

Saint Francis University
Faculty and Staff
Recognition
May 5, 2021

2:00 P.M. JFK Lounge

Program of Events

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

President

Recognition of Retirees Very Rev. Malachi Van Tassell, T.O.R., Ph.D.

President

Faculty Emeriti/Retirees

Dr. Stephen M. LoRusso Distinguished Professor Emeritus

24 years of service of Exercise Physiology

Dr. Mark T. Lynch Distinguished Professor Emeritus

29 years of service of Social Work

Retirees

Larry J. Brown Custodial Worker II

15 years of service Physical Plant

Linda G. Burkhardt Specialty Retail Server 22 years of service Frankie's Dinning Service

Cindy J. Drenning Associate Professor

11 years of service Nursing

Timothy J. Greene Greenskeeper

11 years of service Immergrun Golf Course

Dr. Michael J. McKale Professor

35 years of service Philosophy & Religious Studies

Mary Ann Shaw Assistant Professor

10 years of service Education

Russell P. Shoff Plumbing/Heating Technician

36 years of service Physical Plant

Margaret D. Wess Coordinator II

40 years of service Registrar's Office

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

Special Awards President

The 32nd annual Soriano Outstanding Service Awards: The awards are made possible through an endowment established by the late Mr. Theodore J. Long of Altoona, PA.

Theodore Soriano – Finalists for Administrators

Nicole M. Bauman Mandy L. Lasinsky Robert J. Young, Jr.

Theodore Soriano Outstanding Service Award for Administrators

Mandy L. Lasinsky - Clinical Services Coordinator, My Health at Work

"Mandy has been key to the safe return of faculty, staff and students to campus this past academic year. She has demonstrated outstanding leadership, competence and thoughtfulness in the implementation of CDC guidelines and navigating a Covid landscape that changes nearly every day. Mandy has worked very long days and many, many hours in order to answer the many concerns of faculty, staff and students. Without her I am not sure we could have made it through the past year. She is very deserving of much more than this award!"

"Mandy and her team at MyHealth have been critical to the health, safety, and retention of our students through the pandemic. She is always accessible and responds to questions and concerns right away and in such a caring way. SFU would not have gotten through this year without her."

John Soriano – Finalists for Operational Employees

Kimberly L. Beck Linda A. Kline Beth Ann Warner

John Soriano Outstanding Service Award for Operational Employees

Kimberly L. Beck - Dean's Administrative Assistant I, School of Health Sciences and Education

"Kim has always been a diligent, compassionate employee, but this year she has gone above and beyond with her work at the Covid-19 vaccine clinics. She keeps the volunteers and participants organized and has answered thousands of questions with a smile. She spends long days on her feet and also manages to keep up with her regular duties. She is humble, hardworking and kind, and I am proud that she is representing our University in such a public way."

"Her organization and dedication to the partnership with Mainline Pharmacy to coordinate vaccinations for the SFU staff and community members. She has worked tirelessly with schedules and volunteering during the clinics during the long week days and on the weekends. I believe she is a shining example of the Franciscan way of serving others."

Dr. Robin L. Cadwallader Professor of English

"For, after all, put it as we may to ourselves, we are all of us, from birth to death guests at a table we did not spread. The sun, the earth, love, friends, our very breath are parts of the banquet..."

Saint Francis University and the Department of Literature & Languages is pleased to honor our esteemed colleague, Dr. Robin L. Cadwallader, on the occasion of her 25th anniversary of her membership in our academic community. Dr. Cadwallader is the embodiment of the above quotation in her career as professor, scholar, and servant leader. Like her favorite research interest, Rebecca Harding Davis, a leading transitional figure in American Literature Realism, Dr. Cadwallader excelled in her own formative educational experience as a student in then-Saint Francis College's Continuing Education program, eventually earning her BA in English with Distinction and subsequently receiving both her MA and PhD in Literature from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Cadwallader is gifted, passionate, and effective in her teaching of language and literature, willing to give as much time as needed to encourage and support individual learners of all abilities to mature as readers, writers, and thinkers. Graduates are thankful for the detail, attention, and guidance she gives to developing their confidence and ability.

