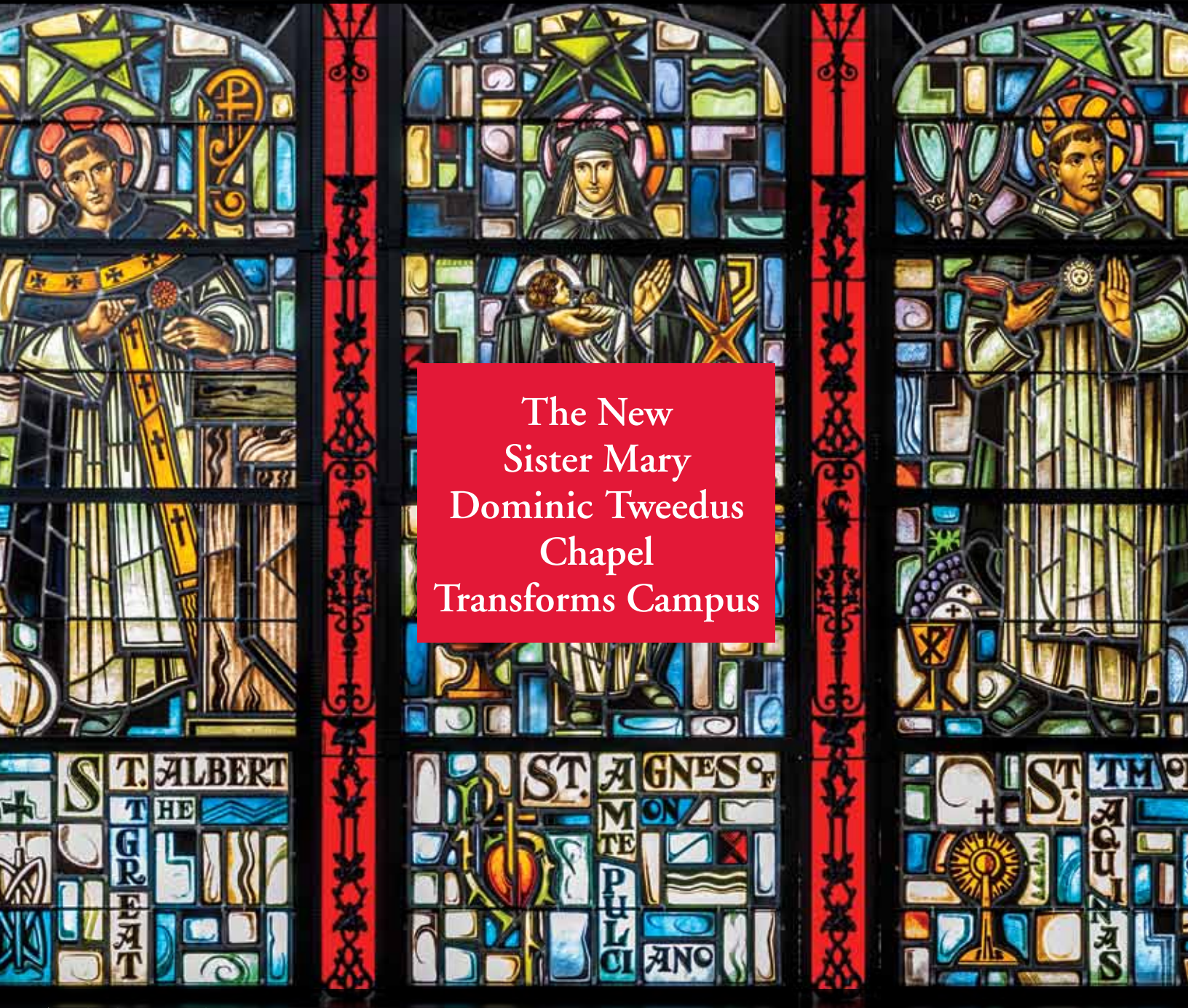


CALDWELL

UNIVERSITY

MAGAZINE



The New
Sister Mary
Dominic Tweedus
Chapel
Transforms Campus

ALSO INSIDE:

THANK YOU,
PRESIDENT BLATTNER

U.S. NEWS & WORLD
REPORT – JERSEY'S BEST
VALUE SCHOOL

INAUGURAL
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CALDWELL UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE
WINTER/SPRING 2020

Caldwell University Magazine is produced for alumni and friends twice each year by the News and Media Relations Office at Caldwell University. Its goal is to provide news and information about Caldwell University's students, faculty, staff, alumni, and administration. We welcome your comments and suggestions! Please email us at cumagazine@caldwell.edu.

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Chapel liturgical designer Meg Poltonak Keyes with her former art professors Sister Gerardine Mueller, O.P. and Joanne Ryan.



Newly Renovated Fitness Center



"Teaching Is a Calling"

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*Thank You,
 President Blattner*

Dear Colleagues, Alumni and Friends,

The 2019-2020 academic year began with a momentous occasion in the life of Caldwell University: the dedication of the Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel on September 20. This blessing Mass highlighted our Catholic identity and Dominican heritage as we positioned this sacred space in the heart of our campus. The chapel, designed and created by Meg Poltorak Keyes, a '75 alum, combines many features of the chapel in Mother Joseph, including the stained glass windows and the stations of the cross as well as the crucifix and statues of the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph. I hope when you are next on campus, you will visit this beautiful addition to the Newman Center.

In this issue of the Caldwell University magazine, you will be introduced to two hard-working faculty members, Tina Sidener and Darryl Aucoin, who enjoy engaging with our students and conducting research. You'll learn a bit about our first esports season, the expansion of our fitness center, our students' commitment to assist in the Bahamas relief effort after Hurricane Dorian, and the new CU banners hanging in downtown Caldwell that welcomed those returning for the fall semester. As you can see, there is a lot happening on and around campus! This issue also features three donor profiles of two individuals and a business partner that have chosen to support Caldwell University in its mission to educate our deserving, sometimes socio-economically challenged, students. We are grateful for the many ways all of our supporters positively impact the lives of our students and the campus community as a whole.

Even though this magazine will arrive a few months before my departure from Caldwell in June, I want to take this occasion to share a few personal reflections with our readers although words can never fully express the scope of my experiences or the range of emotions I have felt as the president of Caldwell. My husband Tim and I will never forget that snowy morning in February 2009 when we arrived on the campus for the first time for an intense two days of interviews. Almost from our first sight of the campus and our introduction to the warm community that comprised Caldwell, our hearts were captured by the people, by the mission and by the student-centered focus so evident in everything that we encountered.



During the past decade of triumphs and challenges, the focal point for me has always been Mother Joseph Dunn's vision of serving a marginalized population of students and providing them an academically excellent education within a faith-filled environment. Everywhere I look, I see the signs that our founder's vision is alive and well on the university campus. From the beautiful new Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel to the ABA Center, nursing labs and classrooms and Art Therapy Center, I see the lived reminders of our Catholic identity and Dominican heritage as well as our commitment to educating our students so that they will go out into the world and contribute to a just society. The Hall of Flags and the Eileen Jones Multicultural Center remind all of the diversity present on campus, a diversity that we embrace and cherish as students are prepared to become global citizens. The expansion of our fitness center and the creation of our new esports arena emphasize the place of co-curricular activities among our students and our mission to educate the whole student.

Most of all, however, at the heart of Caldwell University are its people—the faculty who work tirelessly to teach and mentor, the staff who provide support services and encouragement, and the students who come to campus full of hope and dreams as yet unfulfilled. The greatest gift during my time at Caldwell has been to assist in small ways our students as they achieve their undergraduate and graduate degrees from the university and then to watch them go out and, in the words of St. Catherine of Siena, set the world on fire! Thank you for helping to make all of this possible.

As I make preparations for my departure and then leave the university after the academic year concludes, I will hold Caldwell University and its people in my prayers.

Gratefully,

Nancy H. Blattner, Ph.D., OPA
President





Dr. Blattner, front row, fourth from left, with members of the Caldwell University Board of Trustees, cabinet and the academic processional party at Commencement 2019.

President Blattner,

We offer our sincere gratitude to you for your dedication, vision and leadership of Caldwell University. You have touched many lives and your legacy and impact will continue to be felt long into our university's future. You have embodied the best examples of faithful stewardship, hard work, and commitment. Your daily presence on campus and in the lives of our students has contributed to a thriving campus. You will be missed and forever remembered. It is with great appreciation that we wish you the best as you enter the next phase of your career and faith journey. May God bless you.

Sincerely,

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*O Lord, I love the
house in which you
dwell, the tenting
place of your glory.*

— Psalm 25:8



Altar server Michael Angelos and Msgr. Robert Emery, celebrant for the Mass.

New University Chapel Is Located at the Heart of Campus

Senior Brooke McPherson loves having the opportunity to go to Mass on Sunday nights on campus in a new chapel. “There’s something so special about joining in communion with the members of the Caldwell community.” She is grateful that the chapel, “a beautiful space that I simply can’t keep away from,” was built in time for her last year of college. Freshman Maria Rosario likes attending Mass in the chapel with family members when they drive her back to the university from home some Sunday nights. “It’s nice. I can show them the campus more.”

McPherson and Rosario attended the historic dedication and blessing Mass for the Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel on Sept. 20. The campus community, alumni, benefactors and other guests gathered to thank God for the house of worship. McPherson was honored to serve

as a eucharistic minister, “a memory I will forever cherish.”

President Nancy Blattner said the chapel, located in the Newman Center, is “at the heart of the campus,” providing more access to sacred space in a heavily traveled area and serving as a daily reminder of Caldwell’s Catholic and Dominican heritage. Blattner pointed out that the site overlooks the cemetery of the Sisters of Saint Dominic, the founders of Caldwell University, the burial place of Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus, O.P., the aunt of Elaine Tweedus, the new chapel’s lead benefactor.

The celebrant for the Mass was Msgr. Robert Emery, pastor of St. Aloysius parish in Caldwell, New Jersey, and episcopal vicar for Essex County. “This chapel leads us to God,” Emery said. “It opens our minds to his truth and our hearts to

his goodness. Above all, it speaks of his longing to dwell in our souls—if only we would come here and put ourselves in his presence.”

The doors of “this chapel will lead many people to Christ,” said Emery.

Concelebrating were Father Albert Berner and Father Thomas Orians, S.A., who had served as chaplains at the university, and Father Thomas Dente, pastor of Notre Dame parish in North Caldwell, New Jersey.

Anthony Del Debbio and Michael Angelos were altar servers. Maria Lesniewski ’20 brought up the flowers for the preparation of the altar. The university’s chorale, led by Music Department faculty member Dr. Laura Greenwald, provided the music.

Jennifer Montejo, a junior and a member of the chorale, was excited about the





President Blattner speaks after the chapel dedication and blessing Mass.

new chapel and about having a “loving space to be able to worship God freely.” Recalling that Msgr. Emery had said many people would come to Christ through the chapel doors, Montejo said, “I believe that.” Claudia Dul, a freshman and also a member of the chorale, was impressed to see all the alumni who returned for the dedication and were able to experience “a new part of the university.”

