

### Message From the President

### Spirit of Renewal

"Lord, send forth your spirit, and renew the face of the earth." This psalm lyric may be best associated with Pentecost, when the Spirit arrived like a 'strong, driving wind.' Yet, spiritual renewal is not reserved to a season, or limited to a particular time or place. As Saint Paul reminds the Corinthians, "Now is an acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation." (2 Cor. 6:2)

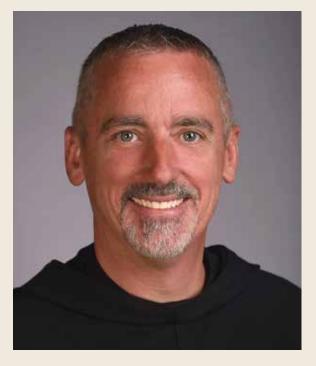
I believe we are in a time of renewal at Saint Francis University. Our Catholic and Franciscan mission is foremost on our mind. We welcomed the largest incoming class in a decade in the Fall of 2021. When I met freshmen and their families, way back in August, it was evident that our campus culture was what "sold them" on Saint Francis University. Catholic and Christian families alike appreciate our partnership: our community members continue the faith journey with the students, picking up where the parents left off. Our values are their values.

Our new mission statement was recently unveiled:

As the oldest Franciscan institution of higher learning in the United States, Saint Francis University draws inspiration from our Catholic tradition and expresses the lived example of Saint Francis of Assisi in the modern world. Saint Francis University promotes an inclusive learning community and a lifelong path to virtue, truth, and compassion. Within a culture that seeks understanding through innovation and collaboration, we champion both the inherent dignity of the individual person and the common good.

Renewal is the air on campus. The transformation of Immaculate Conception Chapel, the heart of our campus, makes a statement unto itself. After all God has done for us in the course of 175 years, it is truly right and just that we upgrade His house. Enjoy some photos of the preliminary work in the article about the \$1.75 Million for the 175th Anniversary Capital Campaign.

Our former religious studies department has undergone renewal of its own. During the past calendar year, five Franciscans taught multiple sections of the introductory Franciscan Goals course. The statistical likelihood of each student having had a friar-faculty member increased dramatically. In the Fall of 2021, we unveiled the re-visioned



Department of Franciscan Studies, Theology, and Applied Ethics (FTAE). We will soon welcome three new faculty members (one Philosopher and two Theologians) to the department. I look forward to many exciting developments to spring forth from FTAE, helping our students to become healthcare providers who promote a culture of life, business professionals who are moral and ethical, scientists who acknowledge God as the creator, and artists who use their talents to lead people closer to God.

In the Book of Revelation, Jesus exclaimed, "Behold, I make all things new." I invite you to look again at *your* Saint Francis University. Peruse our magazine, admissions materials, our website, and walk our campus. It is evident that our Catholic and Franciscan community is a welcoming one. Please join me in thanking God for the many ways he has blessed Saint Francis University in its 175-year history.

Sincerely,

Very Rev. Malachi Van Tassell, T.O.R., Ph.D. President

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The SFU Magazine is published 2 times per year by the Office of Communications and Marketing in conjunction with the Office of Alumni Engagement.

### ADDRESS CHANGES & FLASHBACK SUBMISSION

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ERIC HORELL '13, '17 / Director of Alumni Engagement

JOAN KOESTER / Designer

BROUDY PRINTING INC / Printing

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Decades of SFU alums are accomplishing impressive feats all over the world, and finding unique ways to catch up with their former classmates.

On the cover: The late afternoon sun offers a warm glow on the 175th celebration signage gracing the main campus entrance.

Photo by Tom Havrilla, University Communications and Marketing

### Franciscan Friars, T.O.R. greeting cards offer a gift of Mass Remembrance for any occasion...

- Perpetual Enrollments
- · Birthdays, Anniversaries, Graduations
- · Christmas, Easter, St. Patrick's Day
- Health and Healing
- In Sympathy
- ... And much more!







**STORY BY** / Erin McCloskey, Vice President for Communications and Marketing

For nearly 175 years, Saint Francis University has warmly welcomed families from hometowns both near and far for campus visits. In October 2021, the University unveiled a new space to greet these visitors. After some renovation magic to Francis Hall, this new Admissions Welcome Center, next to the Immaculate Conception Chapel, has become the place where future students experience what it feels like to be part of the Red Flash Family.

### CRAFTING A MEMORABLE CAMPUS EXPERIENCE

Space and place hold value. The University embarked on this renovation project with the goal of creating a intentionally designed venue to facilitate an exceptional campus experience for families within a warm and inviting setting that supports recruitment functions. Every element in the new physical space has been carefully designed, both aesthetically and functionally, to offer a uniquely Saint Francis campus visit experience for prospective families.



follow

The Admissions Welcome Center leverages the power of facility design to attract potential students while at the same time, ensures a smooth administrative process for campus visitors.

