project between master’s students and immigrant African youth in Philadelphia. They creat- ed public awareness films about the intersections of Black Lives Matter, COVID-19, and critical consciousness. I interned for UNESCO’s International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa remotely and worked with univer- sity youth and teacher educators on peace education initiatives in their countries.”

**Ebony Benson:** “I pursued my dream career a few years ago in the world of recruitment and was recently promoted to a Campus Recruiter with BMO Harris Bank! I am most excited to be able to connect with students, especially those from my Alma Mater.”

2016  
**Olivia Szuszkiewicz, Cutberto Aguayo, Erin Winkeler MS ’18, Andrea Hinojosa**  
Class Agents

**Ignacio Perez Jr.** is working at the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, the leading rehab and research hospital. He works on the nerve, muscle, and bone unit. He sees patients who are in the process of rehabbing/recovering. He helps them regain function so that they are ready to go home or outpa- tient. He works as a registered nurse, but he is also a preceptor to new nurses and nursing students. During COVID-19, he has been working extra hours so others with families can be at home. He has increased exposure to COVID-19, but wants to help his community as DU shaped him to always give back. He recently finished his MSN.

**Graduate Alumnae/i**  
**Class News**

School of  
Education

**Michael James MSPED ’00:** “My latest book, *Black America: The 21st Century (The Demand For Racial Equality)* was submitted for the 2021 Pulitzer Prize. Moreover, I received a Dominican University Alumnae/i Award for Professional Achievement School of Education in 2009.”

School of  
Information Studies

**Steven Olderr MALS ’72:** “*The Dictionary of World Monasticism*, my 14th book, was published by McFarland Publishers.”

**Jennifer Moxin McIntosh MLIS ’04** (Associate Dean of Library, College of DuPage) has been named to the RAILS Board of Directors as the Academic Library Representative. RAILS is the re- gional library system for northern and west-central Illinois. She cur- rently serves as Chair of NILRC, Network of Illinois Learning Re- sources in Community Colleges.

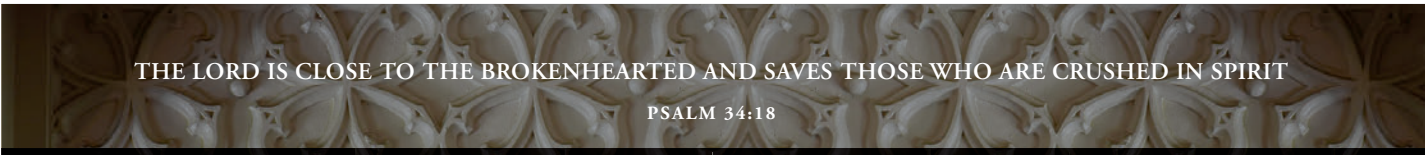
**Emily Compton-Dzak MLIS ’07** was appointed as the new Director of the River Forest Public Library. She took over as Director of the River Forest Public Library after fellow Dominican alumna **Susan Quinn MLIS ’95** retired in October 2020.

**Matt Stuczynski MLIS ’09** has been inducted into the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame for his long-standing advocacy work. Among Matt’s most notable achievements is the founding of the Chicago chapter of GLSEN (Gay Lesbian Straight Educa- tion Network) in 1994. As a high school teacher for nearly 40 years, he has been instrumental in LGBT visibility in his school and in the wider educational community.

**Alex Gutierrez MLIS ’19** has been with the Oak Park Public Library since 2016, when he served as a volunteer. In December 2020, he began his new role as Teen Services Librarian.

Brennan School of  
Business

**Sean McCarthy MBA ’10** has been named to the Illinois Manufac- turers’ Association Board of Directors. He is the Regional Vice President of Business Develop- ment and Strategic Initiatives at Comcast, based in Schaumburg. In his role, Sean leads strategic business initiatives, oversees the deployment of advanced networks in commercial and residential cor- ridors, and works with customers and public and private partners to innovate and incorporate connec- tivity and advanced technologies into real estate developments and other projects.