The old chapel was decommissioned in 2018; it was not ADA accessible, had no air conditioning, little parking and was out of view. In designing the new chapel, careful consideration was given to preserving many of the distinctive features of the old chapel “so that there remains an unbroken bond between Caldwell’s past and its present, between its founding and its future,” said Blattner. “We are surrounded by the exquisite original stained glass windows and Stations of the Cross. The tabernacle and the main altar were constructed using materials from the high altar in the former chapel.”

Sister Mary John Kearney, O.P. ’62, professor emerita of education, said the dedication was inspiring and poignant. “As I prayed with so many who work and minister here—our current students and all who call Caldwell University their alma mater—I was made aware of how blessed we are to come together in this new chapel in the center of the campus. Dr. Blattner’s reflection touched me deeply as she spoke to the past, the present and the future of this chapel in the lives of all who have and will find this sacred place a respite.”

The Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel was made possible by a gift from alumna Elaine Tweedus and her late husband, Ed Lonyai, in honor of their beloved “Aunt Mary,” who taught in Catholic grammar schools in New Jersey and cared for the elderly Sisters. Elaine, her brother Rob and his wife, Linda, attended the Mass. Elaine said she wants the chapel to be used “for meditation, for prayer” and for people to “come and find peace here.”

Donors including alumni, have seen the chapel as a living memorial to loved ones, sponsoring the crucifix, chairs, ambo, sacristy and entryway and fulfilling many other needs with their generosity. “Your name and the names of the loved ones you may have chosen to honor through one of these gifts will live forever in this special place of prayer and faith,” said Blattner.

Blattner often stops into the chapel on her way to work in the morning. She hopes members of the campus community as well as vendors, visiting athletic teams, board members and neighbors know they can stop in to “find a moment of quiet where they can pray and reflect.”



Chapel donor wall unveiled. L to R: Kevin Boyle, vice president for development and alumni affairs; Laurita Warner ’70, chair, Caldwell Board of Trustees; Elaine Tweedus ’66, lead chapel donor, and President Blattner unveil the wall with the names of the benefactors.

In the months since the dedication, in addition to Sunday evening Masses, alumni have attended Masses for feasts and celebrations such as All Saints’ Day and a Mass of Thanksgiving; the university held overnight adoration, participating in the Archdiocese of Newark Rosary Congress.

During her years at Caldwell, Blattner has remodeled numerous buildings and restructured space to make it more efficient. The chapel, however, is something quite different, something she hopes will provide current and future members of the campus community with a lasting connection to the university and to their faith and most of all will glorify God. “It is the heart of our mission; it’s our faith.” ■

—CL



Liturgical Designer for New Chapel Is Caldwell's First Fine Arts Graduate

Meg Poltorak Keyes '75 was on campus for a meeting when she heard that President Nancy Blattner wanted to have a chapel built in the Newman Center. Poltorak Keyes walked over to the space and stood gazing through the glass window. Driving home, she envisioned what she would do to create a chapel, "Because I could see it in my head and usually that is my gift. That is what God gives me. I see it finished and I have to work backward for the details." Poltorak Keyes did not know she would be selected as the liturgical designer, but when she was told that she would lead the construction, she was aware of the gift she was given at such a historic moment for her beloved alma mater.

With Blattner's vision and Poltorak Keyes leading what she described as a "great team of tradesmen and craftsmen," the Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel came to fruition in the fall. It is a house of worship that marries 900 years of the Dominican tradition with the contemporary, a space that appeals to the contemplative. Blattner sees the chapel, centrally located in a campus hub, as a crossroad. "It incorporates the legacy of the past and then also takes us to the future," she said. Overlooking the cemetery where many of the Sisters of St. Dominic are buried, including Sister Mary Dominic, the chapel is a "nod to the past," said Blattner. At the same time, because it is off the Newman Center Plaza where students come and go throughout the day, "It is a clear indication that we are looking forward."

Poltorak Keyes was the first student to receive a bachelor's degree in fine arts from what was then Caldwell College for Women, and she has been renovating and restoring churches for two decades.

Among her accomplishments, she did the floral design work at Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield, New Jersey, and at the Cathedral of St. Francis in Metuchen, New Jersey, for the ordination and installation of the fifth bishop of the Metuchen Diocese, Bishop James Checchio.

After the old chapel in Mother Joseph Residence Hall was decommissioned, Blattner was determined to preserve as much of its history as possible. Poltorak Keyes's artistic and design expertise "helped turn our vision into a reality far more beautiful than we could have imagined," Blattner said. The new chapel combines natural elements of glass, wood and stone, which was quarried in the United States, with older elements including artwork by the late Sister Julia Marie Moore, O.P. Great care was taken to repurpose materials. The Italian marble from the original altar was cut down to an appropriate size but "still preserves the beauty of the original," Blattner said. The remaining marble was used for the altar top.

Entering the Newman Center, one is greeted by the magnificent original stained glass of six Dominican saints that was created by Sister Julia. The pieces are no longer windows but artwork that shines brilliantly with backlights. Sister Julia also designed the wood medallion of the Holy Family that is over the new entry doors.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Blessed Mother stained glass and the statues of St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother, as well as the Stations of the Cross, have all been incorporated into the new space. American-made products were used for most of the new construction except for the floor tile, which is from Italy and has the same pattern as the one used in Winchester Cathedral in England.

Sister Gerardine Mueller, O.P. '54, professor emerita of art and founder of the Department of Art at Caldwell, shared her artistic gifts. "Sister did the design of the entry doors, and she wanted me to finish it, like all good apprentices finish it for their masters," said Poltorak Keyes. Sister Gerardine's lettering has always been



Liturgical designer Meg Poltorak Keyes (center) with the primary contractors who were involved with the interior and exterior construction and finish work of the chapel.

"spectacular," so she did the numerals for the Stations of the Cross, completing the tracing "overnight," Poltarek Keyes said. The processional cross created by Sister Gerardine years ago is now permanently located in the new chapel.

Poltorak Keyes's roots in construction and design are deep; her father taught his children how to "make, fix and repair" anything. Her sister, Anne Poltorak '78, an alumna, is in the quarry business, and her brother is in construction. That background combined with the education she received at Caldwell makes for a talent focused on producing the good, true and beautiful. The Sisters of St. Dominic, "a big presence," and her empowering professors gave her the foundation to work in "a man's world" and to believe she could "spin many plates at one time," said Poltorak Keyes.

Her faith foundation underpins her passion for creating liturgical spaces. Poltorak Keyes has memories of sitting in the Mother Joseph Chapel as an undergraduate in the '70s, and she wants students today to experience that comfort too—to find the new chapel a "welcoming space in God's holy presence where they can bring their worries, trials and distress and ask for his divine help." She is sure there will be many spiritual blessings "not only for the university but also for the wider community." ■

—CL



U.S. News & World Report Ranks Caldwell Jersey's Best-Value School for Regional Universities

The campus community was excited to learn this past fall that the university was ranked the Best Value school in New Jersey and number 18 overall in the Best Value Schools in the Regional Universities North category, according to U.S. News & World Report's 2020 Best Colleges list. Caldwell moved up seven spots on the Best Value Schools list from the 2019 rankings.

Caldwell University was also noted in the rankings of Regional Universities in the North as a top performer for social mobility, ethnic diversity and most international students. In addition, Caldwell was ranked among the top 75 regional universities in the North.

Stephen Quinn, vice president of enrollment management and communications, said this year's rankings are some of the best for Caldwell



University. "We are thrilled that the U.S. News & World Report shows us as the best value in New Jersey and among the top 20 for best value schools in the Regional Universities North category. We are reaching those milestones by offering a cost-effective, strong academic education with a focus on each individual student's aspirations and goals."

As explained by U.S. News & World Report, the Best Value calculation "takes into account a school's academic quality,

as indicated by its 2020 U.S. News Best Colleges ranking, and the 2017-2018 net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid. The higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better the deal."

This fall Caldwell welcomed its second-largest freshman class in history with students hailing from 13 states and 14 countries and with 67 percent identifying as students of color. ■

Students Benefit from Savvy Professional Advice and Insight



JPMorgan Chase executive Alma DeMetropolis (fifth from left) spoke to students on "10 Lessons in Career Development."

Caldwell students were grateful that they had the chance to get professional advice from JPMorgan Chase executive Alma DeMetropolis when she spoke on campus Oct. 1 on "10 Lessons in Career Development." DeMetropolis, New Jersey market president for JPMorgan Chase & Co. and New Jersey market manager

for J.P. Morgan Private Bank, made the audience of students feel comfortable as was evidenced by the many questions they asked her, said business administration student Amanda Luzniak. "To see a woman hold a position of great

responsibility and power in business really gives other women hope. If she can do it, so can we."

Jose Perez Ramos, who has a double major in financial economics and marketing, said DeMetropolis's vision was very helpful. He appreciated how she said the word "hope" stands for "helping one person every day."

Perez, who interned at Bleakley Financial Group in Fairfield, New Jersey, said DeMetropolis has proved in her business position that "being a good example by helping people, helped her become successful." This is important for people his age to see, he said, since so many people strive only to be rich and "forget to try to make other people's lives better."

DeMetropolis also emphasized the importance of becoming "great at your craft" and that "relationships matter. I really like that," said Perez. Luzniak was happy to hear DeMetropolis stress the importance of making time for family and friends. "Family has always been a major influence in my life, and it was wonderful to hear that she felt the same ... to see someone else valuing family time while still building a successful career is so inspiring to me." ■



FACULTY FEATURE

TINA SIDENER:

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK



Before we start our interview, Professor Tina Sidener wants me to know something. She apologizes with a smile as she explains that we may be interrupted occasionally during our time together. This is because the children attending the Caldwell University Center for Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis will often stop by her office to say hi or to celebrate a hard-earned accomplishment from their visit to the center. The offices for professors are not meant to separate faculty from university students and the children at the center. In fact, they are the complete opposite.

Sidener, the chair of the Department of Applied Behavior Analysis, works hard to create an atmosphere that encourages interaction and care for everyone. She is passionate about creating a balance between the work to be done and the kindness that should accompany it. The ideas of integrity, excellence and compassion come up again and again during our discussion. After all, those are the qualities that attracted Sidener to Caldwell University in the first place.

In 2006, Sidener had just completed a predoctoral internship at Kennedy Krieger Institute, a part of Johns Hopkins University, when she saw an advertisement for a position with the Caldwell University applied behavior analysis team.

"I had been thinking I wanted to be a professor, but I knew I was going to be really picky about where," Sidener says. "I wanted to work somewhere where people were genuinely interested in helping students learn how to be excellent teachers and behavior analysts. I knew that was going to have to be a really special place."

Sidener credits Professors Sharon Reeve and Ken Reeve with creating an atmosphere that she was excited to enter. As she met them and worked her way through the interview process, she became more and more certain that she wanted to be a part of what they were doing. At the time, she was joining a department, not a full-fledged center, but the passion of the staff was the same.

"These are people who have a good heart," Sidener says. "They're committed

to science and they're committed to excellence in what they do, but they're also committed to things like teaching our students to be compassionate: to have relationships with the families they work with and to have integrity."

In fact, the more Sidener looked around, the more she saw that this was an overarching theme at Caldwell. She realized that integrity and an attitude of service were woven into the fabric of the school. She joined the team and now spends her time in the ABA department ensuring that those core values are carried forward. Her influence is evident the minute you speak with one of her students.