The Center's visioning process focused on the three key elements:

1. Site Selection: The facility location is at the heart of campus with adjacent parking next to the building. Attached to the Immaculate Conception Chapel, the Welcome Center symbolizes the mission-centric experience that Saint Francis has delivered for 175 years. Campus visitors will begin their tour with the chapel, travel throughout campus, and complete their tour at Torvian Dining Hall (conveniently located next door).

### 2. Attraction through Character:

The Welcome Center is an opportunity to deliver instantaneous connection to the brand identity which is reinforced by talented Bell Tower Ambassadors on hand to provide a memorable campus tour. Prospective students and families will form strong impressions of the University by what they see, hear, and feel in that first visit.



3. Optimized Interior: Many studies indicate that the physical attractiveness of a school is pivotal in a student's decision to enroll. Creating a welcome environment begins at the point of entry. In the Welcome Center, large windows in the greeting space allow visitors to view the beauty of campus and create a lasting impression. Features like the fireplace and refreshment station communicate a strong sense of warmth and comfort, consistent with our campus culture. Well-placed meeting rooms offer convenient and flexible spaces to accommodate visiting groups of any size. A large workroom, apart from the public welcoming space, ensures the recruitment function is not compromised.







### **Follow Frankie and Schedule Your Visit**

francis.edu/visit-us

The Office of Admissions offers a variety of campus visit options.

See you in Loretto!!



### A New Homecoming Tradition:

# Mentorship Week



# Alumni return home to mentor the next generation of the Red Flash Family

### STORY BY /

Eric Horell '13, '17, Director of Alumni Engagement

When asked why he mentors current students, alumnus Anthony Sanford '04 recalls his own alumni mentor from his undergraduate days: Fr. Bede Hines '43, T.O.R. "I used to have lunch with him when our schedules lined up," recalls Anthony, "and we used to talk about everything. He told me about his journey to the faith, and I'd let him listen to my Sony Discman," playing the latest mixtapes Anthony brought back from NYC while on break.

Because Anthony had an SFU mentor while he was a student, he knew he wanted to serve in a similar role for Saint Francis University's newest Homecoming tradition: Mentorship Week

**Students mix and meet professionals** both in-person and online during the Engineering & Technology Networking Event. Five alumni represented their respective companies at the event.



### MENTORSHIP WEEK 2021 BY THE NUMBERS:

36 unique sessions 82 alumni mentors 14 non-alumni mentors 1,055 student attendees

held Monday, October 4 through Friday, October 8 leading up to Homecoming Weekend 2021.

"I believe in paying things forward because I worked hard to get those opportunities," explains Anthony, talking about his career since graduation, "but I also got a lot of breaks as well."

Mentorship Week (co-sponsored by the Office of Career Services, the Office of Alumni Engagement, and the Alumni Association) started as a single Mentorship Day in 2018 within the Shields School of Business, and it was an immediate success. "Bringing our alumni back to campus to provide guidance, advice, and insights to our current students was such an affirming experience for the entire Shields School of Business faculty and staff," remembers Dr. John Miko, Associate Dean of the Shields School of Business.

Building on the early success, organizers campuswide extended the event across all academic departments spanning an entire week in 2019. While the Covid-19 pandemic temporarily slowed Mentorship Week in 2020, the event returned this year with more student participation and more alumni and community mentors than in 2019, ensuring it will be a part of Homecoming celebrations going forward.

Miriah Lassinger '08 returned to Saint Francis for that initial Mentorship Day back in 2018. Since then it's become "somewhat of a tradition for me and several friends over the past four years,



**Dr. Stephanie Ivory, Associate Professor and Department Chair of Education;** Emily Haupt '19;
Chris Freidhoff '12; Grace McKernan '19 and Ms. Melissa
Peppetti, Director of Graduate Education after presentations for "Tips for Making the First Year of Teaching Successful."

and the reason for going has evolved over time," she says. "Originally, the nostalgia drew us back to campus. However, it has been amazing to see the transformation of the students over the years. The students who were freshmen on the first Mentorship Day are now seniors, and you see how they value the experience. They are asking the tough questions and appreciate you spending your time with them."

With a return to in-person events paired with the advantages of

**Student attendance was strong** throughout the week, with full classrooms for many events, as seen during a panel for the Shields School of Business as well as the Nursing Program's "SFU Nursing Alumni Becoming that Someone."





video conferencing, alumni were able to "return" to campus no matter whether they traveled to Loretto or videoed in from locations around the country.