in sympathy

**Alumnae/i**  
Virginia Carney Taggart '43  
Betty Crowley Phillip '44  
Camille Pascal Berley '45 (MHS)  
Mary Elizabeth Howe Carolan '45  
Henrietta Boyd McFadden '45  
Anne Cox Harmon '46  
Patricia Ryan Liska '47  
Elizabeth Rohde Pauly '47  
Helen White Cherry '48  
Msgr. Charles R. Meyer '48  
Virginia Conahan Boyle '49  
Anna Marie Garippo Sciaraffa '49 +  
Mary O'Reilly Fahrenbach Swiderski '49  
Peggy Welch Meek '50  
Rita Winter Rogers '50  
Sr. Patricia Smith, OP '50 (FS)  
JoAnne Collins Campbell '51  
Jeannine Sheridan Eubank '51  
Saranne Cosgrove Fournay '51  
Sr. Florence Gavin, OP '51  
Peggy Hennessy Lawley '51  
Mary Jean McMahon Rigali '51  
Mary Lou Gladstone McCabe '52  
Sr. Joan O'Shea, OP '52 (FS) +  
Patricia Brennock Casey '53  
Margaret Conley DeSerio '54  
Mary Cullinan Layton '54  
Betty Jardine Gits '55  
Patricia Nitsche Livingston '56  
Frances Stanton MFA/Schifanoia '56  
Carol Johnson Bancroft '57  
Nancy Angland Casey '57  
Sr. Dorothy Gabel, OP '57 +  
Mary Kay McDonough Masini '57  
Jackie Reeb McGill '57  
Sr. Baptist Stohrer, OP '57, MFA/  
Schifanoia '61 (FS)  
Margaret Stanton Wood '57  
Joan Jennings Bulinski '59  
Dorothy Buchholtz '60, MALS '64  
(MHS)  
Madeline Fiduccia Horton Carey '60  
Rita Pietrzak Delnicki '60  
Sr. Margaret Knittel, R.S.M '61  
Sr. Marie Walters, OP '61  
Florence Rould Abels MALS '62  
(MHS)  
Karen Arntson McDonnell '62  
Roberta Dougherty Sullivan '62  
Joanne Byrnes Fitzgerald '63  
Patricia Singelmann Vesper '63  
Anne McGovern Wylde MALS '63  
Adriana Bechtold Cook '64  
Barbara Brown Spooner MALS '64

Cynthia Bane '65 (MHS)  
Mary Enright Eliceiri '65, MALS '66  
Mary Lidia Klodnycky-Procyk '65  
Marjorie Malafronte Mills '65  
Jeri Shanahan '65  
Patricia Jana Hassler '66, MALS '73  
Mary Louise Brady MALS '67  
Sr. Ann Walters C.S.A., MALS '67  
Julie Ann Joyce Goldberg '68  
Sr. Marianne Travers, OP MALS '68  
Arthur R. Taylor MALS '69  
Nancy Roeser Thomas MALS '69  
Barbara Pray MALS '70  
Virginia Taylor Tenney MALS '70  
Valerie Burrer Danek '71  
Arlene Feiner MALS '71  
Dan Sharon MALS '71  
Sr. Rosemary Kirsten, OP, MALS '73  
Harrison J. Phillips '73  
Dorothy Mae Castronova '74  
George Tenegal MFA/Schifanoia '74  
Patricia Craig MALS '76  
Kathleen Fitzgerald Farrell MALS '76  
Jeanine Caputo Hubacek '80  
Marian Zimmerman MLIS '80  
Steven A. Galanis '82  
Sharon Smilanich MSPED '82  
Lee Gerwin MBA '83  
Anne McCarthy Ring MALIS '83  
Irma Jean Martin MBA '84  
Sr. Peggy Stovall, OSU '84  
David Thornton '84  
Mary Pat Fulstic-Egner '86  
Kathleen Howard Garchitorea '86  
Theodora Fulgenzi Law '87  
Jerilu Senkerik-Rose '93  
Donna M. Williams MLIS '94  
Michael Ciavarella '98  
Aleksandra Chernin MLIS '02  
Susan Adams Stroka '04  
Sean Daly '05  
Katherine Wolfram-Cady Laursen  
MLIS '05

**Family member of**  
Eleanor Rigali Arnold '63  
Gloria McCormick Baird '94  
Kathie Barajas \*  
Martha Evans Boyle '78  
Kathleen Kelly Combs '73  
Betty Freehill DeGuzman '61  
Joan Lawley Dunne '51  
Rosemary Kelley Heiberger '54  
Marilyn Freehill Jancewicz '68  
Donna Freehill Land '66  
Ellen Liebner MLIS '01  
Geraldyn Hesslau Magrady '90  
Katherine Kahler Matthews '66

Silva Russo Mesi '76  
Tim Milinovich \*  
Jacquelyn Casey Morsch '53  
Mimi Gorak Murray '70  
Kenneth Orenic '04, MLIS '06  
Monica Ortiz '15  
James Pittacora '84  
Angelique Ogrodnik Reda '96 \*  
Drew Rutz '71  
Angela Freehill Sharkey '69  
Margaret Sullivan \*  
Mary Ann Liebner Tanquary '86  
Amy Hart Tomaso MSW '18  
Lorraine Vitullo Tuerk '57  
Martha Kahler Van Ness '71  
Rosie McGough Weissmueller '72  
Kathleen Johnson Williams '79  
Ivan Zaher \*

