



ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY

Digital Commons at St. Mary's University

Gold & Blue Law Edition

Gold and Blue

Spring 2018

Gold & Blue Law, Spring 2018

St. Mary's University- San Antonio, Texas

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.stmarytx.edu/goldblue_law

Recommended Citation

St. Mary's University- San Antonio, Texas, "Gold & Blue Law, Spring 2018" (2018). *Gold & Blue Law Edition*.
2.

https://commons.stmarytx.edu/goldblue_law/2

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Gold and Blue at Digital Commons at St. Mary's University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Gold & Blue Law Edition by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at St. Mary's University. For more information, please contact egoode@stmarytx.edu, sfowler@stmarytx.edu.

GOLD & BLUE LAW EDITION

SCHOOL *of* LAW ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Spring 2018

Still here,
still fighting

The Scholar marks
20 years of advocacy

Page L6



LAW *table of contents*

L2 LAW CAMPUS NEWS

L3 COMMITMENT TO CATHOLIC STUDIES

Law alumnus gives back by endowing the Beirne Director for the Center for Catholic Studies.

L4 ETHICS IN THE FAR EAST

Law professor spends time in Myanmar as Fulbright Scholar.

L6 MINORITY REPORT

The Scholar: St. Mary's Law Review on Race and Social Justice marks 20 years of focusing on legal issues facing minorities.

L8 CYBERSECURITY LEGALITIES

Formerly Texas' chief privacy officer, alumna ensures clients meet data privacy laws.

L9 LAW CLASS NOTES

L11 FRIENDS WE'LL MISS



On the cover: J.D. student Nikhil Patel stands in the office of *The Scholar: St. Mary's Law Review on Race and Social Justice*. As a staff writer for Volume 20, Patel has written a comment titled "Dual Nature of Balancing U.S. Political Interests with Alleged Human Rights Violations in Ethiopia."

This page: Upon completing her Master of Laws in American Legal Studies, Katja Wolf of Germany walked the stage with fellow Master of Laws, Doctor of Jurisprudence and Master of Jurisprudence candidates at the School of Law Hooding Ceremony in the University Center in December 2017.

Wolf, who was profiled in the *International Jurist* magazine last year, earned a certificate in U.S. law from the University of Cologne, Germany, before beginning her studies at St. Mary's. Wolf interned at the Law Office of Michael V. Malone, PLLC, in San Antonio, and at the Anderson, Lehrman, Barre & Maraist Law Firm in Corpus Christi.

Photos by Robin Jerstad

Finding the Way

Triple St. Mary's alum tackles law school while leading oncology group

by Alex Z. Salinas (B.A. '11)



Courtesy Photo

Walking around St. Mary's University as a re-enrolled undergraduate student in Fall 1998 — almost a decade after his first attempt — Patrick Magallanes couldn't help but feel emotional.

"Coming back that day was really hard, because I would've stayed and finished my education back then if my financials were right. But life took me in a different direction," Magallanes said. "After I got through that first day again, though, I was thrilled."

In the years Magallanes was away, he started a family and built a career marketing a variety of industries, including education. But with a renewed focus on his own education, he returned to earn a bachelor's degree in Political Science in 1999.

Empowered after earning that first degree, which was the "realization of something dating back to 1987," he decided to come back to St. Mary's — again and again. He earned a Master of Public Administration in 2000 and a Master of Business Administration in 2002.

Sixteen years later, at age 51, Magallanes is now in his second year in the School of Law's Doctor of Jurisprudence program.

"This school gives people foundational principles for how not to lose their way," he said. "It helped me find my way. Being here, you learn to do exactly as the Marianists do, which is to grow and help others grow."

As CEO of Oncology San Antonio since 2014, he hopes to use a future law degree to not only expand the business of one of the oldest and largest oncology practices in the city, but also to bring together

the fields of health care and law to further put Texas' only Catholic law school on the map.

His first step to accomplishing that was founding the St. Mary's Health Law Society in August 2016, which quickly grew to include nearly 30 members.

"There's an enormous need for health care lawyers in San Antonio," Magallanes said. "With so many rules and regulations that exist in health care law, health care lawyers are necessary now more than ever."