Anthony was one of those whose session was entirely virtual, joining the "Sharing My Experience: SFU Alumni of Color Share Their Experience Navigating Workplace Culture" alumni panel from the comfort of his office in New York City. "I love how direct some of the students have been when asking questions," he says. "Representation matters throughout this process because initially mentors will be people that share a lot of the same things you identify with, [but] good mentors will take all of those initial details and challenge you to add more to your thinking and help you figure out how can you maximize on the impact you are trying to leave in the world."

While there were many field-specific alumni panels and networking events, there were sessions designed with all students in mind, including presentations that focused on the value of an internship, a review of University resources for career development, and a panel that highlighted how students regardless of major should consider entering public office, led by Pennsylvania State Representative Tommy Sankey '04, former Blair County Commissioner Donna Gority and Loretto Borough Council President Ward Prostejovsky '93.

"The thought was (and is) that no matter what your major, no matter what your discipline, no matter what you do in life, it takes investment from others, and Mentorship Week is a way for us to foster that between our alumni and our students," says Dr. Miko. "We are blessed to have so many alumni that have been very successful, that have a strong affinity for our university, and maybe aren't in a position to give money, but really enjoy the opportunity to donate their time, talent, and insights and expertise to our current students."

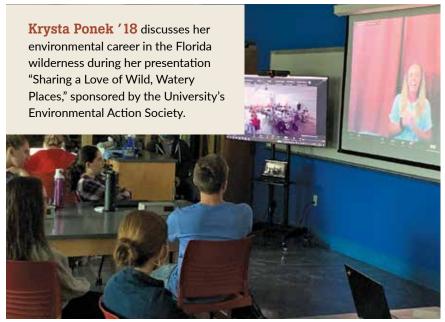
And that strong connection with their former instructors is why so many alumni were excited to return to campus for Mentorship Week. That so many alumni jumped at the opportunity to return to



**State Rep. Tommy Sankey '04** discusses his path from accounting student to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives during "Become a Public Servant: Why/ How to Run for Public Office," an event co-sponsored by the Honors Program and the History & Political Science Department.

their alma mater "highlights one of SFU's fundamental strengths--the people," says Seth Huston '08, another mentor from Mentorship Week 2021. "I know how cliche that can sound, but to me the people and the relationships we build are the heart of the SFU community... These relationships are what bring me back to SFU."

Sanford echoes those sentiments: "I am constantly welcomed to hang or reach out when I need anything. SFU was an amazing experience for me." And because of their dedication to their alma mater, these alumni are making sure it's an amazing experience for our current students and soon-to-be alumni.





**Anthony Sanford '04 has a laugh** while on a virtual mentorship panel with Brittni (Smallwood) Moore '08 and Wadler Fleurina '16.





PRESIDENT'S
REPORT
2020-2021

It is in giving that we receive.

— St. Francis of Assisi

### The Saint Francis University Mission

As the oldest Franciscan institution of higher learning in the United States, Saint Francis University draws inspiration from our Catholic tradition and expresses the lived example of Saint Francis of Assisi in the modern world. Saint Francis University promotes an inclusive learning community and a lifelong path to virtue, truth, and compassion. Within a culture that seeks understanding through innovation and collaboration, we champion both the inherent dignity of the individual person and the common good.

**Updated October 2021** 

### **Our Friars**

The vision embraced by the community of learners that became Saint Francis College (now Saint Francis University) originated over 800 years ago in the person and the dream of the Poverello, Francis of Assisi, who delighted in calling himself the Troubadour, the storyteller, of the Great King. Saint Francis University is blessed to be sponsored and supported by the Franciscan Friars, Third Order Regular, Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.



### The following Friars all serve at the University:

(front row, left to right): Br. Dennis Snyder, T.O.R. Ph.D. '92; Fr. Terence Henry, T.O.R., '71; Fr. Jason Wooleyhan, T.O.R.; Fr. Stephen Mary Waruszewski, T.O.R.; Fr. James Puglis, T.O.R.; Fr. Joseph Marie Krilich, T.O.R.; Br. Marius Strom, T.O.R.; Br. Kolbe Spencer, T.O.R.

(back row, left to right) Fr. Matthew Simons, T.O.R.; Br. Shamus McGrenra, T.O.R., '72; Fr. Joseph Chancler, T.O.R.; Fr. Malachi Van Tassell, T.O.R., Ph.D.; Fr. Christopher Dobson, T.O.R.; Br. Gabriel Amato, T.O.R.; Fr. Peter Lyons, T.O.R. '59

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### Financial Summary

### Francis the Good Steward

### 2020-2021 Revenues/Expenditures

### **REVENUES**

Net tuition and fees	39,798,637
Federal grants and contracts	4,235,505
State and local grants	1,009,999
Private gifts, grants and bequests	6,025,597
Interest and dividends, net	561,253
Other income	2,933,898
Auxiliary enterprises net	12,694,541
TOTAL REVENUES	\$67,259,430

### **EXPENDITURES**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$63,304,796
Auxiliary enterprises	10,078,091
Institutional support	12,808,733
Student services	14,095,918
Academic support	1,837,087
Research and public service	2,310,174
Instructional	22,174,793

### 2020-2021 Total Contributions

TOTAL	\$6,998,208
Religious Organizations	\$1,995,015
Corporations/Grants/	
Foundations	\$863,446
Friends	\$1,695,832
Parents	\$101,675
Alumni	\$2,322,563

### **University Endowment**

The University endowment supports transformational experiences for our students through academic and athletic scholarships, international study, and research opportunities.