**Grandparent of**  
Jacob Barajas '03  
Matthew Barajas '05  
Patrick Boyle '12  
Alysse Dahlgren '11  
Anastasia Rogus Gruper MAT '03  
Jazmin Medrano-Lopez '14  
Tiffany Mesi '02  
Amy Tull MLIS '04

**Parent of**  
Maria L. Bonus '89  
Joseph Bruno '04  
Susan Bakel Cohn '68  
Sandra Kern Cyr '66  
G. Kevin Davis '83, MALIS '88  
Brandon Feliciano '15  
Rebecca Feliciano \*  
Andrea Fitzsimmons \*  
Samella Hargro \*  
Susan Hebble \*  
Nicole Heiberger '17  
Deborah Kaczmarek \*  
Mary Thecla Lomnicki '78  
Leila Massouh MSPED '20  
Susan Kreuz McCoyd '69  
Linda Willett McDonald MS '20 \*  
James Mesi '75  
Liesl Orenic \*  
Mary Stroka Payne '12  
Lisa Petrov \*  
Suzanne Diillilo Pittacora '89  
Mary Romano '87  
Fred M. Spear MLIS '06  
Margherita Romano Taibi '89  
Jon Tomaso '86  
Richard Tomaso '87  
Anne Marie Wilson '69

**Sibling of**  
Marianne Reeb Brooker '51  
Barbara Hennessy Cagney '54  
Ginevra Ciavarella MBA '84  
Marie Tierney Croft '52  
Julia Doloszycki ^  
Peggy Magrady Fox '77, MALS '78  
Madeleine McGrath Gallagher '66  
Rosemary Fiduccia Gaudreault '60  
Barbara O'Reilly Gleason '51  
Sherry Balow Kelly '64  
Thomas A. Krickl '79  
Gloria Adams Mills '62  
Margaret Mary Enright Molenda, '70  
Mary Magrady O'Brien '65  
Helen Conahan Pfister '56  
Agnes Tierney Prindiville '50  
Kathleen Magrady Roy '77, MSA '90  
Catherine Krickl Rutz '72  
Margaret Foy Shields '79

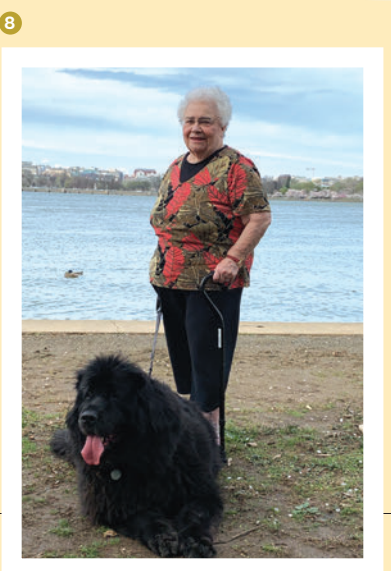
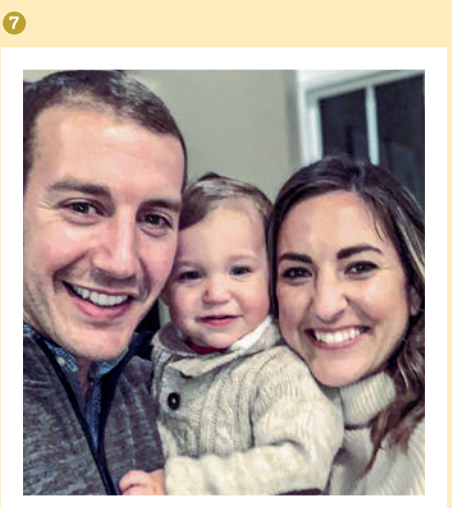
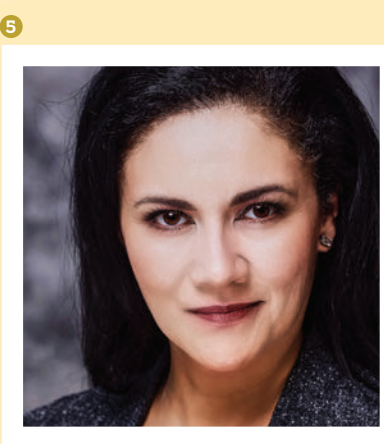
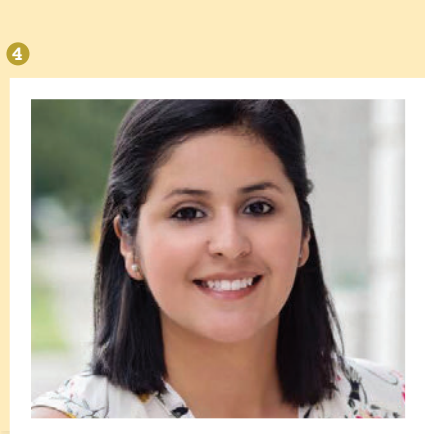
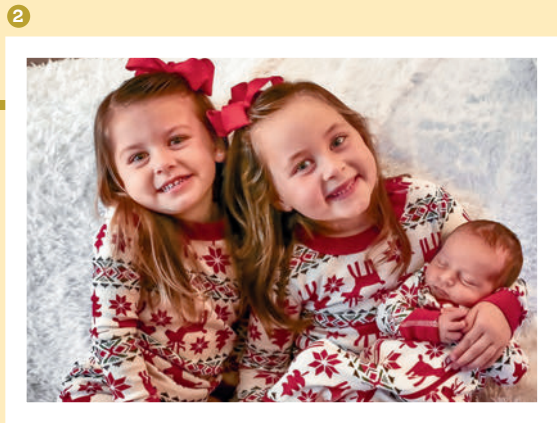
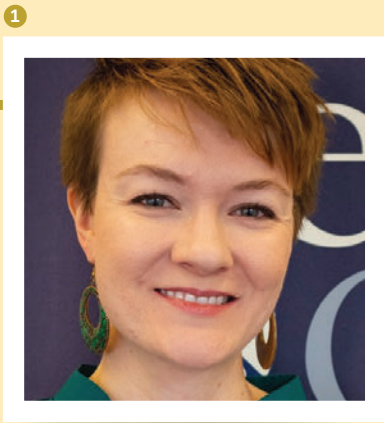
**Spouse of**  
Joanne Capito-Corwin '69  
Yolanda Cintron '83  
Kathryn Stangl Feilmeyer '69  
Adena Fitzgerald MALIS '87  
Diane Grudzien Hart '68  
Catherine McJohn Leveille '70  
Katherine Zielinski Noreiko '73  
Elizabeth Reilly Peterson '59  
Kathleen O'Malley Riban '59  
Mary McGough Schultze '64, MALS  
'71 +  
Jean Boyce Taylor MALS '69  
Patricia O'Neill Tierney '49  
Lorraine Vitullo Tuerk '57