"Professor Sidener is a kind and positive person," says Dr. Heather Pane, a recent doctoral program alum. Those qualities "helped me navigate the challenges of being a doctoral student," she says.

This approach has been a great success. Caldwell University students have found careers as professors while others work in hospitals. Some have started their own businesses, and others work in public and private schools or nonprofits with children with autism spectrum disorder.

"I hear that people are looking for Caldwell students," Sidener says with a proud smile. "You're from Caldwell? You're hired."

Creating an atmosphere that fostered compassion as well as that kind of success for graduate students was at the forefront of Sidener and Professor Sharon Reeve's minds when they set out to create the center in 2010. The two visited well-known autism centers around the country. They asked themselves what they wanted the Caldwell center to be like and carefully designed it to ensure they could provide high-quality research at the same time they offered excellent clinical services.

Today, those goals have been realized. Ten years after the center opened, Sidener is in her second year of chairing the department.





The center is such a collaborative effort that it is almost impossible to get Sidener to highlight her achievements within it. But the evidence of her passion is visible everywhere.

“What I enjoy the most about being the chair is trying to be creative and innovative and looking at how we can meet the needs of our prospective students as those needs are changing over time,” Sidener says.

Need is a huge theme in the applied behavior analysis field. The need for people equipped with ABA certification, especially in New Jersey, is staggering. One in 59 children in the United States has autism spectrum disorder, and in New Jersey that number is one in 34. Because of this, the demand for behavior analysts increased by 800% from 2010 to 2017. To be working in a field where the need has skyrocketed in such a way presents unique challenges as well as opportunities.

“This is really unusual for a field to grow this quickly,” Sidener says. That explosive growth has come with changes in technology and with financial concerns for students. There is a constant effort to ensure the center is providing a high standard of training while making education affordable for students. That calls for flexibility and a vision for the future.

The challenge of innovation excites Sidener. She is waiting for confirmation that the master’s program has received reaccreditation. At the same time, members of the team are seeking first-time accreditation for the Ph.D. program. They are also working to establish a diversity and equity committee in the department. Increasing diversity in the department and in the field overall is a huge goal.

The department is planning to offer a certificate in business administration. This additional offering will provide valuable tools to applied behavior analyst graduates who want to run their own businesses.

Other goals include offering a minor in ABA. Students would take five classes plus four credits of practicum, qualifying to become assistant applied behavior analysts.

Encouraging progress is a big part of Sidener’s role. But that’s not all she is thinking about. All of the professors in the department, including Drs. Ruth DeBar, Meghan Deshais, Ken Reeve, Sharon Reeve and Jason Vladescu, have areas of research in which they specialize. Two of Sidener’s focuses are teaching kids with autism spectrum disorder to speak and to learn new skills through self-motivation. These personal goals spill over into the work of the center as children and students benefit from discoveries in real time.

“We’re all working individually, and yet we all have a common goal,” Sidener says.

Her drive and her goal-oriented attitude have had a clear effect on her students.

Her doctoral student Leslie Quiroz was awarded a \$10,000 Sidney S. & Janet R. Bijou grant from the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis. Another doctoral student, Priya Patil, won two awards for her thesis on teaching children with ASD to ask “why”—a Verbal Behavior Special Interest Group Award from the Association for Behavior

Analysis International in its student paper competition and the B.F. Skinner Foundation Student Research Award from the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy.

“Professor Sidener is a true professional,” Pane says. “She is an excellent model for all the students in the ABA department. She challenges her students to think critically and to solve problems while providing guidance.”

The victories in the center are tangible, and Sidener doesn’t have to think long to come up with a recent favorite. She recounts how one of the children at the center had a severe problem behavior. Her parents wanted to throw her a big birthday party. Two graduate students set to work to prepare her for the big event and even attended the party. The night was a huge success. The child was happy and dancing, and her parents were thrilled.

“That’s why we do what we do—to make those kinds of changes and make those things happen, to support the families that we work with. That’s the huge reward for us,” Sidener says.

“We’re all working individually, and yet we all have a common goal.”

Back when Sidener was traveling with Professor Sharon Reeve to autism centers and dreaming up their own version for Caldwell, they had a simple question: “What do we want this to be?”

The answer was clear.

“We want this to be a place where kids are having fun, teachers are having fun and people are laughing. It’s a place where everybody wants to be.”

I walk by a child exchanging a secret handshake with a graduate student. They’re both beaming. On my tour of the facility, Sidener stops to ask one of the kids how his time at the center went today. She waits patiently while he navigates the intricacies of communicating the day’s success. Everywhere I turn, I see smiles and hear cheerful conversation. Excellence lives in these walls, and professors and students are working hard and innovatively. It is clear that Sidener’s earliest goals have been achieved. This is a place of compassion. Just as she envisioned, it is a place where everybody wants to be. ■

—Nicole M. Burrell ’09



FACULTY FEATURE

DARRYL AUCOIN:

A SCIENCE PROFESSOR'S FORMULA FOR SUCCESS:
TEAMWORK, HUMOR AND THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Professor Darryl Aucoin was describing the odd shape of a molecule to his chemistry students. “Did you ever have your umbrella flip inside out?” he asked. “It kind of looks like that.”

To explain how atoms and electrons relate, he showed his students a cartoon with a “great Snidley-Whiplash-looking chlorine atom” (referring to an old TV villain) that was “practically stealing an electron from a poor hydrogen, who is very distressed looking,” said Aucoin, assistant professor in the Department of Natural Sciences.

Aucoin uses analogies to insert humor into the classroom when he is teaching a complicated subject. Most times his creative gymnastics come on the spur of the moment. “I often find that I come up with them in the middle of the lecture ... and I can’t remember them later when I try to write them down,” he said. The comparisons relieve tension in the

classroom—“slow me down a bit so the students can catch up.” He might have to explain the concept two or three different ways, but when he finds an analogy that “clicks,” it makes teaching “really fun.” Then students start to understand the more abstract ideas, which makes all the mental exercises worthwhile.

Prithy Adhikary, a senior, has had Aucoin all four years at Caldwell, in classes and labs and as a freshman advisor. She appreciates his humor. “He reminds me of Walter White,” said Adhikary, referring to a chemistry teacher in the TV series “Breaking Bad.” More important, she said, he is the type of professor students can see about day-to-day academic problems, and “there will always be a solution.”

For Aucoin, connecting with students is a benefit of teaching at a smaller university like Caldwell. In his “Principles of Chemistry” course for nursing students

or in his labs for the general chemistry course or the biochemistry class for junior- and senior-level science students, the atmosphere at Caldwell opens up a world of science that is focused not only on knowledge but also on “wisdom”—hence Caldwell’s motto of *Sapientia et Scientia*, Wisdom and Knowledge. “Knowledge is what you know, and wisdom is how you use it, or your application of the knowledge. And they are both important,” said Aucoin. That is why “you teach classes, but you also show students the practical in the labs.”

Biology major Sudeep Khadka has two labs with Aucoin and appreciates that he is open to students’ ideas. “He always says ‘yes’” to trying projects, said Khadka.

Aucoin and his colleagues in the Department of Natural Sciences encourage student-led research. They have been integrally involved in planning the university’s annual Research and Creative Arts Day and in helping students prepare for the Independent College Fund of New Jersey’s annual Research Symposium at which their work is showcased for statewide business and community leaders.

Aucoin sees how research provides many benefits for students beyond the science; they learn professional skills like adaption, trouble-shooting, “coming up with new solutions, not getting too frustrated, problem-solving” and especially teamwork. “All of my lab courses have students working in pairs,” he said. Students learn how to collaborate. They divide responsibilities, assist each other with data collection and bond and get to know each other better. This “lets them make a friend in the department,” which he points out is especially good for his freshmen.

Aucoin remembers what it was like when he was young and discovering the world





of science research in Greenville and Smithfield, Rhode Island. His chemistry and physics teachers at Smithfield High School challenged and encouraged him to pursue science studies in college. Then his freshman chemistry teacher at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, sparked his interest in becoming a university professor. “He also wore a suit every single day, which is where I got that from,” said Aucoin.

He majored in chemistry and biochemistry at Clark and had multiple opportunities to engage in research. “I want to make sure we give that opportunity to our

students.” He went on to graduate school at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, earning a Ph.D. in structural biology; he did his postdoctoral work at Ohio State University where he focused on nuclear magnetic resonance research, examining the proteins associated with diseases like Alzheimer’s and diabetes. Working with another professor, he learned the ropes of teaching by helping train students, setting up labs and working as a teaching assistant.

Aucoin is aware that many of his 80-plus undergraduate students will enter professions that help others, becoming nurses, doctors, physician assistants or

drug designers, and he hopes he can inspire them to ask questions like “How can we stop certain diseases from progressing as bad as they get? Can we understand those diseases so we can make better drugs to help people?” He believes these are important questions for students to ask themselves, especially at a Catholic Dominican school that is focused on how to serve the common good and to search for and discover truth.

“Knowledge is what you know, and wisdom is how you use it...”

For Aucoin, a whole world of discovery is waiting to be explored. He and his wife, Hilary, enjoy the great outdoors, hiking up mountains—

everywhere from Colorado to New Jersey, where they can find less-traveled places, “nice little ponds or lakes” and ruins like the Van Slyke Castle in Ramapo. An avid photographer, he always packs a camera—“anywhere we go to pick something that has some kind of mountain view or a lake.” He and Hilary, along with Natural Sciences Professor Agnes Berki, have taken university students hiking to show them “the splendor of the fall foliage.” As international students, Khadka and Adhikary are grateful to discover the beauty of nature in New Jersey and to find that professors are generous with their time. “They are like family,” said Adhikary.

Aucoin gives back to the community, volunteering with the middle school and high school Boy Scout troop at St. Aloysius Church in Caldwell, New Jersey. He is happy to be a part of an experienced team that teaches young people how to camp outside in all types of environments, “giving them survival skills and confidence in their abilities,” he said. As a kid, Aucoin camped outside in all weather conditions, even “when it was only 20 degrees ... and I still have my fingers and toes to prove it.”

The skills he learned in scouting—like leadership, character development, citizen training and teamwork—have proved to be a good foundation for many aspects of life including his schooling and professional work. Aucoin especially appreciates the teamwork he sees modeled across campus, and this makes his job worthwhile. “Everyone pays so much attention to their students.”

The members of his department have good camaraderie. “We all get along really well and we help develop ideas together ... and share resources,” he said.

The team has the same primary goal in mind: It is laser-focused on the students—“That they know we really care, that we are there. All in it together.” ■

—CL



Faculty & Staff Notes

Doug Anderson, Ph.D., professor of English, presented on “Masked Crusaders Vs. ‘a Real Story’: Confronting the Refugee Crisis in Chris Cleave’s ‘Little Bee’” at “Pippi to Ripley 5: Feminist and Fantastic Pop Culture” at Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York, last spring.

William Barnhart, Ph.D., professor of history, had his article “God’s Battle: The Civil War Sermons of Francis Zabriske, 1861–63” published in *Greene County History: A Quarterly Journal of the Greene County Historical Society*, vol. 43, fall 2019.