**\$64,341,237** (growth as of June 30, 2021)

### Fall 2021 Enrollment

Traditional Undergraduate	1,654
Continuing Education/Francis Worldwide	215
Graduate	461



### General Engineering receives ABET Accreditation

### **September 16, 2021**

The University's bachelor's degree program in General Engineering has been accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology.



### 2021-2022 Catholic College of Distinction

### **September 15, 2021**

Colleges of Distinction has once again recognized SFU as a "Catholic College of Distinction" for fostering Catholic values in a setting promoting engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities and successful outcomes.

### 2021-2022 Military Friendly School

### July 8, 2021

SFU has been named a "Military Friendly School" by VIQTORY for the 11th consecutive year. This year, the University maintained Gold Award status which recognizes the high standards upheld by the University in serving military families.

### National Accounting Faculty of the Year Award

### April 21, 2021

Dr. Angela Seidel, Business Administration Department Chair and Associate Professor of Accounting, was named "IMA Accounting Faculty of the Year" by the International Accreditation Council for Business Education (IACBE).

### Statewide Distinguished Colleague Award

#### March, 8, 2021

Dr. Rita Trofino, Associate Dean of the School of Health Sciences & Education, Nursing Department Chair and Professor, received the Distinguished Colleague Award from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Nursing Schools Association, Inc. (PHENSA).



### The Saint Francis Society

The Saint Francis Society celebrates a community of donors who have pledged to become partners in a shared vision for Saint Francis University. Society members believe in Saint Francis University and its mission so strongly that they commit \$1,000 or more annually to support the University. The Society honors the traditions of the University's past while providing a strong foundation for the University's future. Society members are committed to helping provide the resources necessary to realize the University's vision and mission.

### Lifetime Saint Francis Society Leadership

### Lifetime giving of \$2,500,000 or more

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### Annual gifts of \$10,000 +

President's Circle recognizes the contributions and dedicated work of all University presidents. Each University president has left his mark on the character of this great institution. The President's Circle recognizes the University's most generous contributors. Through their annual support of gifts of \$10,000 or more, members ensure that the University continues as a leader in Catholic higher education.

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### \$1.75 million for the 175th

a message from The Very Rev. Malachi Van Tassell, T.O.R., Ph.D. on the Capital Campaign for the Immaculate Conception Chapel enhancements and Alta Via scholarships

"We give you praise O Lord, for it is you who have accomplished all we have done."

These words from the prophet Isaiah capture our sentiments as we begin the 175th anniversary year of Saint Francis University. The Lord has blessed the University in abundance over the span of three centuries. To show our gratitude, we want to give generously to the Lord. For this reason, our 175th-anniversary capital campaign focuses on the Chapel and our Catholic identity.

In Jewish worship, first fruits are offered to God. After the harvest, the best of the harvest is given to God in gratitude. The thinking is, 'God gave us so much, so we give Him back our best.' That is our thinking here too. After all God has done for the University over 175 years, we want His dwelling place to be beautiful.

After Old Main burned in 1942, the friars worked to rebuild the campus from the ashes. A building fund was established. Alumni and friends responded generously. The Immaculate Conception Chapel as we know it was dedicated in 1958. Believe it or not,

though, there was always more to be done. The project went as far as it could with the resources at hand (and it went quite far!)

Today we seek to raise one million dollars to complete the vision for the Immaculate Conception Chapel. Religious art, structural enhancements, and new sacred vessels will enhance an already beautiful worship space. In the words of Pope Francis, "Every expression of true beauty can be acknowledged as a path leading to an encounter with the Lord Jesus."

As part of this same campaign, we seek to raise \$750,000 for Alta Via scholarships. Our Alta Via program is a special one for students seeking a uniquely Catholic and Franciscan experience. Alta Via scholars take specialized courses in Franciscan spirituality and journey with a Franciscan friar.

Our Catholic and Franciscan identity is our raison d'etre. Our Chapel is at the heart of our campus. Our desire is to give thanks to God during the 175th-anniversary celebration for all He has done for Saint Francis University.

Please contact Robert Crusciel '86, Vice President for Advancement at 814-472-3021 or rcrusciel@francis.edu to learn more about the 175th campaign.



