

Summer 2017

TODAY



Gwynedd Mercy
University

Greetings!

Here on campus, this summer is a time to prepare for the future. Campus renovations, including new classrooms and lab spaces, have already begun. Residence Hall room selections are well underway, and the Yellin Gate has been returned to its rightful spot at the entrance to the Lady Garden.

Even more, we are celebrating Dr. Kathleen Owens' 15-year tenure as president and preparing to welcome newly appointed President Deanne Horner D'Emilio, JD. The countless accomplishments President Owens achieved during her time here have transformed GMercyU into a stronger and more vibrant community, and she laid the foundation for continued success.



Soon after Deanne begins her tenure as GMercyU's sixth president, our campus will welcome students for the fall semester. Incoming freshmen will bid farewell to mom and dad, and faculty will put the finishing touches on their syllabi. A new year — and in many ways, a new era — will begin.

Learn more about Deanne on page seven and keep your eye out for more information on her arrival this summer!

Happy Summer!
Office of Institutional Advancement



Contents



Gwynedd Mercy University
Today is published twice a year
for alumni and friends of the
University. Your comments and
suggestions are welcome.

Gerald T. McLaughlin
Vice President for Institutional
Advancement

Kelly Statmore
Chief Communications Officer

Editors:
Alyssa Onisick
Kirsten Swanson

**Creative Director and
Production Manager:**
Donna M. Smyrl

Design:
Kim Austin Design

Photography:
Laura-Ann Lane
Hunter Martin
Elizabeth McLaverty
Sarah Neiman
Chris Panter
Gianna Quinn
Jim Roese
Donna Smyrl
Kirsten Swanson



#GMercyUGrad17 2

Fly Eagles Fly 4

GMercyU's Own Golden Girl 13

PLUS

Letter from the Editor

Inside Cover

Campus News

2

Yellin Gate

8

Sports

10

Class Notes

15



On the Cover:
GMercyU alumna Evelyn Nunez
'17 with Eagles Quarterback
Carson Wentz at the 2017
Eagles Playground Build
project.



#GMercyUGrad17

Gwynedd Mercy University's Class of 2017 officially joined the Alumni Association at the 68th Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 13. More than 780 degrees were awarded, including GMercyU's first graduates of the Doctorate in Educational Leadership program. This was President Kathleen Owens' 15th and final Commencement ceremony.



Professors Ann McGinn, EdD, RN and Bruce Taylor, EdD were each honored as Professor Emeritus.



Marie Michele Donnelly, RSM, MA '68 served as Commencement Speaker. Sister Marie Michele retired from GMercyU in 2017 after holding a variety of roles spanning nearly 40 years.



Eileen Wood received the Tender Courage Award, given to a member of the GMercyU Community whose accomplishments exemplify the ideals of Mercy.



Julia Tasca '17 addressed her fellow graduates as this year's student speaker. Tasca received her bachelor's degree in biology and will be attending Villanova University on a full scholarship to pursue her master's in chemistry.



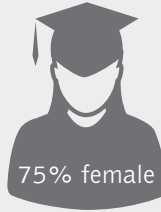
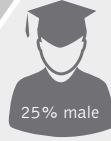
Richard Target and Kathleen McCann Target, MS '69 received the Beacon of Mercy Award for their dedication to service and commitment to integrity and compassion.

CLASS OF 2017

"We have learned to be dedicated to the truth and defend our morals in the face of adversity."

Julia Tasca '17, Biology

778
GRADUATES



"We are hungry for more, for more learning and great success in the real world. I envision all of us with our GMercyU degrees constantly achieving success after graduation."

Casey Carr '17, Nursing

OLDEST
63



"The main thing about being a *Distinctive Mercy Graduate* is rather than looking out for yourself and what you're doing, you look out for others too."

Storm Gehrke '17, Accounting/Criminal Justice

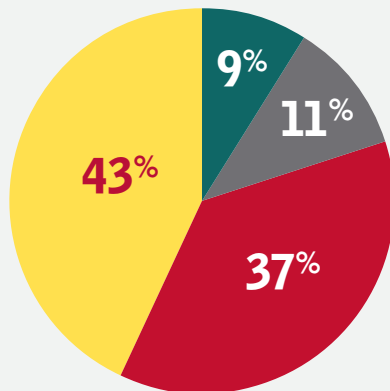


"GMercyU has reassured me that I have chosen a major in which I can truly make a difference in life."

Stephanie Holtz '17, Elementary/Special Education

"GMercyU has allowed me to recognize and embrace the importance of scholarship, fidelity, and service — all values I will continue to live by even upon graduation."