Kyle David Bennett, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Theology and Philosophy, wrote a piece titled “The ‘Self-Actualizing’ Spirituality of Søren Kierkegaard” that was published in *Christianity Today* in November. In October Bennett took several students, including philosophy minors, to Bard College to participate in the 2019 Hannah Arendt Conference with the theme of “Racism and Antisemitism.”



Lena Campagna, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, was elected to be the executive counselor for the Academy

of Criminal Justice Sciences’ Victimology Division beginning in spring 2020.

Christopher Cimorelli, Ph.D., assistant professor of theology, has been invited to give a paper for a conference on “John Henry Newman: Scholar, Sage, Saint” at Oriel College, Oxford University, in September. The title of his paper is “Newman on Newman: Interpreting the Saint by His Own Words.”

Bennett and Cimorelli presented at “Theos and Polis: Political Theology as Discernment,” the Leuven Encounters in Systematic Theology XII Conference, at KU Leuven in Leuven, Belgium,

in October. Bennett presented on “Appearance and Movement in Augustine’s Rule and Its Relevance for Digital Discourse.” Cimorelli presented on “The Theological-Political Imaginary of Catholic Social Teaching: Progress and Building Up Structures for the Common Good.”

Ellina Chernobilsky, Ph.D., associate vice president for academic affairs, and **Marisa Castronova, Ph.D., ’18, adjunct instructor in the School of Education**, presented a paper on “A New Representation of the Next Generation Science Standards” at the Northeastern Educational Research Association meeting in October.

Meghan Deshais, Ph.D., BCBA-D, assistant professor in the Department of Applied Behavior Analysis, published a study in *Behavior Analysis: Research and Practice* as the first author. She co-authored two paper presentations at the 45th annual Association for Behavior Analysis conference and presented a paper at the 10th annual International Association for Behavior Analysis conference in Stockholm, Sweden.

Khaliah Douglas ’13, MFS, adjunct lecturer in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, attended the 113th New Jersey State Police crime scene investigation course and became certified in crime scene photography, criminalistics, shooting reconstruction, bloodstain pattern analysis, clandestine grave excavation and evidence collection. She spoke on women’s safety to the Cranford Alliance Group in February. Douglas, a crime scene investigator for the Union County Sheriff’s Office, gave a presentation on campus Nov. 5 about her journey into law enforcement, what it takes to become a detective and some of the cases she has helped solve.

James Flynn, associate professor of philosophy, attended the American Philosophical Association Eastern division conference in January in Philadelphia. He was the commentator on a paper by Maria Altepeter, titled “The Focus of Virtue: Broadening Attention in Empirically Informed Accounts of Virtue Formation.”

Tara Harney-Mahajan, Ph.D., assistant professor of English, published a review this past July of the book “Political Acts: Women in Northern Irish Theatre, 1921–2012” in the journal *Theatre Research International*. Also in July, at the International Association for the Study of Irish Literature conference in Dublin, she presented a paper on representations of the Magdalene Laundries in contemporary Irish films. In November, she presented a conference paper at the Mid-Atlantic Conference for Irish Studies on the #MeToo moment and the play “Asking for It” by Irish playwright Meadhbh McHugh.

Patricia Hubert, DNP, MSN, APN, RN, CSN, adjunct lecturer in the School of Nursing, gave a podium and e-poster presentation on the “Application of Jean Watson’s Transpersonal Caring with Nurses in a Pain Center” at the Human Caring Canadian 2019 conference held by the Global Alliance for Human Caring Education in Victoria, British Columbia, on Oct. 1. She gave the same poster presentation at the 24th International Caritas Consortium in San Francisco later in October. Hubert was accepted into the Watson Caring Science Institute’s Caritas Coach Educator Program. She presented to NJPAC employees on Sept. 18 in honor of Pain Awareness Month.

Kara Jorgensen ’13, MFA, adjunct lecturer in the English Department, had her novel “The Wolf Witch” published in July, and her novel “Kinship & Kindness” is scheduled to be published in early 2020. She presented her paper “Queer Historical Romance: The Reclamation of Power and Identity” at Ithaca College’s “From Pippi to Ripley” conference.

Mary Ellen Levine, MSN/Ed, RN, CHPN, adjunct lecturer in the School of Nursing and Public Health, had her article “When New Nurses Talk, Nursing Organizations Listen” published in *Nursing* 2019. It is based on a survey of new nurses and is a collaboration with the New-to-Practice Nurse Professional Ad Hoc Committee of the New Jersey State Nurses Association.



Thomson J. Ling, Ph.D., associate dean of the School of Psychology and Counseling, and Jessica M. Hauck '18 published a paper in *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association* on "Applying Art Therapy Directives to Ethical Decision-Making." They presented it at an advanced practice workshop at the American Art Therapy Association conference on Nov. 3.



John R. McIntyre, Ph.D., professor emeritus in the Education Division, published his first book, "Surviving the Holocaust: The Legacy of Peter

Jablonski." It is the true story of a man who survived two concentration camps, smuggled his cousin out of Poland to avoid the camps and saved a severely injured 13-year-old boy in the bombing of the Warsaw Ghetto.

Mary Ann B. Miller, Ph.D., professor of English, organized and participated in a session titled "Curating the Catholic Imagination: Editors' Roundtable Discussion" at the third biennial Catholic Imagination Conference on the Future of the Catholic Literary Tradition, held at Loyola University-Chicago in September 2019. She hosted an evening poetry reading during the conference to showcase the work of her professional print poetry journal, *Presence*. Her poetry anthology, "St. Peter's B-list: Contemporary Poems Inspired by the Saints" (Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 2014), was featured as the fall 2019 selection for the Catholic Book Club of America magazine, the leading Jesuit magazine in the United States..

Marie Mullaney, Ph.D., professor of history, presented lectures on *The Saint John's Bible*, its history and contemporary relevance during the university's Homecoming Sept. 21, to the university board of trustees Sept. 24, to the parish community of St. Philomena Church in

Livingston Oct. 24 and to the Mercier Club of Montclair Nov. 17. She spoke to the staff and faculty of St. Dominic Academy and Lacordaire Academy for their Dominican Spirituality Day on Sept. 5 on the Bible's production, its focus on women and ways it might be used in high school classes. She presented Nov. 14 on campus on the medieval roots of *The Saint John's Bible*.

David Petriello, Ph.D., adjunct lecturer in the Department of History and Political Science, discussed the Balmis Expedition as a guest on WAMC's "Academic Minute." He published articles on "A People So Well Fed and So Clean: The Second Cholera Pandemic in New Jersey History" in the *New Jersey Studies Journal* and on "Consumption and Compromise: Illness and Its Impact on the Political Career of Henry Clay" in *The Journal for the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science*.

Kenneth F. Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D, professor of applied behavior analysis, had a paper investigating how to teach children to recycle accepted for publication in the journal *Behavior and Social Issues*. The paper was co-authored with his master's in ABA student Juana Bolanos and ABA department colleagues. He gave an invited talk titled "What do stimulus equivalence and relational frame theory tell us about complex human behavior?" at Rider University's master lecture series in behavior analysis. Reeve was a co-author with his students and colleagues on three research paper presentations at the 40th annual conference of the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT) in Worcester, Massachusetts; six paper presentations at the 30th annual conference of the

New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA) in Albany, New York, and two paper presentations at the 10th annual international conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis International in Stockholm, Sweden. At the BABAT and NYSABA conferences, Reeve chaired research paper symposiums on variables affecting how students learn categorization skills. He also served as a guest associate editor for the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and as an article reviewer for the journals *the Psychological Record* and *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*.

Sharon A. Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, professor of applied behavior analysis, was a co-author along with her colleagues on two research papers that were recently accepted for publication in the *Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities* and *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. The papers addressed how to identify causes of problem behavior and how to teach children with autism to label items in their environment. Reeve was a co-author with her students and colleagues on four research paper presentations at the 40th annual conference of the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy in Worcester, Massachusetts; four paper presentations at the 30th annual conference of the New York State Association for Behavior Analysis in Albany, New York, and two paper presentations at the 10th annual international conference of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) in Stockholm, Sweden. Reeve chaired a research paper symposium at the ABAI conference on methods of teaching life skills and healthy behaviors to children with autism spectrum disorders.

CABINET NOTES

President Nancy Blattner, Ph.D., O.P.A., served as chair of the Middle States team visiting Nyack College for its accreditation review in early 2020.

Barbara Chesler, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs, along with **Dr. Ellina Chernobilsky, associate vice president for academic affairs,** and **Dr. Thomson Ling, associate dean of the School of Psychology and Counseling,** presented "Making Hard Decisions: Using Data in the Program Prioritization Process" at the annual Conference on Teaching & Learning Assessment at Drexel University on Sept. 11.

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Faculty & Staff Notes

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Marina Saad, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, presented on “Interactions with Offenders Affect Family and Friends’

Cognitions of Self” at the American Society of Criminology in San Francisco on Nov. 13.

Rosa Mirna Sánchez, Ph.D., O.P.A., associate professor of Spanish language, literature and culture, spoke on “Ancient Greek Texts and the Contemporary World” at the West Caldwell Public Library Nov. 14. Last summer Sanchez participated in the Ancient Greece in the Modern Classroom seminar “The Ancient Greek Hero,” sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges and Harvard

University’s Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, D.C.

Annette Vaccaro, Ed.D., interim program coordinator for the graduate counseling degree with art therapy specialization, was honored with the Honorary Life Membership Award from the New Jersey Art Therapy Association in October.

Jason C. Vladescu, Ph.D., BCBA-D, NCSP, LBA (NY), associate professor of applied behavior analysis, co-authored seven papers published in the peer-reviewed journals Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, Behavioral Analysis in Practice and Journal of Behavioral Education and presented 13 research papers at regional and international conferences. He gave an invited presentation in Recife, Brazil, at the third Encontro Brasil & EUA de autism and was elected for a three-year appointment to the accreditation board for the Association for Behavior Analysis International. Vladescu was selected as

the 2020 recipient of the B. F. Skinner Foundation New Researcher Award in the area of applied research, which he will accept at the 2020 APA convention in Washington, D.C.

GRANTS

Natural Sciences Department faculty members **Dr. Darryl Aucoin, Dr. Agnes Berki** and **Dr. Marjorie Squires, Mathematics Department associate faculty member Patricia Hayden** and **Education Department adjunct lecturer Dr. Marisa Castronova** were awarded a \$650,000 National Science Foundation grant, titled “Increasing Enrollment, Retention, Graduation, and Job Placement by Supporting the Connections of Commuter STEM Undergraduates to Faculty, Peers, and Industry,” to increase scholarships and academic support for science and math majors.

Bahamas Relief



Students launched a relief drive in the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. L to R: Students Lamar-Shea Chang, Anamika Sharma Paudel and Paiton Knowles and Associate Director of Residence Life Maricia Hughes. The drive will benefit the Abaco Assistance Fund, which was set up to aid in the education of students at St. Francis de Sales School in Marsh Harbour, Bahamas, where the Caldwell Dominicans served for nearly 30 years.

PHI KAPPA PHI IS CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE CHAPTER

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi recently recognized the Caldwell University chapter of Phi Kappa Phi as a Circle of Excellence Silver Chapter. The award is given to chapters that exceed expectations in chapter operations and that demonstrate sustainability and vitality as a chapter of Phi Kappa Phi. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. “We are extremely pleased to be one of this year’s recipients in the Circle of Excellence,” said Lynne B. Alleger, Caldwell’s chapter president. “As a relatively new chapter, this means a lot to us. We will continue to strive to make Phi Kappa Phi even more active on our campus.”