Like Davis, Dr. Cadwallader is a prolific scholar who has published nearly a dozen books ranging from groundbreaking research on her mentor, to children's literature, to women's studies, and social justice issues, for as Davis wrote, "Reform is born of need, not pity" ("Life in the Iron Mills").

Her service to the University and community is equally impressive, as she has held membership on a variety of university committees, in learned societies, and on community councils alike. It is with great gratitude that the Department and University together celebrate Dr. Cadwallader on this significant anniversary.

Dr. Stephen R. Rombouts Director of University Archives and Keirn Family World War II

Steve became the Registrar in March 1996. During his time at Saint Francis, he sought opportunities to participate in the life of the University in ways that went beyond the walls of his office. Steve was a strong advocate for the ROTC program and was instrumental in facilitating on-campus Military Science instruction at Saint Francis. He was a loyal supporter of the University's religious identity and values, and was privileged to serve for many years as the faculty advisor to the Students for Life organization. Steve understood the significance of academic ritual and developed a comprehensive music program for Commencement that enriched that important annual ceremony. He contributed to our collegiate culture more generally by composing the words for the Anthem to Saint Francis University, and by designing the University Mace. As an Adjunct Professor of History, Steve was devoted to his students and to traditional liberal arts education. Steve was appointed as Director of the Archives and the Keirn Family World War II Museum in 2019, which provided him with an engaging new professional opportunity that allowed him to deal with history in its purest form by working with the artifacts and documents of the human past. Steve has served Saint Francis University with enthusiasm, imagination, and the highest regard for academic standards.

Annette C. Scanlan Administrative Assistant II, Physical Plant

Annette started her career at Saint Francis University in 1996 as a Purchasing Clerk. In 1998, she transferred to the Physical Plant Department to become the Physical Plant Administrative Assistant, a position she still holds today. Annette diligently handles all of the administrative work of the Physical Plant department, and is a great asset to the University.

Annette has been an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Loretto for 21 years, where she has served in several different capacities.

The University truly appreciates Annette's faithful and dependable service to Saint Francis University and the greater Loretto community, and congratulates her on 25 years of service.

Rev. Daniel F. Sinisi, T.O.R. Chaplain to Athletics Staff & Coaches

Father Daniel has joyfully served Saint Francis University in a variety of roles over the last twenty-five years. He began his service as a faculty member in the later 1960s. He journeyed with students in the classroom, helping them to grow in knowledge, and discover beauty and truth. In the spirit of obedience, he would go on to live out his Franciscan ministry in other ways and in other places, only to return to Saint Francis University with deep wisdom and renewed spirit.

Father Dan came home to the university in the jubilee year 2000 to lead the campus ministry department. He guided many young Franciscans, including a future president, who would "get their start" in campus ministry. His focus was always on the spiritual growth of the students and he was always concerned for their well-being. He would meet students where they were at and accompany them on their spiritual journey.

As vice-president for mission and ministry, Father Dan brought an ecumenical Franciscan focus. He exuded love and concern for students of all faiths, making sure their spiritual needs were met. In the spirit of Saint Francis and the sultan, Father Dan worked respectfully and tirelessly for ecumenical and inter-faith cooperation. As a good Franciscan, Father Dan was always mindful of the poor. By offering helpful encouragement to the Dorothy Day Outreach Center, promoting athletics teams to engage in service projects, or when sharing his experiences of serving the poor in Baltimore, Father Dan would lead by example to see Christ in others, especially in marginalized and under-served.

A passionate supporter of Red Flash athletics, Father Dan is often spotted cheering enthusiastically for the student athletes. During his tenure as chaplain of women's softball, the team won several championships. As chaplain to the athletics staff, Father Dan leads prayer, offers Scripture study, and shares spiritual wisdom. It was fitting that Father Dan was the 2014 recipient of the *Bel Cuore* award, honoring him for his commitment to athletics and academics.

The university is grateful for Father Daniel's many and varied contributions to the Saint Francis University community. Countless students have been positively impacted by his wisdom and example. We are honored to have him as our colleague and friend. We ask the Lord to bless Father Daniel at the special milestone with *pax et bonum*.

Kristin R. Weixel Assistant Director of Upward Bound Program

Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.

Malcolm X.