Justin DeLuzio '17, Finance



"Many of the courses ask us to reflect on who we are and how that shapes what we do. I feel empowered and re-energized to come back to the community and do the work that is needed."

Evelyn Nunez '17, EdD, Educational Leadership

- Arts & Sciences
- Business & Education
- Graduate and Professional Studies
- Nursing & Health Professions



*All figures are an estimate

FLY EAGLES FLY




By: Kirsten Swanson

School is often the heart of a neighborhood, a place where children are encouraged to learn, play and grow. Lewis Elkin Elementary School in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia now serves as a brightly-colored reminder that school is also a safe reprieve from the surrounding realities.

“One of my goals for the school was to make it look different than our community. There’s a lot of depression and need here. I wanted the school to be very bright and welcoming,”

Elkin’s Principal and GMercyU alumna Evelyn Nunez said. “I was very alarmed when I arrived at the school and many of the children were saying they hated school. This is the time you’re supposed to love school. I felt like if we didn’t make an impact now, we’re going to lose them.”

The main focus of Evelyn’s vision was improving the instructional program, but transforming the exterior was just as important. Evelyn developed partnerships

with a variety of organizations, including Lowes and Home Depot, to turn the school into a reflection of her life motto:

“Where the love of learning blossoms.”

The project turned up a notch when Evelyn received word from The Philadelphia Eagles that Elkin Elementary was chosen as the 2017 recipient of its annual Playground Build initiative. Together with the Philadelphia Mural Arts Project, the





Safe
Orderly
Attentive
Respectful

aptly-named Eagles at Elkin Elementary now have a brand new playground and turf field to play on as well as a colorful mural wrapped around their school.

More than 1,000 students, parents, community members and volunteers spent the day transforming the school in mid-May. The highlight of the day came when the entire Philadelphia Eagles team, including Quarterback Carson Wentz and Head Coach Doug Pederson, showed up to do a little painting, autograph signing and, of course, to test out the new turf field with students.

“The mural has a story behind it. It talks about soaring and that’s an acronym that stands for being Safe, Orderly, Attentive, and Respectful. They’re our core values. We’re also the Elkin Eagles. It’s almost like a puzzle. It all fit together,” Evelyn said.

Evelyn graduated from GMercyU in 2017 with the first cohort of the Doctorate in Educational Leadership (EdD). At Honors Convocation in April, she was awarded the Graduate Student Alumni Award.

She is the youngest of six children, and was the first to graduate college. When she started the EdD program, she was the CEO of a charter school in Camden, N.J. In order to spend more time with her family and focus on her degree, Evelyn joined Elkins Elementary as the principal in 2015.

“After I graduated from college, it caused a shift in my family and today I am pleased to share that a cycle has been broken and everyone in our family has chosen to attend and graduate from college. The family that once consisted of generations of blue collar employees is now full of professionals with bachelor’s and master’s degrees,” Evelyn said.

“I am once again not only fulfilling my dream, but serving as a role model for my family and my lovely daughter to prove that with hard work and perseverance you can accomplish anything.”

Evelyn has established a strong foundation at Elkin Elementary for the next principal who will lead the school. This summer, Evelyn will begin her journey as Assistant Superintendent for the Philadelphia School District where she hopes to spread her wings and encourage thousands of students across the city to be ready to S.O.A.R. 🦅



#GMercyUGrad17:

President's Scholar



By: Kirsten Swanson

Gwynedd Mercy University's President's Scholar Award is given annually to a graduating senior whose academic record is superior and who is an active member of the GMercyU community. This year's recipient received a bachelor's degree in finance, completed two internships, was named to the Dean's List eight times, was a member of several clubs, ran track and field and somehow still managed to maintain a 4.0 GPA.

From the moment Justin DeLuzio arrived on campus, he took advantage of every opportunity provided to him, attending networking events as a freshman and volunteering with Campus Ministry on the weekends.

Justin's rigorous work ethic and eagerness to try new things led him to experiences he never thought possible. One summer morning before his junior year started, Justin had some free time and asked one of his friends if he could run with the track and field team for a quick workout. Soon, he found himself a member of the team, earning a spot on the CSAC All-Academic team for each of the years he ran.

"I wouldn't have been able to go out for the team if I didn't feel comfortable in the environment here. GMercyU establishes an environment that really allows you to be yourself," Justin said. "It lets you try new things, discover new interests."

Justin recently began working as an actuary at Chubb Incorporated, where he evaluates the likelihood of future events. Ironically, he could never have predicted the unlikely event that made him a YouTube star.