The second step was leading an initiative to bring the South Texas Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Student Symposium to the St. Mary's campus in September. ACHE is an international society of about 40,000 health care executives who lead hospitals, health care systems and health care organizations. The School of Law-sponsored symposium created a forum for health care students and professionals, as well as law students and policy makers to learn and network.

Magallanes remains focused on finishing law school, getting up at 4 a.m. every morning to read for class before starting his day.

While law school has been challenging for Magallanes — "like learning a different language" — he said he's enjoyed the challenge and being back at his alma mater.

"St. Mary's means everything to me," he said. "This school changed my life." ■

"This school gives people foundational principles for how not to lose their way."

Texas Supreme Court hears arguments at St. Mary's Law

The Supreme Court of Texas held arguments for two cases in the St. Mary's University School of Law Courtroom in February.

School of Law Dean Stephen M. Sheppard, J.S.D., said, "We are incredibly graced and pleased to be able to host the Supreme Court of Texas," which is the state's highest court for civil matters and is based in Austin.

Several hundred students packed the campus courtroom or watched a livestream in the Law Commons as eight of the nine justices, including alumnus the Hon. Paul W. Green (J.D. '77), heard oral arguments for two civil cases: Debra Gunn, Obstetric and Gynecological Associates v. Andre McCoy; and In the Interest of S.C. and K.C., Children.

St. Mary's Law had previously hosted the court in 2000 and 2010. It is among a number of high-profile courts that have heard oral arguments on campus in recent years, including the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, the Seventh Court of Appeals and the Fourth Court of Appeals.

After oral arguments, students enjoyed a rare Q&A with the justices, asking about everything from personal pastimes — Green, for instance, said he enjoys flying planes — to approaches to improving the justice system.

"We are honored to have you here and excited to get a glimpse into the life of a Texas Supreme Court Justice," Student Bar Association President William Biggers said.

When asked by students whether oral arguments or briefs are more valuable to the court's analysis, Green responded that a lot of the justices' understanding of the cases comes through legal writing since the sides get limited time during oral arguments to present a case they may have worked on for years.

"That's why the emphasis of this school and others is on the ability to write clearly and express yourself properly," Green said. "That's what really teaches us the case."

School of Law to host Law Weekend and Reunion

The School of Law invites law alumni, current and admitted students to Law Weekend and Reunion April 5-7.

"Law Weekend is a wonderful time for our alumni to get back to the law school and reconnect with their favorite faculty members and classmates," said Joel Lauer, Executive Director of Law Advancement. "This year we have a special dinner for those who graduated in a year ending in an 8, the Law Alumni All-Class Reunion and a number of other great events."

On April 6, the St. Mary's School of Law Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) Club will honor exceptional alumni who graduated between 2008 and 2017 at its 10 Under 10 Luncheon. Attendees can register for that event at law.alumni.stmarytx.edu/10-luncheon.

For a complete Law Weekend schedule, visit law.stmarytx.edu/law-weekend.



Tradition of Giving

Trustee chair supports Catholic Intellectual Tradition

by Robin J. Johnson (B.A. '11, M.A. '13)

Martin Beirne (J.D. '69), Chairman of the St. Mary's Board of Trustees, has significantly impacted the future of St. Mary's University and the School of Law — twice.

His first contribution came as a law student, as one of the founding editors of the *St. Mary's Law Journal* in 1969. The second was the \$1 million gift in September that he and his wife, Kathleen, made to the St. Mary's Defining Moment

Comprehensive Campaign, endowing the Beirne Director for the Center for Catholic Studies.

The gift will provide leadership for the Center as it examines the Catholic Intellectual Tradition. Students of all ages and Catholics from across Texas will have the opportunity to deepen their faith by exploring the fields of theology, philosophy, the sciences, social policy, law, the arts and culture and their intersection with Catholicism.

"It's important that we have a sense that education is not only about the person and their financial interest," Beirne said, "but the person as a whole and what it means to be a good person."

Beirne's desire to give back was shaped by his experiences as a law student.

In the early stages of law school, Beirne realized "all successful law schools had a law journal." With encouragement and support from then-Dean Ernest Raba (B.A. '34, LL.B. '37) and University President Charles W. Neumann, S.M., Beirne and his classmates founded the *St. Mary's Law Journal*, which kept the School of Law competitive.