### Celebrating 175 Years

### **Alumni Weekend 2022**

July 28-31, Thursday through Sunday

A Celebration 175 Years in the Making! More information coming soon...

### Scenes from

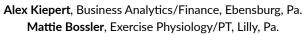
## HOMECOMING 2021

Photos by Scott Stover and Alex Rivers















### **ATHLETICS**

### Grab the App

Now that the Flash are back in full swing, follow your favorite teams via a new mobile app. Developed in partnership with From Now On, the Saint Francis Red Flash mobile app features schedules, scores, and news for SFU fans.

Fans can download the new
Saint Francis Red Flash app today
from both the App Store and Google Play.



### Women's Volleyball Crushes Northeast Conference Awards

Saint Francis University women's volleyball claimed three major Northeast Conference (NEC) women's volleyball awards for the 2021 season: NEC Coach of the Year, Head Coach Sara McMullen; NEC Player of the Year, Madi Tyus of Plano, Texas; and Rookie of the Year, Maggie Hogan of Northern Cambria, Pa.



**Faith Huddle:** The team celebrated Senior Night by clinching a spot in the NEC Tournament with a victory over Central Connecticut State University 3-0 on November 6.



SFU student-athletes continue to excel in the classroom, boasting a department-wide 3.387 grade-point average in Fall 2021. This makes the 46th-straight semester (23 consecutive years) SFU has maintained a department-wide GPA above 3.0. The total athletic department grade-point average is the fourth highest dating back to the fall of 2003.

# Fall 2021 Stats

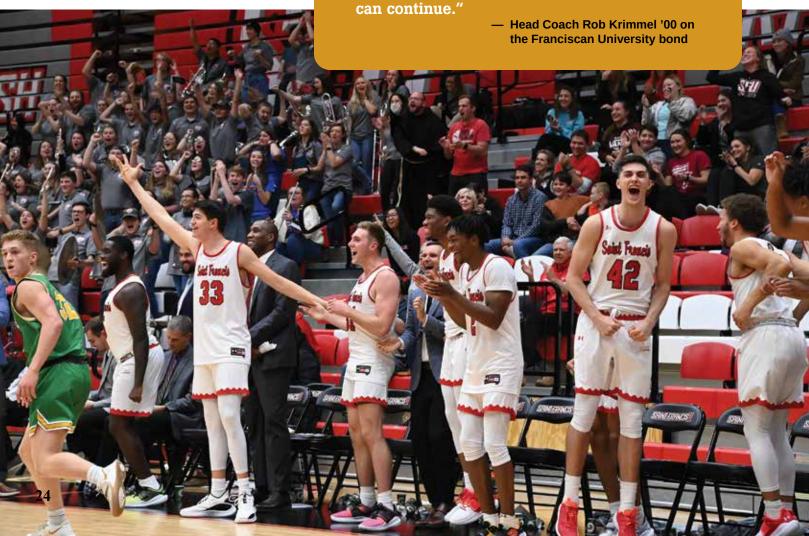
- 439 student-athletes (82%) achieved a 3.0 grade-point average or better.
- 310 student-athletes (58%) held a 3.50 grade-point average or better.
- 77 student-athletes (14%) registered a perfect 4.0 grade-point average.
- Women's swimming and women's indoor/outdoor cross country led the way with eight student-athletes each achieving a 4.0 grade-point average.
- The men's and women's tennis teams finished with the two highest team grade-point averages with men's tennis edging out the women's tennis team 3.896-3.866 for the top spot.

### Red Flash Fans Return to DeGol Arena

### After 619 Days Away

### For the first time in 619 days,

the Saint Francis University men's basketball team played in front of a crowd at DeGol Arena on Monday, November 15, 2021. The team rewarded the return of the Red Flash faithful with a 100-54 win against Franciscan University in non-conference action. Last season fans were not allowed in the stands due to COVID-19 so this game was the first game with fans at DeGol Arena since the Northeast Conference semifinals against Sacred Heart on March 7, 2020 when 1,423 fans were in attendance. "When you have a chance to tell a story with your games, we jump on those opportunities and what better way to tell a story than a rivalry that goes back well before I was born. To share that experience on a basketball court. You can bring two basketball teams together that share the same mission and vision. There are not many basketball games that end with a prayer. Two teams coming together and sharing a moment. It's a pretty special event, a pretty special game that I hope we can continue."



### Football Season Highlights:

### Flash Prevail in 17-10 Victory at Duquesne

**The October 30th win over Duquesne** was Saint Francis' first since 2016 and just the seventh in the matchup's 42-game history. The Red Flash defense held a Duquesne offense that averaged 320 yards per game to just 206 yards on 66 plays.



**Longest Run:** Marques DeShields scored on a 98-yard touchdown run, which marked the longest run in Saint Francis football history in their game at Bryant University on October 16, 2021. (DeShields is shown here during the Homecoming game October 9 against Long Island University.)