After graduating from the Saint Francis Honors Program, Kristin began working as a tutor-counselor for Upward Bound and knew she had found her calling. As Assistant Director of the SFU Upward Bound Program, she has prepared countless students for academic life and eventual careers. A gifted teacher, she enthusiastically shares her love of the English language and its literature. To enrich her students' skills in public speaking and literary appreciation, she created an Upward Bound chapter of Poetry Out Loud. Few things give her as much pleasure as hearing from former students that they are thriving in college or in their chosen professions. Kristin's academic philosophy can be summed up in the final line from the Stephen Sondheim musical, *Sunday in the Park with George*: "White. A blank page or canvas. . . . So many possibilities."

Catherine A. Wills Technical Services Manager, Library

Cathy started her career at Saint Francis in 1996 as a part-time Library Assistant working evenings and weekends at the Public Services Desk. In 1999, she was promoted to the full-time position of Library Assistant in Acquisitions and in 2016 her position was changed to Technical Services Manager. During her 25 years at Saint Francis, Cathy has quietly performed her duties behind the scenes to make sure that library materials were ordered, organized, paid, processed, cataloged and counted. She has developed policies and procedures and has been instrumental in creating many special collections in the library. Cathy has cross trained in Public Services functions and is a vital member of the staff keeping the library open and running when needed. Cathy is a lifelong learner, earning her B.S. in Computer Systems Management from Saint Francis in 2016 and pursuing a master's degree as well as professional development opportunities. Cathy is an active member of the Saint Francis community serving on the University Safety Committee since 2008 and donating her time in support of the Dorothy Day Center. Cathy has provided outstanding service to Saint Francis University and her hard work is appreciated.

Anniversary Employee Awards

5 years

Regina M. Barr Jacqueline E. Mazeika Kimberly L. Beck Sara L. McMullen Peter J. Bernard Melissa M. Peppetti Elizabeth A. Brothers Andrew M. Scanlan Umar A. Shannon Dr. Michael J. Groman Dr. Oin He Misti R. Smith Steven L. Hessmann Andrew M. Stopko Marcia Kokus David A. Teeter Luke A. Trotz Colleen M. Krug

10 years

Dr. Daniel E. Atwood Monica E. Shedlock
Dr. Eric S. Ecklund Dr. William A. Stodart
Dr. Stephanie L. Ivory Ralph R. Varmecky
MaryAnn Shaw Marie L. Young

15 years

Dr. Stephen H. Baker
Armando Balderas
Teresa A. Krug
Larry J. Brown
Melita M. O'Donnell
James M. Donovan
Dr. Arthur J. Remillard
Kelly L. Garanich
Dr. Lorie L. Rowles
Jane L. Gleason
Stephen P. Vinglish

20 years

Kourosh Barati-Sedeh Andrew J. Link
Beverly A. Bender Sherri L. Link
Christine M. Greene Dr. Lane J. Loya
Dr. Balazs Hargittai Luann K. Teeter

25 years

Dr. Robin L. Cadwallader Annette C. Scanlan

Dr. Margaret H. Calvert Rev. Daniel F. Sinisi, T.O.R.

Dr. Margaret A. Kealey Kristin R. Weixel Dr. Stephen R. Rombouts Catherine A. Wills

30 years

Sandra A. Balough Juliana M. Horvath

35 years

Germaine A. Dillon Dr. Michael J. McKale

40 years

Terry M. McMullen Margaret D. Wess

Gene F. Orlosky

50 years

Maureen J. Malloy

Employees completing degrees in the past year

Dr. Alex J. Anderson - Doctor of Education

Dr. Suzanne R. Black - Doctor of Clinical Social Work

Dr. Maureen A. Calandra - Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Abigail S. Clarke - Master of Education

Amanda S. Martin - Bachelor of Science in Accounting

Jacqueline E. Mazeka - Bachelor of Science in Management

Dr. Tricia G. McFadden - Master of Business Administration

Allison Rocha - Master of Education

Andrew M. Stopko - Master of Business Administration

Other Acknowledgements

Student Government Association Outstanding Advisor Award

Dr. Amanda J. Martino and Emily A. Vargo

Saint Francis Honor Society Distinguished Faculty Award

Dr. Carrie D. Beebout

Gerald & Helen Swatsworth Faculty Award

Dr. Justin W. Merry

Benediction

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

President