STUDENT Accolades

Gianna Liaci, a second-degree nursing student, was awarded the Health Resources and Services Administration Nurse Corps Scholarship. Recipients work in a federally qualified health center or in a rural setting providing primary care or mental health services. She previously earned a public health education degree from Caldwell.

Ngima D. Sherpa, a biology and chemistry major, presented her research on "An Alternative Approach to Drug Discovery: Drug Repurposing through Cheminformatics" at the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students held in Anaheim, California, Nov. 13-16. She was recognized as one of the best poster presenters among thousands of presenters. Sherpa's work was based on her research at her summer internship at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.



Kensy Jean, a health science major with a psychology minor, has been accepted into the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at New York Institute of Technology on an early decision basis.

Lamar-Shea Chang, a biology and computer information systems major with a concentration in business and a minor in chemistry, and **Marina Schlaepfer**, a biology major with a minor in chemistry

and medical humanities, received Independent College Fund of New Jersey Novartis Science scholarships, which include being assigned a mentor at the multinational pharmaceutical company. Chang and Schlaepfer are excited about the professional growth opportunity; "the icing on the cake," said Chang. Schlaepfer said the connection with a professional will encourage her "to set higher personal goals and provide exposure to diverse perspectives and experiences." Both students are interested in pursuing careers in medicine and are happy that they have been able to visit the East Hanover Novartis site and take in the corporate atmosphere. Novartis established this scholarship with the ICFNJ to recognize and advance undergraduate science majors at ICFNJ member colleges and universities who demonstrate an interest in scientific research. ■



in Caldwell

encourage people in the community to attend university sporting events, concerts and lectures. Some merchants put signs in their windows welcoming students, and the university posted signs on campus promoting events in the municipality.

Mayor John Kelley said the community responded well to the banners. "Since I became mayor, one of the major concerns of my administration has been to build a greater connection with Caldwell University. We are proud to be the home of Caldwell University and we want everyone to know that. We also want the student body to feel welcome here." He pointed out that 25,000 people attended the annual Rotary/Kiwanis Caldwell Street Fair in October "and all those people could clearly see that Caldwell is a vibrant college town."

Stephen Quinn, vice president of enrollment management and communications, said the university was pleased to receive good feedback on the signs. "We appreciated this initiative to let the students know they are an integral part of this lively community and at the same time be able to share with the community all that we have to offer in terms of education and activities." ■

If you were driving, walking or biking around the borough of Caldwell this past fall, chances are you saw the "CU in Caldwell" flagpoles lining Bloomfield Avenue, side streets and the entrance to the university. CU in Caldwell is a campaign partnership between the borough and the university. The aim is to make sure students know they are an important part of the borough and encourage them to frequent stores and businesses and at the same time





Thank You,

At President Nancy Blattner's inauguration on Nov. 7, 2009, she urged those present to become witnesses of "holy preaching" in their roles on campus, as citizens of towns and citizens of the world and to empower one another in that "worthy goal."

She reflected on the challenges for everyone—of being present to others, being faithful and faith-filled, while not settling for what has been accomplished, "but to strive for and to be more."

As Dr. Blattner completes her final academic year at Caldwell, in gratitude to her, we highlight some of the many ways she has led the campus community in striving for and being more.



M I L E S T O N E S

JULY 1, 2009

Nancy H. Blattner, Ph.D., becomes the eighth president of Caldwell College and the first lay president in the institution's history.

SEPTEMBER 2009

Dr. Blattner inaugurates Caldwell Day, an annual day of volunteerism to live out the Dominican pillar of service.

OCTOBER 2009

Dr. Blattner and her husband, Tim Blattner, become regulars at the annual Rotary-Kiwanis Street Fair, pitching in to flip burgers and greet visitors at the Caldwell University tent.

JUNE 2012

Dr. Blattner starts the annual weeklong Dominican Identity program for faculty and staff to discover the richness of Catholic Dominican history.

MARCH 2013

President Blattner leads a group of students on a short-term study-abroad trip to Rome just days after Pope Francis is inaugurated.

SPRING 2013

Dr. Blattner and Tim Blattner take a group of students to Belize for a mission trip where they help local carpenters build a Catholic church and where they attend Mass on Pentecost. The Belize service experience becomes a regular trip during winter or spring breaks.

DEC. 9, 2013

New Jersey's secretary of higher education notifies the college that it has been granted university status. Caldwell University commences on July 1, 2014.

MARCH 27, 2015

President Blattner is presented with the professional excellence Veritas Award by the university's Alumni Association.



President Blattner!

SEPT. 19, 2015

Caldwell celebrates its 75th anniversary with Mass and festivities including talks by Father Paul Murray, O.P., of the Angelicum in Rome, and Sister Honora Werner, O.P. '66.

SEPT. 16, 2017

Caldwell kicks off its inaugural sprint football season. The marching band makes its premiere performance.

JAN. 29, 2019

The launch of the university's "Year with The Saint John's Bible," featuring the first handwritten, illuminated Bible of monumental size in 500 years.

MAY 9, 2019

Dedication of the Eileen Jones Multicultural Center named for the university's first African American student.

SEPT. 20, 2019

Dedication and blessing Mass for the new Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel.



H I G H N O T E S

INCREASING ENROLLMENT

With Dr. Blattner at the helm, Caldwell University saw multiple years of record-breaking freshman class enrollment.

REVITALIZING SPACE

Dr. Blattner oversaw the innovative repurposing of existing space. Construction projects included the Academic Success Center and Nursing Department offices, the Mueller Art Gallery, state-of-the-art nursing labs, the Center for Advising, Records and Enrollment Services, Art Therapy Center, the fitness Center, the Eileen Jones Multicultural Center, the Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel and more.

NAMED NJ'S BEST VALUE

Caldwell University continued to rise in the U.S. News & World Report rankings.

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Dr. Blattner oversaw the addition of many academic programs including the Ed.D. and Ph.D. in educational leadership, a Bachelor of Science in nursing, a fully online Master of Science degree in nursing in population health, a Bachelor of Science degree in esports management and more.

EXPANDING ATHLETICS

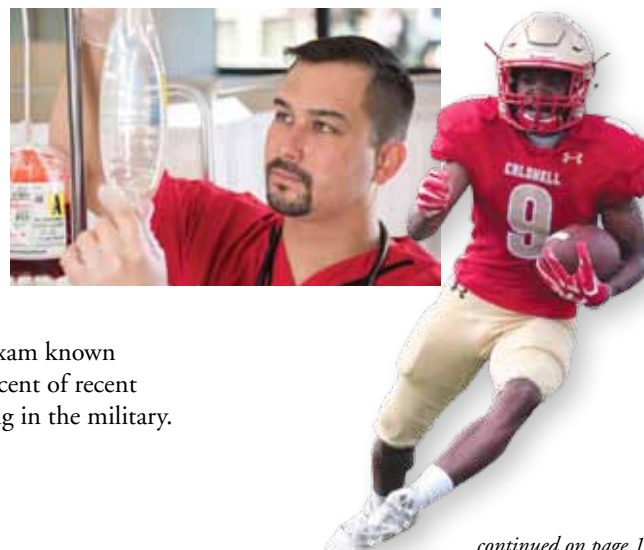
In addition to sprint football, the Athletics Department added women's track and field, women's and men's lacrosse teams, women's bowling and men's cross country and track and field.

GRADUATES EXCEL

Bachelor of Science in nursing graduates passed the state nursing licensure exam known as NCLEX at a 98% rate, higher than the national pass rate. Ninety-five percent of recent bachelor's degree earners are working, enrolled in further education or serving in the military.

DEGREE COMPLETION RATES INCREASING

Caldwell had its highest six-year graduation rate at 69% in 2019.



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Thank You, President Blattner!

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INCREASED PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT TRANSFORMS CAMPUS

The picturesque landscape and historic buildings on Caldwell's campus quickly tell the story of 80 years of strength, perseverance and a mission to provide a quality education to students. The new red sign and the banners lining the entranceway signal that many exciting changes have taken place in a decade that saw the transformation of Caldwell College to Caldwell University.

Creation of state-of-the-art nursing labs in Albertus Magnus Hall; renovations throughout the library that created multiple collaborative work spaces and added new technology; a complete renovation of the art wing, including the creation of an art therapy space; an



Angela Zaccardi '58, '73 and President Blattner at the opening for the Eileen Jones Multicultural Center.

expansion of the fitness center in the Newman Center to accommodate our growing student body; the new Café '39 in the lobby of Werner Hall; the opening of the Eileen Jones Multicultural Center—all of these changes and more were part of Dr. Nancy Blattner's vision and have enhanced a student's experience from freshman move-in day to graduation. The opening and dedication of the Sister Gerardine



L to R: Kevin Boyle, vice president for development and alumni affairs, Sister Gerardine Mueller, O.P. '54 and President Blattner.

providing spaces for the appreciation of art and for prayer, respectively, while paying tribute to the Sisters of Saint Dominic.

All of these wonderful changes would not have been possible without support from alumni and friends. Recognizing this, Blattner made increased philanthropic support from all sources a key focus of her tenure. Fundraising totals grew from a mere **\$700,000** in her first year to **\$4 million** in fiscal year '19. During Blattner's presidency, over **\$8 million** in grants were awarded, **35** new scholarships were created and nearly **\$30 million** was raised. This focus on growing philanthropic support will make a difference in the lives of students now and for years to come. ■



Students study in state-of-the-art nursing labs.



Café '39 in Werner Hall.



THANK YOU!



GEORGE R. NEWMAN CENTER

Esports Team Plays First Season in Its State-of-the-art Arena

The university's esports team launched its inaugural season this fall with its Overwatch team going all the way to the Eastern College Athletic Conference playoffs.

The teams played in a beautiful new state-of-the-art esports arena, a gaming area that features two rooms and that was made possible by LG

Electronics, which donated 12 240Hz gaming monitors and six large-screen 4K displays, and by Cisco, which donated a network switch and two cloud security cameras. The Cougar program includes two Overwatch teams, which competed against other colleges and universities, and two League of Legends teams, which played scrimmages.

ToniAnn Convertino '19, who received her bachelor's degree in sport management from Caldwell and is in the MBA program, is delighted not only to be the first esports advisor and coach at Caldwell but also to be the first female esports coach, since there are more male leaders in the professional gaming industry.

"We could invite schools in for competitions."

A former student-athlete who threw javelin and disc for Caldwell's track and field team, Convertino is applying her teamwork skills to esports as a coach. She understands the time-management challenges players face with practices, matches and schoolwork. "I am trying to teach the team members how to balance

everything out." She wants them to know they can talk to her just as they would to any athletic coach. "Communication is a big key when it comes to being a student-athlete."

Simen Johansen, a member of the men's soccer team, was captain of the League of Legends. He too encouraged his players to work as a team on which all members "pull their own weight."

The team members have been excited by the possibilities, especially with a new arena that features two separate rooms. "We could invite schools in for competitions," said Convertino.