Last fall, Justin was blindsided by a deer during a cross-country race. Luckily, he wasn't injured and finished the race with the support of his teammates, but the accident made him a viral sensation. News outlets all over the world wanted to talk to him, including ESPN, The Huffington Post, NBC, and NPR.

Justin, like so many times before, saw this unforeseeable accident as an opportunity, giving credit to GMercyU and his teammates.

"It was a demonstration of camaraderie and it's what this team is all about," Justin said. "It was a great experience and I am grateful for all of the support and recognition our school and program has received from it."

Justin's list of achievements, as well as the manner in which he handled the unfortunate incident and resulting media attention, is what truly classifies him as a *Distinctive Mercy Graduate*. 🌟

"Your future ends up being quite unexpected because GMercyU allows you to try those new things and experience those new opportunities."



What's New at GMercyU?



"I am deeply honored and thrilled to be chosen as the sixth President of Gwynedd Mercy University. Gwynedd Mercy University is known for its academic excellence exemplified by a commitment to an education grounded in the liberal arts with an emphasis on the development of professional competency and an ethic of service in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy. These strong values are exactly what are needed in higher education and in the world today. I look forward to working with the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students to build on this rich heritage and I thank the entire Gwynedd Mercy University community for the confidence that they've placed in me." – Deanne Horner D'Emilio, JD

To meet the growing demands in these industries, GMercyU has introduced several new programs:

- Bachelor of Health Science in Occupational Science
- Master of Science in Occupational Therapy
- Bachelor of Social Work

GMercyU's field hockey team spent a week sightseeing, volunteering and training in Barcelona, Spain.

GMercyU Appoints Deanne Horner D'Emilio, JD, as Sixth President

Gwynedd Mercy University's Board of Trustees has named Deanne Horner D'Emilio, JD, as its sixth President. D'Emilio will succeed Kathleen Owens, PhD, who will step down on July 31, 2017 after serving as the University's President for the past 15 years. D'Emilio will begin her appointment on August 1, 2017.

D'Emilio comes to GMercyU from Carlow University in Pittsburgh, Pa., where she has served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. She joined Carlow, which is also a Mercy-sponsored institution, in 2013 as Dean of the School of Management and Dean of the Graduate School. Prior to arriving at Carlow, D'Emilio spent 15 years in faculty and administrative roles at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, Pa., another of the 16 Mercy-sponsored institutions of higher education.

Keep your eye out for more information on D'Emilio in the coming months!



GMercyU's Computer Information Science program is getting a makeover! Look out for more information on exciting new lab space and the Girls Who Code initiative.

PayScale ranked GMercyU in the top 25% nationwide for 20-Year Net Return on Investment in 2017.





Gwynedd Mercy University's treasured piece of history returned to its rightful place this spring after a year away. In conjunction with Clare Yellin and Samuel Yellin Metalworkers, GMercyU embarked on a restoration project which restored the "Yellin Gate" that has stood on campus property since the 1920s. The project was funded by the William B. Dietrich Foundation, which is committed to architectural and historic preservation in the Philadelphia area.



Before the Sisters of Mercy bought the land in 1947, a year prior to GMercyU's establishment, Philadelphia's prominent Taylor family used the grounds as their country estate. Dedicated to fine architecture and landscaping, the Taylor family contracted Samuel Yellin to create the majestic ironwork. Standing across from Assumption Hall, the "Yellin Gate" is now a testament to GMercyU's historic past and Yellin's talent and passion for beautiful craftsmanship. 🌿

Women's Basketball

The Griffins are the CSAC Champions after defeating Cabrini University 67-49, giving GMercyU women's basketball its seventh conference title. Senior **Nicole Dombrowski** was named the Championship Game Most Valuable Player with 13 points, 13 rebounds, five blocks, and two assists. The season came to an end in the NCAA Division III Tournament where the Griffins lost in the first round at FDU-Florham University. Senior and All-CSAC First-Team selection **Charlotte Kucowski** leaves the program with her name in the top 10 in scoring, rebounding, and blocked shots. Dombrowski had a breakout year, notching career highs in scoring average, rebounding, blocks, and steals as she earned an All-CSAC Second-Team honor. The duo amassed a 70-39 record in four seasons, with four playoff appearances, two conference championship game appearances, a CSAC Title, and an NCAA Tournament berth.