### **Red Flash Names**

### New Faculty Athletics Representative

Director of Athletics James Downer has announced that Dr. Carrie Beebout has been appointed as the department's Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR).

The FAR is a member of an institution's faculty or administrative staff who is designated to represent their institution and faculty with the NCAA and the Northeast Conference. The FAR is a critical role in that he/she is charged with ensuring quality student-athlete well-being, academic integrity, and institutional control. The FAR helps to shepherd a dynamic experience for all student-athletes.

Beebout became a member of the Saint Francis faculty in 2012 and is currently the Program Director of the Physician Assistant Science Program in the School of Health Sciences and Education.

Beebout has served as Faculty Athletics Mentor (FAM) for the Women's Soccer team since 2017 and has provided Sport Psychology services to a number of individual athletes and teams on campus over the past five years.

She earned a Doctorate of Psychology (PsyD) with a concentration in Sport Psychology from California Southern University, a Master's of Physician Assistant Science from Saint Francis University, and a Bachelor's in Liberal Arts from Excelsior College.

### Velocity-Based Training

### The sports world is using more data and analytics when

it comes to making decisions on the field. For example, with a fourth and two play in football 10 years ago, a team most likely would have punted the ball away. Now data shows "going for it" on fourth down increases the team's chance to win.

Data analytics is starting to hit the strength and conditioning rooms across the country as well. Here at Saint Francis University, The Red Flash Athletic Performance staff are starting to employ

### "It's performance enhancement, but it's also injury prevention because we can train optimally, not just training maximally."

Jake Myers, Head Athletic Performance Coach

Velocity-Based Training practices.

Velocity-Based Training is a modern approach to strength training and power

training which utilizes velocity tracking technology to provide rich objective data as a means to motivate and support realtime adjustments in an athlete's training plan.

The Red Flash are currently using the principles of Velocity-Based Training, but would love to step up the impact by investing in equipment that provides better data. With more accurate data, the Athletic Performance staff could not only increase student-athletes performance but also help prevent injuries or assist with the overall well-being of the student.

"Our goal here is to prevent injuries and increase performance," said Head Athletic Performance Coach Jake Myers. "If we develop a better athlete, coaches can create a better player. We want to give them all the tools in the toolbox and Velocity-Based training is a better tool.

By having a device that measures speed, I know how fast athletes are moving," said Myers. "The coach's eye only goes so far. We could end up overtraining if I do not know how fast athletes are going. Overtraining is the one thing that we want to avoid because that is when injuries happen."

Myers shared an example from The University of Alabama football program which credits the Velocity-Based Training for helping the Crimson Tide win the 2020 national championship. One of the biggest reasons was that it decreased injuries by 50 percent.

"It's performance enhancement, but it's also injury prevention because we can train



optimally, not just training maximally," said Myers. "If we have data for our worth of what we are doing, the better we are going to progress as an athletic performance program. Our goal is to improve athleticism to improve performance on the field."

Another benefit of the data collected through Velocity-Based Training is that it can highlight mental stressors as well as physical ones. Stressors that show in the metrics provide Myers and his staff a conversation point that could lead to an athlete opening up about mental well-being.

# Support the health and well-being of our student-athletes:

Myers wants to integrate an athletic performance approach at Saint Francis University. If you would like to support this project, please contact Jim Brazill, Senior Associate Director of Athletics, at 814-472-2774.



**Feedback:** Communication between student-athletes and coaches is vital in building trust to maximize the student-athlete experience at Saint Francis University. Coach Myers works with football player Greg Reddick, a Criminal Justice major from Miami, Fla.

### **Leadership Initiatives**

### **Define Student-Athlete Success**

**Saint Francis University** boasts high-caliber championship sports teams on top of impressive student-athlete academic achievements. The University, through its Center for Student-Athlete Development and Academic Services, is investing in some exciting opportunities to make sure that success combo continues.

The newly formed Bob & Sharon Krimmel Leadership Institute will be the umbrella for all leadership and personal development programming.

The Leadership Institute will provide a series of required and optional programs. During their four years at Saint Francis student-athletes will have the opportunity to take part in mentorship experiences, workshops, and community service activities.

The four-year experience begins with "The Foundation Year." All first year student-athletes are already required to enroll in GEN 101, the Freshman Student-Athlete Experience class. This program introduces students to some important leadership skills to help them manage their collegiate career. During their second year student-athletes will be required to attend a pair of workshops that are focused on their journey of self-exploration and understanding. The third year is "The Connection Year." Student-athletes will take part in various networking and career building programs. The journey continues in Year Four, "The Destination Year." The focus is to help student-athletes reach their destination after college with an understanding of one's identity beyond just their sport.