Claudia Dul, a freshman and a member of the Overwatch team, is thrilled to be on

the ground floor of the program, laying a foundation for other students. She appreciates the team-building aspects. "We are all friends."

Convertino and Johansen see these coaching opportunities as beneficial for their careers. Johansen received a bachelor's degree in business administration with a sport management minor in December. In the spring of 2019, he took an esports management course and it peaked his interest in the field. Last summer he worked as a bank teller in his native Norway and learned the bank was the main sponsor for the Norwegian esports league. Convertino is interested in events management for the esports industry. In addition to her position with the Cougars, she works as a teller at Columbia Bank and in marketing and operations for the New York Red Bulls professional soccer club.

The university has launched a Twitch channel on which spectators can see matches and cheer on the Cougars at <https://www.twitch.tv/caldwelluniversity>.

—CL



PIX11 Reporter Speaks on “Trapped in the Triangle”

PIX11 reporter Cristian Benavides (front row, right) presented on “Trapped in the Triangle: El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras—What Is Motivating Mass Migration to the U.S. Border?” on Oct. 8. The discussion was moderated by Caldwell University Communication and Media Studies Professor Bob Mann (front row, center) and Education Professor Edith Ries (front row, left). Benavides talked about his experience visiting Central America’s Northern Triangle to see why migrants are fleeing.



PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH UNDERWAY

In a heartfelt campus announcement, Dr. Nancy Blattner informed the Caldwell University community she would be concluding her presidency effective June 30, 2020. The Board of Trustees began a formal search for the university’s next president immediately following the announcement. The university is being assisted by the partners of Hyatt-Fennell. An advertisement to attract a diverse and qualified applicant pool was posted shortly after the September announcement was made, and applications were due at the end of November. A search committee, led by Linda Luciano, Ed.D., MBA, vice chair of the Board of Trustees, has been working diligently to identify a strong applicant pool. The committee includes representatives from the student body, faculty and staff, alumni, the Board of Trustees and the Sisters of Saint Dominic. The university hopes to make an announcement of a new president in the spring. For more information and updates, visit the Presidential Search page on the Caldwell University website.

Discounted Tuition Available Through Corporate Partnerships

Caldwell University has launched a Corporate Partnership Program to provide discounted tuition for corporate employees and their families.

The program is open to organizations with 250 employees or more. The discount will cover 25% of the tuition cost and is available for online or on-campus courses in the bachelor’s, master’s or doctoral degree programs. It is open to the employees, their spouses and dependents of the participating companies.

Caldwell has already formed partnerships with companies such as Avis Budget Group, Atlantic Health System, Tilcon New York and Wakefern Food Corporation, Inc. and Co-op Members.

Caldwell University President Nancy Blattner says the university is pleased to be able to partner with the companies. “We are delighted that these forward-thinking businesses have an appreciation for investing in continuing education and training and we welcome the new students and corporations to our Caldwell University family. We look forward to expanding the program with other businesses to share the uniqueness of Caldwell University.”

Stephen Quinn, vice president for enrollment management and communications, says Caldwell’s flexible learning options will benefit the companies and their employees and their family members. “More companies are looking to enhance the employee benefit plans for their organization and they know investing in their employees secures employee retention, employee satisfaction and improved skill set performance on the job.”

The new students will find that Caldwell professors and staff members provide individualized attention, he says, and “are especially focused on helping the students achieve their personal goals and take their learning to the next levels to benefit the marketplace.”

The program is available worldwide to company-benefited employees and there is no cost to the company or its employees. Caldwell’s corporate partnership and tuition discount is offered alongside the participating companies’ tuition assistance benefits. ■

To learn more about the Corporate Partners Program, go to www.caldwell.edu/partners.



Caitlyn McGinley Joins Caldwell as Women's Lacrosse Head Coach

Caldwell University Assistant Vice President/Director of Athletics **Mark A. Corino** named **Caitlyn McGinley** to lead the women's lacrosse program and to serve as the department's recreation director. McGinley was a standout player at Fairleigh Dickinson University and was an assistant coach at FDU for the past four seasons.

"I am honored to be selected and accept the position of the head women's lacrosse coach at Caldwell University," said McGinley. "I would like to thank Mark Corino for allowing me this great opportunity. I am excited to work with this group of athletes to continue and improve the success of this program. I would like to thank the student athletes at Fairleigh Dickinson and most importantly Adrienne Carr for shaping me into the coach I am today."

McGinley comes to Caldwell after having served as an assistant coach for

FDU-Madison since 2015. She developed practice plans and assisted in recruiting and operations for the Devils' women's lacrosse program. McGinley was part of three MAC Freedom championship squads from 2016 to 2018 and three NCAA Division III championships appearances.

"We are very pleased to have Caitlyn McGinley joining our staff as the women's lacrosse head coach," said Corino. "She has an extensive background coaching lacrosse, and we expect her to continue to build on the foundation of the program."

McGinley was a defender and midfielder for FDU for four seasons from 2012 to 2015, earning Middle Atlantic Freedom Conference Rookie of the Year honors in 2012. She was named to the All-MAC Freedom First Team in each of her four seasons. McGinley helped lead the Devils to three conference titles along with one



trip to the NCAA Division III tournament. She was named a team captain in her senior season. McGinley ended her playing career with 53 goals, six assists, 98 ground balls, 63 draw controls and 91 caused turnovers.

McGinley graduated from FDU-Madison in 2015 with a degree in psychology with a minor in child studies. ■

—JT

Caldwell Athletics Receives CAANJ Cup for Third Straight Year



Assistant Vice President/Director of Athletics Mark Corino accepts the Division II Cup from CAANJ President-elect Mary Williams.

The Caldwell University Athletics Department earned the Collegiate Athletic Administrators of New Jersey (CAANJ) Division II Cup for a third straight year for its outstanding accomplishments during the 2018-19 year.

Caldwell Athletics had another outstanding year on the field and in the classroom in

2018-19. The Cougars won conference championships in women's soccer and bowling, earning the two programs trips to their national tournaments. The 2018 conference title was the second in three seasons for the women's soccer team and its third championship in six seasons, while the women's bowling team captured its first

conference championship in only its fifth year as a varsity program.

Cougar players earned major awards in 2018-19. Bowler Jenna Rapach (Hazleton, Pennsylvania) was selected as the East Coast Conference Rookie of the Year and later earned ECC Tournament Most Outstanding Bowler honors. Caldwell boasted eight all-region players, including the first women's lacrosse player in program history to be recognized. Eighteen Cougars were all-conference honorees, including 17 Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference All-League players, seven of whom were named to the first team. Caldwell also featured 37 all-academic honorees between the CACC and the ECC and one CoSIDA Google Cloud Third Team Academic All-American.

The Caldwell Athletics Department was honored at the annual CAANJ awards luncheon on Oct. 24. ■

—JT





Newly Renovated Fitness Center Opens in George R. Newman Center

Caldwell University officially opened its newly renovated fitness center in the George R. Newman Center at the beginning of the fall 2019 semester. The center was renovated and expanded this past summer, and new equipment was purchased to better meet the needs of the campus community.

The fitness center underwent an extensive expansion and renovation. It was expanded into the old aerobics studio, which

now features new cardio equipment and a step mill machine. The room also has new wall-mounted televisions.

The center was redesigned and reconfigured to accommodate the growing number of students and student-athletes who have used the facility in past years. It includes a workout area, newly installed turf and a new swipe system for students and staff and offers expanded weekend hours. ■



**32ND ANNUAL
CALDWELL UNIVERSITY**



GOLF OUTING

BENEFITING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2020



Essex Fells Country Club, Essex Fells, NJ

Sponsorship opportunities still available!

For more information, please contact
Stan Kula at 973-618-3447 or skula@caldwell.edu

www.caldwell.edu/golf



CALDWELL

UNIVERSITY



Men's Lacrosse Team Set to Take Flight for Inaugural Season



The Caldwell University men's lacrosse program is ready to hit the field this spring for its inaugural season as the sixteenth varsity program in the Athletics Department. The Cougars will compete in the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, which has sponsored men's lacrosse as a conference sport since 2018. Caldwell plays its first game of the season on the road at American International College Feb. 29, with its first home game coming March 13 against Alderson Broaddus University. The Cougars play their home games at Essex Valley Field in West Caldwell.

Head Coach Matthew Klank was hired to lead the program in 2018 and has recruited an outstanding group of student-athletes for the Cougars' first season in 2020.

"We are extremely excited about the group of young men that we have assembled for our first season of competition," said Klank. "We recruited young men who we felt could perform at this level and have placed a high level of importance on character and academics. The upcoming season will be a demanding one but we feel that the group is ready to work and make the university proud."

Klank brings a wealth of coaching experience to the program after leading

Division III Centenary University for 14 seasons. Prior to his time at Centenary, Klank was the assistant coach and offensive coordinator at Drew University for four seasons. He also served as an assistant coach at Division I Villanova from 1998 to 2000 and at his alma mater, Montclair State. Klank gained experience coaching at the high school level from 1995 to 1997 as the offensive coordinator at Montclair Kimberly Academy.

Klank began his collegiate playing career at Drexel University in 1992, where he led the Dragons in scoring as a freshman. Following his sophomore season, he transferred to Montclair State for his final two years of eligibility. He received the Eastern College Athletic Conference Most Valuable Player Award and garnered All-New Jersey First-Team accolades in 1994 while leading the Red Hawks in scoring during his two years at MSU.

The Cougars join the CACC, which enters its third season sponsoring a men's lacrosse championship. The conference schools that have men's lacrosse as a varsity sport include Chestnut Hill College, Dominican College, Felician University, Georgian Court University, Post University and Wilmington University. The top four

teams advance to the CACC men's lacrosse championship tournament, which is held as part of the CACC Championship Festival April 30 through May 2 on the campus of Georgian Court. ■

—JT



2020

MEN'S LACROSSE HOME SCHEDULE

March 13	Alderson Broaddus	4 p.m.
March 16	Saint Michael's	4 p.m.
March 18	District of Columbia	4 p.m.
March 22	Davis and Elkins	Noon
March 25	St. Thomas Aquinas	7 p.m.
April 1	Post*	4 p.m.
April 15	Dominican*	4 p.m.
April 23	Wilmington*	4 p.m.

* CACC Game

Home games played at Essex Valley Field in West Caldwell





Women's soccer reaches conference semifinals for third time in the last four seasons.

WOMEN'S SOCCER AND VOLLEYBALL TEAMS REACH CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

The Caldwell University women's soccer team finished in third place in the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, ending the season with a 10-4-3 record and 8-1-3 in conference play. The Cougars advanced to the CACC championship semifinals for the third time in the past four seasons. Senior Amber Raines (Millville, New Jersey) was selected as the CACC Defensive Player of the Year, while sophomore Jamie-Lee Bamford (Braintree, United Kingdom) earned CACC First Team honors. Senior Meghan Grundhauser (Easton, Pennsylvania) and junior Teaghan Darling (Forked River, New Jersey) earned CACC Second All-Conference recognition. Raines was named to the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association East Region First Team, while Raines (First Team) and Bamford (Third Team) earned United Soccer Coaches All-Region honors.