Men's Basketball

The defending CSAC Champions found themselves back in the championship game against Neumann University but lost, 77-53. First-Team All-CSAC selection **Cedric Elleby** led the team in blocks with 65, second in steals with 32 and averaged 16.1 points and 9.9 rebounds in 28 games. The senior was among the top five statistical leaders in scoring (third), rebounding (second), blocks (second), and rebounding average (fourth). Senior **Arron Goodman** earned a CSAC Honorable Mention after leading the team in scoring (16.3 ppg). Seniors Elleby, Goodman, **Jason Cavell**, and **Drew Dietterch** closed out their GMercyU



careers winning 79 games, a CSAC Championship, a NCAA Tournament victory, and four-straight conference playoff berths.

Men's Lacrosse

The men's lacrosse team made the CSAC playoffs for the ninth-straight year but fell to the top seed Cabrini University in the semifinal round. One of six seniors, **Marc Bushong** leaves the program as its all-time leader in caused turnovers with 110 and the single-season record holder with 39 set this year. Bushong is also the first Griffin to capture the CSAC Defensive Player of the Year award and earn four-straight first-team honors. Senior **Matt Collins** earned a second-team selection and senior **Sean Myers** and sophomores **Ryan Simpson**, **Jordan Dzierzgowski** and **Shawn Ryan** were selected to the honorable mention list. Senior **Storm Gehrke** was also named to the All-CSAC Sportsmanship Team.



Women's Lacrosse

The women's lacrosse season came to a disappointing end after the team went 3-12 and missed the CSAC playoffs. The team said goodbye to five seniors, **Aubrey Cook**, **Kerri Flanagan**, **Haley Williams**, **Christy Knipe**, and **Christi Gibbs**. In their four seasons, they have made three CSAC Tournament appearances. Junior **Lauren Mitros** was named to the All-CSAC Second Team while freshman **Samantha Brown** earned an honorable mention. Goalie **Bria Gillard** was selected to the All-CSAC Sportsmanship Team.



Baseball

The Griffins rebounded in 2017 with a 23-16-1 record and the fourth seed in the CSAC Tournament, but was knocked out of the playoffs in an elimination game against Immaculata University. Nine players earned CSAC accolades, including sophomore **Dave Tatoian** who was selected to the first team. Tatoian also earned an All-American honor, earning a spot in the second team. Sophomores **Nick Mulvey**, **Ryan Keen** and **Nick DeRitis** were selected to the second team while sophomores **Justin Curtin**, **Josh Lopez**, **Sachael Sciarretta** and junior **Shaughn Wright** earned a spot on the honorable mention list. The team was honored by the CSAC with the 3-D Awards which is given to the team that best exemplifies the NCAA Division III principles of "Discover, Develop, Dedicate."



Softball

GMercyU softball entered the CSAC tournament as the sixth seed after winning four of the last five regular season games. Their season came to an end in the first round after falling at Immaculata University. For the second time, junior **Jessica Behr** made the All-CSAC First Team after leading the team in many offensive categories. Sophomore **Alyssa Morales** also made the second team while freshman **Lauren Waller** was an honorable mention. Senior **Marisa Bentley** was named to the All-Sportsmanship Team.



Men's Tennis

GMercyU's quest for a three-peat came up short as the back-to-back defending conference champions fell to Neumann University in the regular season finale in a battle for the final playoff spot for the CSAC Team Championships. Senior **Nick Czibik** and freshman **Adam Chau** earned CSAC honorable mention at singles. Czibik was also named to the CSAC All-Sportsmanship Team.



Men's Track & Field

GMercyU placed fourth overall at the second annual 2017 CSAC Championships where freshman **Joe McCoy** came home as the champion in the long jump, getting a top mark of 6.45 meters. McCoy was also selected to the All-CSAC First Team in the long jump and earned a second-team choice in the triple

jump. McCoy teamed with junior **Sean Cole** and sophomores **Brian Irwin** and **Rashid Marrow** on the third team in the 4x100 relay. Marrow picked up third-team honors in both the 200 and 400 meters, as did sophomore **Patrick Timlin** in the long jump and triple jump. Senior **Matt Forsythe** (decathlon) and freshman **Cullen Murphy** (pole vault) also garnered honors on the third team.

Women's Track & Field

Chante Moore represented GMercyU at the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field Championships in two events, but came up short in both. The team itself placed fourth in the second annual 2017 CSAC Championships. Sophomore **Chyanne Fine** won the discus while placing second in the shot and fourth in the hammer, racking up 23 team points. GMercyU's 4x400 team went on to take second place at the ECAC Division III Championships with a time of 4:10:51. Fine earned a first-team nod in the discus, a second team pick in the shotput and an honorable mention in the hammer. Senior **Nicole Picciolo** was a second-team selection in the javelin and sophomores **Kaitlyn Lutz** (1500 meters) and **Sarah Crane** (heptathlon) were honored on the third team.