**University Friends**  
John N. Berry III  
Sr. Michelle Germanson, OP (FS) +  
Sr. Esther Hefferman, OP (FS)  
Sr. Barbara Hutfless, OP  
Michael Leonard  
Monica R. Roberts (MHS)  
Rita Simo  
LaVerne Tomaso  
Scott Zeman

- + Former Trustee
- (T) Current Trustee
- \* Staff/Faculty member
- \*\* Student
- ^ Friend
- (FS) Founding Sister
- (MHS) Mazzuchelli Heritage Society
- (NGA) Non-graduating Alumna



1. Maryann Dreas Shaikha '10 received her M.S.Ed. in International Educational Development from the University of Pennsylvania while interning for UNESCO's International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa working youth and teacher educators on peace education initiatives.
2. Both alums of 2010, Patrick and Jessica Salinas Hughes welcomed their newest addition Patrick Nolan Hughes. He is adored by his fellow, future Stars sisters, Margaret and Rosemary.
3. Shelley Watson Maglangque '99 married Earl Maglangque in Oregon on May 27, 2019. Congrats to the happy couple!
4. Erika Corona-Owens '08, fueled by her passion for social justice and civic engagement, announced her Candidacy for Berwyn Township Supervisor.
5. Rosaisela Herrera Bueno '94 became the President of the Chicago North Chapter of National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals.
6. Sr. Glenna Marie Czachor, OSF '00 (pictured on the left) was elected to the Leadership Team of the Wheaton Franciscans, also known as the St. Clare Region of the Franciscan Sisters Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.
7. Nico Toro '10 has lots to celebrate: a promotion to an Account Executive at Lockton Companies under their International Private Equity practice and the first birthday of son, Leo!
8. Audre Coia-Kurowski '57 enjoyed a trip to Washington, D.C. with her beloved and aptly named family dog, Shadow.



# God of life's journeys

You have blessed us with goodness and giftedness throughout time in this, our community.  
May the love that is in our hearts  
Be a bond that unites us always,  
Wherever we may be.  
May the power of your presence bless this moment of transition and may our common future be the source of many enriching and transforming moments.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

George F. Driscoll, SJ  
*Presidential Inauguration Liturgy, 1995*



The Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters offered Donna Carroll a moving and intimate blessing during her presidential inauguration Mass, which was presided by her uncle, George F. Driscoll, SJ.





*Where Learning Demands More*

7900 W. Division Street  
River Forest, Illinois 60305  
dom.edu

#### OUR MISSION

As a Sinsinawa Dominican-sponsored institution, Dominican University prepares students to pursue truth, to give compassionate service and to participate in the creation of a more just and humane world.

PMJBE10/2032M



**A Zoom Celebration** Phenomenal '68 women celebrate a phenomenal president.