### Fellowship, Food, and Fun

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) has been serving the student-athletes and general popu-

**lation** of Saint Francis University for more than twenty years. An international and interdenominational organization, FCA has groups on campuses and in high schools, middle schools, and youth sports organizations across the globe. FCA strives to reach every athlete on every team with the message of the Gospel, and works to see the world impacted for Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes.

At Saint Francis University, FCA meets every Wednesday night with around 40-50 athletes in attendance each week. The group also has four athletics department employees on staff. Centered around fellowship, food, and fun, the meetings are designed to challenge student-athletes (and non-athletes alike) to grow in their faith and integrate their faith into sport and life. In the past few years, the group has seen a steady increase in weekly attendance with the addition of new Bible studies, countless new friendships and relationships with Christ!

# Student leaders share thoughts on Fellowship of Christian Athletes:



"I am incredibly blessed to be a part of the growth that FCA has seen over the last year. FCA is such a great space to meet other athletes and grow in our faith together. It is always such a bright spot in my week to gather and hear how God is working in each of our lives"

 Elyssa Enrique of North Canton, Ohio (Sr., Lacrosse)



"FCA has brought me closer to my faith, as well as helped me to realize that God is present in everything that we do, especially through athletics and competition. Over my year and a half at Saint Francis, our chapter has grown significantly. It has been rewarding to see the amount of people who want to grow closer in their faith as well as have a better understanding of God. The future continues to look bright for FCA in Loretto!"

 Nick McGowan of Johnstown, Pa. (So., Football)



Ceremonial Groundbreaking: Chris Collins '73, Co-Chair of Resinski Black Box Theatre Committee; Scott Riner, Junior English Major, Production Stage Manager; Fr. Joseph Lehman, T.O.R., Ph.D., Minister Provincial; Bonnie Resinski, Costume Designer, Wardrobe Manager, Adjunct Instructor; Fr. Malachi Van Tassell, T.O.R., Ph.D., University President: James Donovan, Interim Director of the Center for Fine Arts; Dr. Karan Powell, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Sharon Hoffman '80, President of the Alumni Association Board of Directors; Megan Wood, Senior Psychology and Spanish Major, Music and Wellness Minor; Dr. Lori Woods, Associate Dean, School of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics; Dr. Pete Skoner, '85 (M), Dean, School of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics

### **Coming Soon:** The Connors Family Fine Arts Center

Friday, October 1, 2021, the University community gathered to celebrate Founders Day and the groundbreaking for the Connors Family Fine Arts Center, the future home of the Resinski Black Box Theatre. The new fine arts center is expected to be ready

for use by the fall of 2023. The new fine arts center began as a grassroots effort to honor the late Kenny Resinski, who served as a theatre faculty member and production director at the University from 1967 to 2013.



# Support the Project

If you would like to learn more or want to discuss supporting the Center, please contact SFU's Advancement Office at 814-472-3021 or visit our website francis.edu/MakeAGift.

**Shown here:** Bonnie Resinski and fundraising co-chair Chris Collins '73.

Photo by JD Cavrich

### **Center for Fine Arts**

Follow us on Facebook @sfucenterforfinearts



**Spring 2022 Production** 

Hello Dolly!
April 22-24

Look for ticket information soon! events.francis.edu

### Then & Now

Enjoy a trip down memory lane with scenes from the 1970 and 2021 productions of "Our Town."



September 1970 Production Directed by Kenny Resinski

Donna Jean (Arndt) Comiskey '71 as Mrs. Gibbs Patricia (Goche) Newell '70 as Mrs. Webb Christine (Corbett) Baker '73 as Mrs. Soames



November 2021 Production Directed by Lance Mekeel

Lauren Moore as Mrs. Gibbs Tessa Paluzzi as Mrs. Webb Erin Eckenrode as Mrs. Soames

### **FLASH**BACKS

(Includes items submitted prior to Monday, November 8, 2021)

### 1970s



♦ In August 2020, a few alumni from the Class of 1978 made it up to The Colony Hotel in Kennebunkport, Maine to enjoy the comedy performance of fellow alumnus, Tom Clark. L to R: Mary Beth (Jurenovich) Natoli, Tom Clark, Terry (Bojanowski) DiSanto, Donna Marcinkowski and Sandy (Cordell) Lantzy.



◆ Football alumni from the Class of 1979 cheer on the Red Flash in their home opener win against Wagner College on Sept. 18, 2021. L to R: Sean Donoghue, Dave Shedlock, Steve Martynuska, and Tom McCabe.