Head Coach Nate Guagliardi was named the Eastern College Athletic Conference Coach of the Year for a second straight season. Grundhauser was selected as the ECAC Offensive Player of the Year, while Raines was named the ECAC Defensive Player of the Year. Freshman Sarah Costanza (Morris Plains, New Jersey) earned ECAC Rookie of the Year honors. Grundhauser, Raines, Costanza, Bamford and Darling were honored as ECAC All-Stars.

The women's volleyball team ended its season with a 14-19 record and finished

second in the CACC North Division with an 11-8 conference mark. Caldwell defeated Jefferson in the quarterfinals before falling to eventual conference champion Georgian Court University in the semifinals. The Cougars reached the conference semifinals for a fourth straight season. Sophomore Elise Smith (O'Fallon, Illinois) was a CACC Second Team All-Conference selection after leading the Cougars in kills. Smith was also selected as the ECAC Offensive Player of the Year and a First Team All-Star.

The men's soccer team finished with a 5-12-0 overall record this past fall. The Cougars placed ninth in the conference with a 5-7-0 conference record. Freshman Andre Vieira (Union, New Jersey) was named the CACC and ECAC Rookie of the Year after leading the Cougars in goals and points.

The sprint football team compiled a 2-5 record and finished in fourth place in the Collegiate Sprint Football League's South Division. Eight Cougars were named to the CSFL All-League Team. Freshman running back Armani Bermudez (Newark, New Jersey) earned CSFL First Team Offense honors, and junior Randy Antenor (Jersey City, New Jersey) was a CSFL Second Team Defense selection. Offensive linemen Saleem Bush (Newark, New Jersey), a junior, and Derek Michelman (Newton, New Jersey), a sophomore, were named to

the CSFL Second Team Offense. Junior linebacker Royce Francisco (Passaic, New Jersey), sophomore defensive back Haleem Woods (Plainfield, New Jersey) and freshman punter Schadrac Petit-Homme (Linden, New Jersey) earned CSFL Second Team Defense honors. Senior defensive back Adam Robbs (Westampton, New Jersey) rounded out the Caldwell honorees with a CSFL Honorable Mention Defense recognition. Francisco earned his third straight CSFL All-League recognition, and Bush and Woods earned CSFL All-League honors for a second straight season.

The women's cross country team finished in 11th place at the CACC championships this past fall. Senior Megan Barreto (Howell, New Jersey) led the way with a 5k time of 24:42. On the men's side, the Cougars took seventh at the conference meet. Senior Frank Durkin (Whiting, New Jersey) was the top runner for Caldwell with an 8k time of 30:13.

The women's tennis team finished its fall season with a 1-9 record. Freshman Kathryn Hurlbut (La Habra, California) posted a 3-5 record at No. 5 singles, and sophomore Lauryn Schwint (Sparta, New Jersey) added four wins between Nos. 3 and 4 singles. ■

—JT



“Teaching Is a Calling”

Kathleen Lynch Napoli '67



Paul Napoli and Kathleen Lynch Napoli

When you first meet Kathleen “Kathy” Lynch Napoli, you learn quickly who and what she most holds dear: Paul Napoli, to whom she has been married for 52 years; their five children and six grandchildren, and her faith. Listen further, and you’ll hear about her passionate, unwavering belief in the power of education to transform lives.

Her parents impressed the importance of education upon Kathy and her siblings. It was her childhood dream to become a teacher. “Teaching is a calling,” she says.

That belief is the impetus behind a generous \$100,000 gift Kathy and Paul have made to fund the Kathleen Lynch Napoli '67 Endowed Scholarship in Memory of Margaret and George Lynch, Kathy’s parents. Both died tragically young, before Kathy graduated from Caldwell

College for Women and went on to a teaching career.

In addition to honoring the memory of her beloved parents, the gift is a gesture of gratitude to Caldwell. Her mother passed away while Kathy was in high school; then, when she was in college, the unimaginable happened when her father died.

Kathy attributes her ability to remain strong in the face of overwhelming grief to the support she received on campus—from the Sisters, staff and classmates who rallied around her to show their love, support and compassion. She says she has never forgotten the embrace of the Caldwell community at a time when she most

needed stability, empathy and hope. Her older sister Pat, also a Caldwell graduate, benefited from the same support during that difficult time.

To lift her spirits, one night a group of her Caldwell friends insisted that Kathy accompany them to a social event for young Catholics. It was then that she met Paul Napoli, a student at Boston College who was to become the love of her life.

Eighteen months later, during a week in June, Kathy graduated from Caldwell College for Women on a Tuesday, Paul graduated from Boston College that Thursday, and on Saturday, the couple were married. Kathy began teaching elementary school students at School 9 in Paterson while Paul attended graduate school. They became parents, and life became busy and full; Kathy stopped teaching to devote herself to raising her family. Paul was finding great success in his career with US Trust, where he rose through the ranks to become vice chair, the position from which he retired. Twenty-five years ago, Kathy and Paul left the community of Glen Ridge, where they raised their family, and moved to Little Silver, where they live in an elegant home splendidly situated on the banks of the Shrewsbury River.

Kathy’s face lights up when she talks about the role teachers play in the lives of their students. “It’s the idea that learning

is fun—it opens a whole world.

It’s magnificent,” she says, adding, “A good teacher can light a fire.”

Kathy’s scholarship is designated for a student focused on a teaching career.

“It’s the idea that learning is fun—it opens a whole world. It’s magnificent.”

As a longtime supporter of Caldwell, Kathy says, “The purpose of Caldwell is one I admire. I love the way it has grown. I have only wonderful things to say about Caldwell.”

—Christina Hall



John Gallucci Jr. and JAG-ONE Physical Therapy Supports Caldwell University's Mission and Vision

Although John Gallucci, Jr. never attended Caldwell, he is well acquainted with the university's Dominican mission and vision, having earned his master's degree and Ph.D. at nearby Dominican College. Gallucci, a doctor of physical therapy and CEO of JAG-ONE Physical Therapy, got to know the Caldwell campus pretty well, too, during his graduate study year since the sports teams of the two institutions participate in overlapping athletic conferences.

When Gallucci founded his outpatient physical therapy business in 2005, Caldwell was one of the first institutions he visited as part of his initial business relationship-building tour. Soon, his company was providing coverage when the university needed extra hands to accommodate its athletic training service needs.

Today, JAG-ONE serves the tri-state area, with state-of-the-art facilities in New Jersey, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Staten Island, Westchester, Long Island and Pennsylvania. Gallucci is the medical coordinator for Major League Soccer, sits as an appointed member on the New Jersey Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sport and has served as the head athletic trainer for several professional and amateur teams including the New York Red Bulls (MLS). He is in high demand as a sports medicine consultant for professional athletes in the NHL, NFL, NBA, MLB and USA Wrestling. Professional athletes from around the world seek his expertise, and he often appears on radio and television, including ESPN's award-winning "Outside the Lines," MSG, News 12 New Jersey, Fox 5 New York, PIX11 and WFAN.

Gallucci's rising star as an expert in injury prevention, rehabilitation, sports medicine and athletic conditioning has not distanced him from his Dominican-focused education. "My goal was always to be a resource to the community and to give back," he says. Gallucci's charitable efforts have included a leading role in fundraisers



John Gallucci Jr., CEO, JAG-ONE Physical Therapy

for Barnabas Health, the Valerie Fund, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, the Arthritis Foundation and the American Cancer Society. He supports more than 150 high schools, college programs and athletic clubs throughout the tri-state area.

As Gallucci grew more familiar with Caldwell, he became more impressed with how the university lives its mission and vision through its academic and athletic programs. He wanted to get involved. "What Caldwell does is outstanding. I wanted to be part of it but in a meaningful way," he says. This has meant more than the usual company sponsorship arrangement.

"The most important thing at Caldwell is its Catholic mission..."

"I wasn't interested in having an advertisement posted in a gym or on a field," he says. "I wanted my support to be ingrained in the mission and life of this

campus." Gallucci and JAG-ONE achieved that goal by generously committing to a three-year pledge toward the Campaign for Caldwell, in support of campaign priorities

at large. "The most important thing at Caldwell is its Catholic mission—caring for others and, whenever you can, lending a hand to help someone else succeed," he says.

In the spirit of helping others achieve their dreams, Gallucci is generous with his time as well. In November, he presented "Coach[ABILITY]: Student Athlete Workshop" to Caldwell's student athletes to help them form their own "game plan" for the future. He assured his listeners that what they learn on the court or on the field—teamwork, camaraderie, perseverance, working together toward a common goal—will benefit them in any career path they choose. He also encouraged them to look ahead to the "next play" and to be prepared for those times when it important to adapt to new situations.

As Gallucci's partnership with Caldwell deepened, he wanted to invest further in Caldwell University as well as his staff. As a result, JAG-ONE recently signed on as a corporate partner of Caldwell University, offering employees, their spouses and dependents a 25% tuition discount. "At JAG-ONE Physical Therapy, we are dedicated to providing personal, professional and financial growth opportunities to each and every one of our employees," he explains. "Our partnership with Caldwell University has been longstanding as a result of the synergistic core values that both organizations share. Recently, we have strategically advanced our partnership with the university to proudly offer discounted tuition for all JAG-ONE Physical Therapy employees, their spouses and dependents. We are excited to work collaboratively with Caldwell University and truly value our unique partnership, which contributes to the growth and development of our JAG-ONE Physical Therapy family."

Gallucci will be sharing his insights about health, wellness and living the best life possible in a new book due out in 2020. ■





The late Dr. Shamkant P. Mulgaonkar and his wife, Dr. Ujwala Mulgaonkar

Renowned Physicians Support the Next Generation of Nurses

"I think Shamkant and I could see something of ourselves in the Caldwell students we met," Dr. Ujwala Mulgaonkar says, explaining how she and her husband became involved with Caldwell University.

Ujwala and her husband, the late Dr. Shamkant Mulgaonkar, came to the United States from India 40 years ago and settled in West Caldwell. "We were so busy then," she recalls. "I was starting my career as a pediatrician, and Shamkant was building his practice."

Shamkant built more than a practice; he built a legacy. He was one of the preeminent professionals in transplantation in the United States and was instrumental in the rapid growth of the surgery. A champion of the development of the Living Donor Transplant Institute, he was a dynamic leader who cared for thousands of kidney transplant recipients during his career.

Shamkant was largely responsible for the success of the RWJ Barnabas Health Renal and Pancreas Transplant Division, which became one of the most highly regarded programs in the country. He was a past president of the Transplant Society of New

Jersey and was twice named New Jersey Transplant Professional of the Year. He was also named Transplant Physician of the Year in 1996. His major research interests included transplant immunology, clinical trials of newer immunosuppressants, and allograft thrombosis. He led clinical research trials in the use of many novel immunosuppressants and published over 100 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals. Shamkant was a member of several professional societies including the American Society of Nephrology, the American Medical Association, the Renal Physicians Association, the Transplant Society of New Jersey and the United Network for Organ Sharing. He was also on the advisory board of the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network.

Shamkant began looking for ways to share his expertise with the next generation of health care providers, which led him to become a guest lecturer for Caldwell University's School of Nursing and Public Health.

"Shamkant and I received such a warm welcome from the Caldwell University community," Ujwala says. "We couldn't believe that for so many years we had this beautiful campus right in our own backyard. We fell in love with it!" Shamkant's lectures were very well received and he enjoyed meeting the students.