It was an experience that had a "monumental effect" on Beirne, who went on to receive numerous professional honors as a practicing attorney, including being named a "Lion of the Texas Bar" by Texas Lawbook.

"It demonstrated the school's faith in its student body to turn the law students loose on that type of endeavor," he said of the journal, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2019.

"I'm very proud of the fact they invested that kind of confidence in us.

"And that's what St. Mary's gave me: the confidence, as well as the full educational opportunity, to become a lawyer."

For more information on the Defining Moment Comprehensive Campaign, visit www.stmarytx.edu/definingmoment. ■



Photo by Victoria Milkovich

Bow ties in Burma

Law professor and Fulbright Scholar brings democratic ideas to Myanmar, also known as Burma

by Frank Garza

Checks and balances. Ethics in government. Freedom of speech.

These ideas are not new in the West, but for Myanmar — a country still embroiled in civil strife — they are practically nonexistent.

Until recently, the teaching of political science in Myanmar had been banned for five decades. That is why South Texas Professor of Law and Fulbright Scholar Vincent R. Johnson, J.D., LL.D., considers his stay in the country such a treat.

Since December, Johnson has taught courses about law, ethics and anti-corruption; and about international economic law at the University of Mandalay. He starts his mornings the same way he does at home — putting on a suit and one of his favorite bow ties, although shoes are optional.

“I’m teaching a whole range of progressive ideas that have shaped the West. I get the keen sense that they are following what I am saying in class with deep interest,” Johnson said. “There’s no reluctance to delve into these topics, and nobody has suggested to me that it is dangerous territory.”

Myanmar’s first State Counsellor and leader of the National League for Democracy, Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, is working hard to ensure the future of democracy will be based on federalism principles, Johnson said.

“But the military is spreading misinformation, telling the Burmese that federalism means the breakup of the country. Those of us serving as Fulbright Scholars have asked to speak one-on-one to key decision-makers to ensure that they know the truth about federalism,” said Johnson, who held training sessions in February on the rule of law and judicial independence for three dozen parliament members in the nation’s capital, Naypyidaw.

Even though the future is uncertain, Johnson said day-to-day life in Mandalay is upbeat.

“It’s entirely positive and not a threatening place to be. People are going about their business as you would expect in any part of the world. Scooters are very popular and people are just zipping around,” he said. “It is a great country to have an opportunity to work in, and an important opportunity for the West to invest in. ... It’s soil that is going to bear fruit.” ■

“It is a great country to have an opportunity to work in and an important opportunity for the West to invest in.”

Professor of Law and Fulbright Scholar Vincent R. Johnson, J.D., LL.D., who is known for his signature bow ties, visits Sandamuni Pagoda in Mandalay, Myanmar.

The Mighty Pen

Law journal has given voice to minority legal issues for two decades



by Frank Garza

Twenty years ago, six second-year J.D. students shared a vision: Create a law review, a scholarly journal focusing on legal issues facing minorities, to “give a voice to the voiceless,” as their mission states.

Soon 18 more students joined the vision, at the time unofficially called *The Hispanic Scholar*.

“The group of students interested were so diverse culturally and racially and socioeconomically that it didn’t seem fair to just call it *The Hispanic Scholar*. We ultimately narrowed it down to two or three names,” said founding member Sonia M. Rodriguez (J.D. ’99), partner with Branton | Hall | Rodriguez | Cruz, P.C. and the law school’s 2010 Distinguished Young Alumna.

Eventually, the publication came to be known as *The Scholar: St. Mary’s Law Review on Race and Social Justice*, for which Steven Marrone is now editor-in-chief. *The Scholar* has been quietly rising up the ranks of law reviews, most recently landing in the top 19 percent of worldwide journals, according to rankings released by the Washington and Lee School of Law.

Marrone is one of 41 students who make up Volume 20 of *The Scholar* — a testament to how much the organization has grown.

“Every year it keeps going puts a smile on my face,” said founding member Isabel de la Riva (J.D. ’99), founding partner of de la Riva & Associates. “It’s changed a lot since it first started, but it’s grown, and I’m so glad students get to write about issues that make people uncomfortable but also make them think.”

During its humble beginnings, the students for Volume 1 worked with slow computers under a leaky roof. They paid for their own office supplies, refrigerator and coffee machine. Their budget provided just enough to scrape by.