### 1980s



 Dr. Annemarie DeLessio-Matta, DMD '89 was recently sworn in as the President of the Connecticut State Dental Association on May 5, 2021, during the Annual Session of the CSDA House of Delegates. Dr. DeLessio-Matta will serve a one-year term. "I'm thrilled to serve as president of the CSDA this coming year," said Dr. DeLessio-Matta. "We are still in the middle of a global pandemic, so I know my work and the work of the Board of Governors will continue to be difficult, but as a team, we will continue to support the dental profession in Connecticut and help dental offices move forward." Dr. DeLessio-Matta is a pediatric dentist in Southbury, Conn.

 The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania announced the appointment of Pitts-burgh attorney John (Jack) P. Goodrich '83 as Board Chair, effective April 1, 2021. Jack Goodrich was first appointed as a member of the Disciplinary Board in April 2016. Goodrich is a principal of the law firm Goodrich & Associates in Pittsburgh, Pa., where his practice focuses on personal injury with a concentration on head trauma and vehicular accidents including wrongful death and complex civil personal injury litigation. Jack serves Saint Francis University as a member of the President's Cabinet.

### **Births and Adoptions**



 Nate Sanders '15 and his wife Alyssa Sanders welcomed their daughter Lyla Grace Sanders on April 11, 2021.

**Nondiscrimination and No Harassment Policy:** Saint Francis University does not discriminate on the basis of gender, gender identity, age, race, color, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, pregnancy status, veteran status, predisposing genetic characteristic or any protected classification. This policy applies to all programs and activities of the University, including, but not limited to, admission and employment practices, educational policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic or other University sponsored programs. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policy: Lynne Banks, Associate Dean of Students, Title IX Coordinator, 814.472.3352, lbanks@francis.edu. Visit www.francis.edu/University-Policies-and-Handbooks/ for full details.

### **Marriages and Anniversaries**





◆ Brooke Semelsberger '18 MOT '19 and Corbin Corrente (both photos above) were united in marriage on July 25, 2020, at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Northern Cambria, Pa. Several SFU graduates were part of the bridal party. Brooke is employed as a school-based licensed occupational therapist at Camco Physical and Occupational Therapy, LLC, Johnstown, while Corbin, a graduate of Penn State University, University Park, is a mechanical engineer at Navmar Applied Sciences, Johnstown. The couple resides in Ebensburg.





• Hugo J. Tomes '51 and Helen J. Tomes celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on July 14th, 2022. They have two daughters, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Hugo and Helen reside in Fredricksburg, Va.

### How to Submit a Flashback

We love to hear from our alumni! Please share with us information about career changes, promotions, relocations, volunteer work, engagements, marriages, births, and interesting things.

We welcome photos and will publish them as space permits. High quality digital files are best. A larger file size (300dpi or higher) is better than a smaller file size. Photos submitted by mail will not be returned.

Flashbacks can be sent to: sfu-alumni-office@francis.edu OR Fax: 814-472-3044 OR: Flashbacks

c/o Office of Alumni Engagement Saint Francis University PO Box 600 Loretto, PA 15940 (List includes names submitted prior to Monday, November 8, 2021)

### **Deaths**

Donald D. Anderson '75 John "Jay" Auses '70

Virginia "Gini" (Weippert) Barber '82

Dr. Adrian F. Baylock '58 Eric Brintzinghoffer '67 Thomas W. Burke '61

William Burket '73

Leonard Burns '62

Daniel J. Callaghan '82

William J. Callahan '49

Charlene (Damratowski)

Caracciolo '89

Patrick Cannonie '80

Jacqueline M. Castel '18

John F. Castonguay '68

Patrick Colwell '82 Dan DiCio '62

Anthony F. DiGirolamo '47 Patrick F. Farace '54

Gary F. Glass '00

Kevin S. Grodzki '77 Edwin Hutcheson '79

Michael O. Ingoldsby '67

Linda (Collins) Ivanitz '75

Michael J. Klein '78

Robert J. Konior M'84

Dominic Laiti '58 Edward Lentz '68

Lisa (Smith) Little '95 Edward J. Marinak '59

Richard Matera '59

George F. Matta II '83

Dennis T. McNulty '50

Richard Migliore M'78

Dennis Montini '68

Leo R. Morris Jr. '64 Stanley Niedzwiecki '59

Maryann (McCarthy) O'Leary '60

Frederick Pheiffer '64

Paul Plaia '64

Edward J. Puchalla '59

Earl J. Reinhart '67

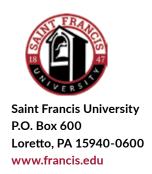
Geraldine (Hanyak) Richards '61

Maurice Rossi '57 Kenneth Rutkowski '81 William J. Saller, Jr. '56 Judith A. Sarama '66

Charles Swick '60 Daniel E. Zabo M'80

**Note:** Martin McDermott '72 was mistakenly listed as deceased in the last edition of the University magazine. We regret the error.





# Become that Someone! Support Saint Francis University Students

SFU Giving Days
March 21 -25, 2022

JOIN US IN GIVING