WINTER SPRING WRAP-UP



Let Laughter Lower Your Blood Sugar

By: Sarah Neiman '18, Communication

Lipstick. Check. Insulin and glucose tablets. Check. Microphone. Check.

Trisha Porretti '97 always remembers to pack plenty of doses of mercy-infused comedic relief on her many journeys towards inspiring those of all ages with diabetes to follow her humor-filled road towards personal and professional fulfillment.

Flashback to a rainy day in the fall of 1993. Trisha's life took a 180-degree turn when she got into a car accident leaving Gwynedd Mercy University's campus during her first semester of nursing classes. She was already faced with the challenges related to her diagnosis of Type 1 Diabetes and a major accident seemed like a giant roadblock in her path towards helping others embrace diabetes with confidence. A woman of faith, Trisha prayed for a miracle. It wasn't long before her prayers were answered and the roadblocks were removed.

In customary Mercy tradition, two unknown nursing classmates of Trisha's showed up at her house to drive her back to school. Shortly thereafter she became known on campus for her "laughter therapy."

"We would meet in the ladies' room before an exam and I would imitate all of our teachers until we laughed away our test anxiety," Trisha said.

Fast forward 20-plus years and Trisha has taken her nursing career in countless directions and is a guiding light within the diabetic community. Her "laughter therapy" has made it all around the United States and back to where it all began. Her new book *The Sweet Blessing: My Adventure in Diabetes* recently hit the shelves of GMercyU's Keiss Library and Learning Commons.

"Laughter has been proven to be a safe, effective and healthy coping mechanism. Try it," she said.



The eternal optimist, Trisha has inspired, entertained, and educated with her presentation: *Let Laughter Lower Your Blood Sugar* at numerous diabetes conferences and stand-up comedy events throughout the United States.

Trisha earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Gwynedd Mercy University, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1997. Throughout her career, she has spread her contagious optimism as a Registered Nurse, Certified Diabetes Educator, and Insulin Pump Trainer.

"I was a non-traditional student and the only grandmother in my graduating class. GMercyU welcomed me with open arms and transformed me from a bartender to a registered nurse. Gwynedd changed my life, and helped me take my career in directions I never would have imagined," Trisha said.

When Trisha is not infecting the world with laughter, you can find her teaching yoga, conducting tarot card readings, and relaxing with her blind "grand-dog" Elvis, who has recently become certified as a Diabetes Alert Dog. Trisha is looking forward to the morning when she can write in her gratitude journal that she is thankful for "Type NONE Diabetes." 🌟

Sarah Neiman '18 is a GMercyU Communication student. Sarah is spending her summer interning for the Mayor's Office of Philadelphia in the Department of Human Services Department.

GMercyU's Own **GOLDEN GIRL**



By: Alyssa Onisick

The Sisters of Mercy have been part of Sister Kati McMahon's life since she was a child, but she didn't initially intend to profess her vows. In fact, she planned to become a teacher, marry a rich man, and live on a horse farm in Kentucky.

But, as the oldest of six children in a family with limited means, she knew that in order to achieve the first step of her future plans, she would have to earn a scholarship to help pay for college. And she did: the Archdiocesan Teaching Scholarship, which required her to teach in Archdiocesan elementary schools alongside the Sisters of Mercy while attending classes at night.

While teaching elementary school, coaching CYO sports, working a part-time job, and attending night school, Sister Kati started thinking about a different future: a life as a Sister of Mercy.

"I worked with these wonderful women and they were happy; they were kind. But I think it was their joy more than anything else that was so attractive," she said.

"I fell in love with it and I thought, 'this is how I want to live. This is what I want to do'."

And so she began the process of professing her vows and became a Sister of Mercy in 1967. This year, she celebrates her Golden Jubilee.

Sister Kati received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from what was then Gwynedd-Mercy College, before going on to earn her master's in counseling and human relations from Villanova University in 1979.



She worked for some time as a teacher and then a guidance

counselor at Archdiocesan elementary schools and in 1982 was called to a meeting at the Motherhouse. There, she was asked to accept the position of Director of Counseling Services at GMercyU.

"To say I was shocked and felt unprepared and inadequate and terrified does not come close to what I was feeling. However, it was not asked lightly and after considerable prayer and thinking and discernment, I said yes," Sister Kati said.

She served in that role for 14 years, before being appointed Associate Vice President for Student Services in 1997 and Vice President two years later. President Kathleen Owens, PhD, asked Sister Kati to serve as Special Assistant to the President for Mission and Planning in 2003, and she was named Vice President for Mission and Ministry in 2016. She was one of the key administrators responsible for shepherding the application for University status through the Pennsylvania Department of Education in 2013.