As they got to know the nursing students who regularly attended Shamkant's lectures, the couple began to think they could do something more. "We had always believed in the value of scholarships," Ujwala says. "It is important to invest in people and to support and reward excellence." The couple had traditionally invested in scholarships for students in India. After learning more about Caldwell, the couple decided to invest in scholarships at the university as a way to support college students in their local area.

They began their journey as donors with a special gift to help an international student who was experiencing financial hardship. This led to a larger pledge for scholarships for nursing students. "Shamkant and I realized that both of us had worked with wonderful Caldwell-educated nurses over the course of our careers. We wanted to invest in their success," Ujwala says.

Shamkant passed away in early 2019. His loss is mourned by his family, friends and colleagues and also by the students, faculty and staff at Caldwell who looked forward to his campus visits. He holds a special place in the hearts of many in the campus community.

"He stood for excellence in education. This is what Caldwell provides."

Ujwala plans to continue supporting Caldwell as a way to honor Shamkant's memory. She recently committed to a multiyear pledge to establish an endowed scholarship for nursing students in Shamkant's name. "He stood for excellence in education. This is what Caldwell provides." ■



1980S EVENT

Over 50 alumni from the 1980s gathered on Oct. 4, 2019 to reconnect on campus.



Jacqueline Reyes Donohue '86, Diana Reyes-Rennie '82, Kathleen Barabas '85, Martha Knoll Montagna '85, Ethel Conroy '83 and Kelly Tallio '85.



Sigma Theta Iota Sorority.



Ilsa "Margie" Flores Stumpo '87 and Kyle Herr Urbealis '86.



Lynne Keenan Stancati '82, Juanita Williamson '82 and Arline Burke McCloskey '82.

events

GOLF RECAP

The 31st annual Caldwell University Golf Outing at Essex Fells Country Club raised \$100,000. Proceeds from the Sept. 30 event will benefit the Caldwell University Scholarship Fund, the Bruce Gallagher Memorial Scholarship and the Cougar Pride Athletic Fund.



L to R: Lisa Kennedy, Rhonda Graber, Eileen Huang and Nancy Jones.



L to R: Jim Pak, Harry Beatty, Alex Paradiso and Frank LeCates.



L to R: Randy Carroll, Edward Collins '98, Michael Bovino and Frank Casciano.



75TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The members of the class of 1966 celebrated their 75th birthdays with an all-day celebration on campus on Oct. 19. More than 30 classmates gathered for a day of fun including a Saint John's Bible lecture, campus tours, Mass in the Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel and a birthday dinner. Thank you to the committee for spearheading this event. We hope to do this for years to come!



The class of 1966 75th birthday group photo.



Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you, Happy 75th birthday class of 1966, Happy Birthday to you!



1966 classmates (L to R): Bobbie Boshinski Futej, Marilyn Mancino Maguire, Lori Majewski LeCorte and Mimi Genthon Lusardi.



Members of the class of 1966 and Dr. Blattner celebrate Mass in the new Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel.



Rosemary Petti Mergen and Mary-Lou Nowak Giacomelli review the 1966 yearbook.



Dr. Linda Sue Galate and Pat Barrett Gubelmann.

Birthday





HOMECOMING 2019

AND FAMILY WEEKEND



1



2



3



4

- 1 The class of 1969 after the Champagne Toast.
- 2 Members of the class of 1969: Vivian Germane Schwartz, Charlene Hamrah and Elizabeth "Betsy" McManus Koelzer.
- 3 Melissa Ashe '08 returned to campus to celebrate homecoming.
- 4 Dr. Barbara Chesler, vice president for academic affairs, with young alumni and staff member Nancee Roth.





5 Elaine Bauer Zabriskie '73 presented Elaine Tweedus '66 with the 2019 Peggy Harris Alumna/us of the Year Award.



6 Charlene Hamrah '69 and Ann Masterson Larue '69 presented Dr. Blattner with a check for \$2,769,850, inclusive of outright gifts, pledges and bequest intentions from the class of 1969. This is the largest commitment of any reunion class to date.

7 Sister Deborah Lynch, O.P., with members of the class of 1997.

8 Students and alumni enjoying the Party on the Plaza. (L to R): Bibhab Ghimire, Yashant Gyawali '18, Boned Figueroa, Joseph Severino '19, Prakash Basnet '13 and Madhu Paude.

9 Women's basketball alumnae came back to campus for a homecoming tournament.



SAVE THE DATE

35th

JUNE DWYER CASTANO VERITAS AWARDS DINNER

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

Cocktails at 6 p.m. • Dinner at 7 p.m.

Essex Fells Country Club • 219 Devon Road • Essex Fells, N.J. 07021

AWARDEES

Beverly Schunk Afonso '65 for Excellence in Humanitarian Philanthropy. Beverly founded the Afonso Foundation for engaging in educational activities in coordination with existing organizations for religious, educational, scientific and charitable purposes.

Shawn MaCray '90 for Excellence in Inspiring Youth. Shawn encourages youth in economically and socially challenged urban areas to strive for success.

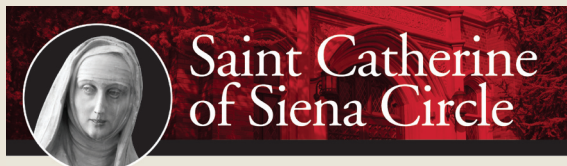
Sister Donna L. Ciangio, O.P. '71 for Excellence in Church Leadership. Sister Donna was appointed chancellor of the Archdiocese of Newark. She works internationally and nationally in promoting parish vitality and pastoral direction, faith formation and many other areas.

Mary Ann Frigola Cox '70 for Excellence in Volunteer Leadership. Mary Ann has worked tirelessly as a volunteer at all levels of society.

You, like Bev, Can Make a Difference in the Lives of Future Caldwell Students

Beverly Schunk Afonso '65 is grateful for all that Caldwell University helped her achieve in life. After graduating with a degree in biology, Bev worked for 20 years as a microbiologist in the pharmaceutical industry. She has decided to include Caldwell University in her will because she believes in the university's core values and mission and wants to help future generations.

"Through the good Sisters of St. Dominic, Caldwell University gave me an excellent academic foundation as well as a sense of confidence and support throughout my life. I consider Caldwell University my second home and want to give back to help students accomplish their dreams."



To learn more about ways you can support Caldwell through your will or estate plan, visit <http://plannedgiving.caldwell.edu> or contact Lori Funicello at lfunicello@caldwell.edu or 973-618-3226.

The Saint Catherine of Siena Circle gratefully recognizes Caldwell University alumni and friends who have supported the university through their will or estate plans.



Alumni President

LETTER FROM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD PRESIDENT ELAINE BAUER ZABRISKIE '73



Dear Fellow Alumni,

As we move along in the academic year, change marks our activities more profoundly than in recent years.

We will bid adieu to our president, Dr. Nancy Blattner, and thank her for her contributions to Caldwell University's legacy and transformation into the 21st century. We wish her much success in her new position as president of Fontbonne University and look forward to welcoming her back for future visits to Caldwell.

We will retain Dr. Blattner's spirit of success and vision and build on her many accomplishments during her tenure at Caldwell. We look forward to welcoming a new president and sharing the Dominican heritage and presence that is uniquely Caldwell.

If you haven't visited our new Sister Mary Dominic Tweedus Chapel, located in the Newman Center, please stop by when you are on campus and take some time to reflect and enjoy its beauty and spirit. The lightness and grace captured through the blending of materials and artistic vision are captivating and renewing. Many thanks to all who created, developed and executed this space.

Happy 2020 to everyone.

Sincerely,

Elaine Bauer Zabriskie '73

President, Caldwell University Alumni Association

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Megan Norton '22

Please remember these deceased alumni and family members in your prayers.

Grace Rita Rodgers Twaddell '46

Francine Bogdanski Daniels '70

Olive Ryan Walsh '47

Dianne Snable Maher '70

Sister Doris Ann Bowles, O.P. '52

Marna Perneti Borrás '73

Alice Feeney '56

Betty Rowe '79

Honorable Arline Friscia '56

Claire McHugh '85

Mary McAlary '61

Joanne Pepe '13

Kathleen Milsop Battis '61

Gerard Toohey '03, '19

Sister Emma Patricia Murphy, O.P. '62

Michael Mitschele

Generous donor and former member of the Caldwell University Board of Trustees from 1998 to 2006

Donna Izzo Costello '65

Jean Urban '65

Norman Menz,
Adjunct Lecturer, Criminal Justice
Husband of Rita Finn Menz '67



GERARD TOOHEY was among the university's most generous alumni. Toohey, along with his wife Marie, endowed the first academic professorship, with a \$1 million dollar gift to fund the Ruane-Toohey Chair for Economics in 2000. Toohey received his master's in accounting degree from President Blattner at a special ceremony last spring.

in memory of...



SAVE THE DATE

ADMISSIONS EVENTS

SATURDAY, FEB. 22 • 11 A.M.
PREVIEW DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 4
ACCEPTED STUDENTS DAY II

SATURDAY, APRIL 25
UNDERGRADUATE OPEN HOUSE

CONCERTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 • 7 P.M.
SOLO & CHAMBER CONCERT
ALUMNI THEATRE

TUESDAY, APRIL 21 • 7 P.M.
SMALL ENSEMBLE CONCERT
ALUMNI THEATRE

MONDAY, APRIL 27 • 7 P.M.
WIND ENSEMBLE & CHORALE CONCERT
STUDENT CENTER AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY, MAY 1 • 7 P.M.
JAZZ ENSEMBLE CONCERT
STUDENT CENTER AUDITORIUM

FOUNDER'S DAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
(SNOW DATE MARCH 25)

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ARTS DAY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

ALUMNI BASKETBALL

SATURDAY, FEB. 22 • 1 P.M.
ALUMNI SUPER SATURDAY BASKETBALL EVENT

LECTURES

THURSDAY, FEB. 20 • 4:30 P.M.
ALISSA WILKINSON, SISTER MAURA CAMPBELL LECTURE

TUESDAY, MARCH 24 • 4:30 P.M.
ANTHONY STEINBOCK, SISTER MAURA CAMPBELL LECTURE

THURSDAY, APRIL 16 • 4:30 P.M.
HEATH CARTER, SISTER MAURA CAMPBELL LECTURE

ART EXHIBITIONS

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5 - MARCH 3
**"I AM LARGE, I CONTAIN MULTITUDES: WORK BY DAVID RIOS
FERRIERA AND SHOSHANNA WEINBERGER"**

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5 • 5-6 P.M.
ARTIST'S TALK • OPENING RECEPTION • 6-8 P.M.

VERITAS

THURSDAY, MARCH 26
35TH ANNUAL JUNE DWYER CASTANO VERITAS AWARDS DINNER

COMMENCEMENT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 • HONORS CONVOCATION

**SATURDAY, MAY 16 • COMMENCEMENT MASS —
WITH CARDINAL JOSEPH W. TOBIN PRESIDING**

SUNDAY, MAY 17 • 78TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

MASSES

SUNDAY MASS IS HELD MOST SUNDAYS AT 7 P.M.
WHEN THE UNIVERSITY IS IN SESSION
SISTER MARY DOMINIC TWEEDUS CHAPEL