Beginning July 10, she'll take on an additional role yet again: Interim Vice President for Student Services, where she will assist with the presidential transition and work alongside newly appointed President Deanne Horner D'Emilio, JD. ☪

Dear Alumni,

On behalf of the Alumni Association, I would like to congratulate and welcome the Class of 2017! The 68th Commencement Exercise was a wet one, but that didn't dampen the smiles of our graduates walking across the stage. With almost 800 new graduates, the Alumni Association boasts a strong network of more than 20,000 Griffin alumni, most of whom live locally.

If you are looking to connect with graduates in your area, the Alumni Office hosts events in the Philadelphia region, as well as nationally, and we invite you to come out and join us. In mid-June we hosted a Phillies alumni event at Citizens Bank Park. Next up is a trip "down the shore" to Keenan's in North Wildwood in July, a service event in late August, and much, much more starting in September!

Mark your calendar and consider coming back for Homecoming on September 29 & 30. This year's homecoming activities include fall festival, a tailgate, the alumni reception, athletic games, and an inaugural flag football tournament featuring alumni vs. students. Sign up for the tournament as a team or an individual and let's show our Griffin students what grit Griffin alumni possess.

We're always open for ideas for future programming or regional events, so please contact us to share your thoughts.

If you find yourself in the area, please stop in to say hello. It would be my pleasure to give you a tour of our beautiful and growing campus.

Have a great summer, Griffins, and I hope to see you at one of the events soon!

Kind Regards,

Gianna Quinn, Director of Alumni Relations
215-641-5554, quinn.g@gmercyu.edu
www.gmercyu.edu



Don't forget to "Like" the GMercyU Alumni Facebook Page!



Griffins spent the night "Painting with a Twist" on Saturday, April 8.



GMercyU Alumni and President Kathleen Owens, PhD, hit the road and met with alums living in Naples, Fla. and Tampa, Fla.



Upcoming Alumni Events:

- July 15 **GMercyU Down the Shore, Keenan's North Wildwood, 3-7 p.m.**
- August 25 **Day of Service, Volunteer Events 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.**
- Sept 29-30 **Homecoming Weekend**
- October 22 **25th & 50th Reunion Celebration, Classes of 1992 & 1967**

Contact Gianna Quinn in the Alumni Relations Office at quinn.g@gmercyu.edu or 215-641-5554 for more information or to register.

Check the alumni website for additional details and for online registration: gmercyu.edu/gmercyu-alumni

Connect with GMercyU Alumni Online

-  /Gwynedd Mercy University Alumni
-  @GMercyU
-  Group: Gwynedd-Mercy University Alumni

Engagements and Marriages

Class NOTES

1973

Roberta Ann Matsyik-Marziani, of Willow Grove, Pa., is a volunteer grandparent with Head Start Program in the Abington School District.

1989

Susan Smith, of Doylestown, Pa., was named a Top Attorney by *Suburban Life Magazine*.



2003

Alphonso Evans, of Drexel Hill, Pa., is the CEO of Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School and recently published a children's book on mentoring.

2007

Michael Brandt, of Philadelphia, Pa., has worked for the Federal Emergency Management Agency for nine years and was recently promoted to a management position.

2012

Matthew Frei, of Havertown, Pa., is an Emergency Department Nurse at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center and was recently accepted into the Frank J. Tornetta Nurse Anesthesia program at La Salle University.

2014

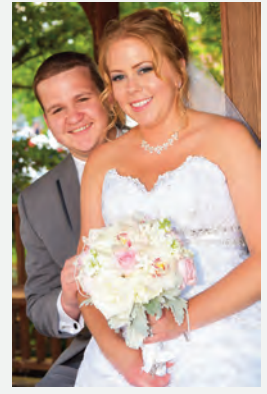
Christopher McAndrew, of Lansdale, Pa., will complete his master's in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner at Georgetown University in August 2017. He has accepted a position upon graduation at St. Luke's Hospital in Quakertown, Pa., as a Hospitalist Nurse Practitioner. He is also an adjunct professor in GMercyU's ABSN program.



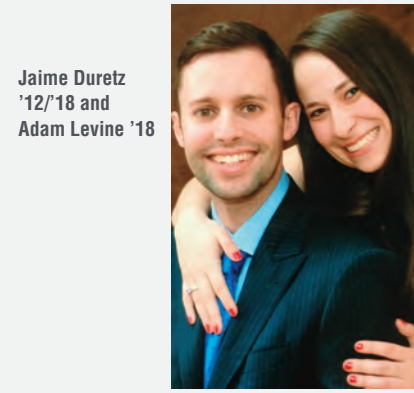
Angela D'Alessandro '07 and John Feather

Angela D'Alessandro '07, of Phoenixville, Pa., married John Feather on May 20, 2017. The couple met while singing with the Voices of Gwynedd.

Michelle Gould '08/'10 and Jim Prieto



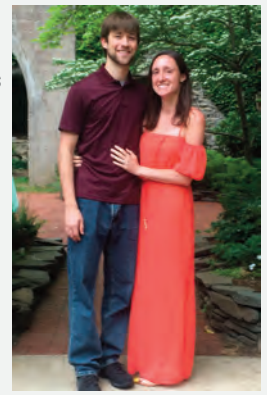
Michelle Gould '08/'10, of Hatboro, Pa., married Jim Prieto on June 18, 2016.



Jaime Duretz '12/'18 and Adam Levine '18

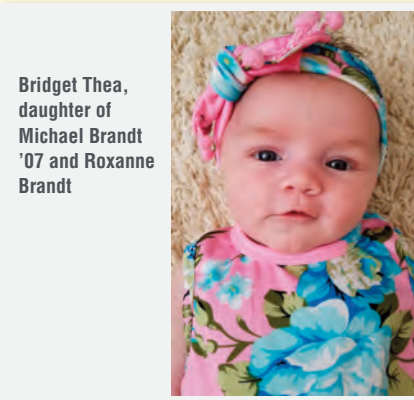
Jaime Duretz '12/'18, of Hatboro, Pa., is engaged to marry **Adam Levine '18**, of Huntingdon Valley, Pa.

Katherine Klinges '10/'12 and Kevin Bates '14



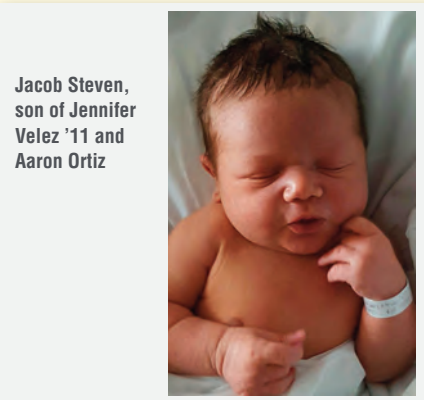
Katherine Klinges '10/'12, of Philadelphia, Pa., is engaged to marry **Kevin Bates '14**, of Philadelphia, Pa., on May 19, 2018.

Griffin Babies



Bridget Thea, daughter of Michael Brandt '07 and Roxanne Brandt

Michael Brandt '07 and Roxanne Brandt, of Philadelphia, Pa, welcomed baby girl Bridget Thea Brandt on March 2, 2017.



Jacob Steven, son of Jennifer Velez '11 and Aaron Ortiz

Jennifer Velez '11 and Aaron Ortiz, of Staten Island, N.Y., welcomed baby boy Jacob Steven Ortiz on January 4, 2017.

GMercyU at the Shore

Beat the heat this summer and join alumni and friends of GMercyU "down the shore."

JULY 15, 2017
3-7 P.M.



Keenan's North Wildwood
113 Olde New Jersey Avenue
North Wildwood, NJ 08260



Tickets are \$20 per person and include cover, music and drink specials.

All guests must be 21 years of age or older.

Register online at <https://commerce.cashnet.com/gmciapay?cname=se>

Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@gmercyu.edu or 215-641-5554 for more information.

Gwynedd Mercy University

Invites graduates from the Classes of 1992 & 1967

to attend their 25 & 50 Reunions
October 22, 2017

11:30 a.m. Mass

12:30 p.m. Welcome, Luncheon and Campus Tours

Gwynedd Mercy University
1325 Sumneytown Pike, Gwynedd Valley, Pa.

Please RSVP by October 13th to reserve your seat
215-641-5554 or alumni@gmercyu.edu

In Memoriam

**December 19, 1937 -
May 7, 2017**



Mary Lawn '94/'97

exemplified the mission and values of Gwynedd Mercy University in all she did. She was an unsung hero, working behind the scenes in GMercyU's Admissions Office for more than two decades.

In 2010, Mary was honored with the Tender Courage Award, which highlights a member of the GMercyU Community whose accomplishments exemplify the ideals of Mercy. Whether it was welcoming prospective students to campus, guiding a new colleague or proofreading an Admissions letter, Mary was always willing to help. As a lifelong learner, she earned degrees from GMercyU in 1994 and 1997.

A devoted wife, mother of 11 children, several of whom are GMercyU alumni, and grandmother to 37 grandchildren and three great grandchildren, she has been called "a humble woman of grace and grit who has faced life's challenges and travails with equanimity and a soul-full humanity."

Outside of GMercyU, Mary was a dedicated volunteer, especially with her church St. Rose of Lima where she was a member of various prayer groups and served as a Eucharistic minister.

"When Mary informed me that she would be retiring, I was shocked. We had had significant office turnover and she provided me with support and stability," Director of Undergraduate Admissions Michele Diehl said. "She is and always will be part of our family."

Anna M. Rhoads '04, of Pottstown, Pa., passed away on May 4, 2017.

Kathleen Wollman Durham '68, of Media, Pa., passed away on May 6, 2017.

Donna Begley Gilman '76, of Blue Bell, Pa., passed away on May 10, 2017.

Nina Philipp '00, of Feasterville, Pa., passed away on May 16, 2017.



Frank O. Genuardi Legends Fields

Campaign for Baseball and Softball Complex

Dear Fellow Griffin,

Gwynedd Mercy University has a long and successful baseball and softball tradition that includes four Conference Championships and five NCAA Tournaments. As we celebrate this history, we also recognize the need for essential upgrades that will complete our vision for the future. Seeking to create first-class facilities on par with Division III rivals, a fields renovation campaign was established. This exciting project will dramatically transform our baseball and softball fields to address important safety concerns for players and fans, promote skill development, allow for more focused practices and games, and help to recruit and retain top student athletes.

Our top priorities for the baseball and softball fields include the following:

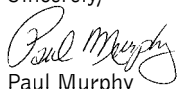
- Dugouts for home and visitor teams
- Bleacher seating and press box
- Fencing system
- Batting cages
- Scoreboard and backstops
- Protective Netting

The Legends Fields project was kicked off with a \$1 million gift from the Frank O. Genuardi Foundation. Frank was a beloved community leader, philanthropist, trustee and Fantasy Camp hall of famer.

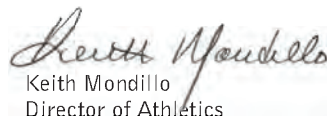
The public fundraising phase begins now with a goal of \$1.1 million remaining toward reaching our goal of \$2.2 million. You can play a historic role in making the completion of Legends Fields a reality by supporting the project today. Please review the opportunities and consider an option that works best for you.

We hope you will join us in funding this worthy endeavor. Your gift will boost the spirit of our sport team members, increase attendance and enthusiasm at games, enhance the professionalism and beauty of our facilities and campus... in essence give our team a true home field advantage!

Sincerely,


Paul Murphy

Head Baseball Coach
Associate Director of Athletics


Keith Mondillo
Director of Athletics

We are half way to our goal of \$2.2 million!

Naming Opportunities

Grand Slam Level, \$1,000,000

- Complex Naming Rights
(Gift of the Frank O. Genuardi Foundation)

Home Run Level, \$100,000

- Baseball Bleachers
- Complex Fencing System
- Home Baseball Dugout
(Gift of Phillip and Barbara Albright)
- Visitors Baseball Dugout
- Home Softball Dugout
- Visitors Softball Dugout

Triple Level, \$50,000

- Softball Bleachers
- Baseball Press Box
- Softball Press Box

Double Level, \$25,000

- Batting Cages

Single Level, \$10,000

- Scoreboard
- Baseball Backstop
- Softball Backstop

Giving Clubs

- First Pitch Club, \$1,000
- Stolen Base Club, \$500
- Bunt Club, \$250
- On Deck Club, \$100

Give online: gmercyu.edu/baseball-softball (Select the Make a Gift button)

Questions? Gerald McLaughlin, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, 215-641-5550



Gwynedd Mercy University

1325 Sumneytown Pike,
P.O. Box 901
Gwynedd Valley, PA 19437

Office of Institutional
Advancement



GWYNEDD MERCY UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING

RED & GOLD
WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER 2017
29-30



**PLAN TO COME BACK
AND CELEBRATE!**

- **Bump Ball and BBQ**
- **Alumni vs. Student Flag Football (teams and individuals welcome)**
- **Women's Volleyball Tournament**
- **Women's Field Hockey Game**
- **Fall Festival**
- **Residence Life Alumni Reunion**
- **Alumni Tailgate**
- **Alumni Reception**

Check the alumni webpage and follow us on social media for more details as they become available.

Office of Alumni Relations 215-641-5554 or alumni@gmercyu.edu



Gwynedd Mercy University

gmercyu.edu