Despite their administrative worries, the staff’s writing flourished.

“To this day, the first students who signed up are some of the bravest people I know. They were picked by the founders who had nothing to show the publication was going to be successful other than some previous articles we edited and our enthusiasm,” said founding member Denise Y. Mejia, who now has her own practice. “I don’t know that I would have done it, if I were in their position.”

A staff writer is responsible for doing legal research and editing articles that have been submitted from practitioners, law faculty and clinical professors from around the world, Marrone said.

They also write their own comments for issues they are especially passionate about, Marrone said.

“We touch on a lot of topics that make the staff get out of bed in the morning and put on their armor to do battle, and so I think people are really committed to researching those issues and articulating them for those who need advocacy,” Marrone said.

One editorial board member wrote about juvenile rights and mandatory sex offender registration, addressing some of the disparities that come up in both topics.

Another board member, Associate Editor Alejandra Martinez, published a piece last year about an Army veteran who — even though he was entitled to citizenship because of his service — did not receive it because of an error in the process. As a result, he was deported to Mexico, where he still lives.

Staff Writer Kacey Villafuerte published a comment on the high maternal mortality rate in Texas. She described her time on *The Scholar* as an “eye-opener.”

“You don’t realize some of these things are issues, but you start paying attention and researching more,” she said.

“That’s one of the things that separates us from more traditional law reviews. All of the issues we touch on have a human element,” Marrone said.

The issues the staff covers tend to be controversial, and as a result, can be a difficult fight. “As long as we get the issues out there and people are talking about it — even if the legislation doesn’t change — people know it is an issue that others are experiencing,” Villafuerte said.

Rick Ramirez (J.D. ’06), partner of Clayton & Ramirez, PLLC, in Austin, shares the sentiment. He has always liked to fight for the little guy. That was what initially attracted him to *The Scholar*.

Once he joined, he realized he was part of something bigger. “You’re part of something great people have come from,” he said. “And there’s a potential for greatness that makes you feel that you’ve already succeeded despite just being a law student.”

Jesús “Jesse” N. Joslin (J.D. ’17), associate attorney at Clayton & Ramirez, was the editor-in-chief of Volume 19. When he first started law school, joining a law journal was one of the things he looked forward to most.

“The practice of law is very deadline driven, very strict,” Joslin said. “Being on *The Scholar* instilled values in our staff writers to help them understand the importance of getting things done the right way and on time, not only by teaching you to be a better researcher and legal writer, but by holding you to a higher standard.”

“The fact that Jesse, who is the newest member of our team, was an editor of *The Scholar* is not a coincidence,” Ramirez said. “That’s a key thing we look for: Were you at St. Mary’s? What extracurricular activities were you in?”

Hayley C. Ellison (J.D. ’10), an associate at Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley & Norton, LLP, attributes much of her growth as a lawyer to her time at St. Mary’s University and as editor-in-chief of *The Scholar*.

Ellison enrolled in law school at age 21, a time when she was still figuring out who she was and what she was made of.

“It was a big culture shock because I grew up in Dallas, and I’m so thankful because the best thing was the emphasis on the responsibility you had to the community as a lawyer,” Ellison said. “Being a good person. Using your ‘superpower’ for good and not evil.”

The Scholar emphasizes that responsibility through its mandatory community service for staff writers and by facilitating conversations with the community through its annual symposium.

Last summer, *The Scholar* received a donation from Terry Bassham (J.D. ’85) and his wife, Zulema Carrasco Bassham, to use for the symposium. Bassham, CEO of Great Plains Energy and Kansas City Power & Light, was inspired to give to *The Scholar* after picking up a copy on a tour of the campus with his wife and daughter.

“When we were introduced to *The Scholar*, its focus struck us as something we’re more personally connected to. You get to learn a lot about race and gender issues as a CEO, and you deal with it all the time,” Bassham said.

The courts have taken notice too, citing *The Scholar* in the *Federal Rules Decisions*, a federal case law reporter that focuses on district court cases involving rules, such as the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and in a Ninth Circuit opinion pertaining to the case *United States v. Peralta-Sanchez*. The publication has also been cited in several amicus briefs, trial motions and memorandums.

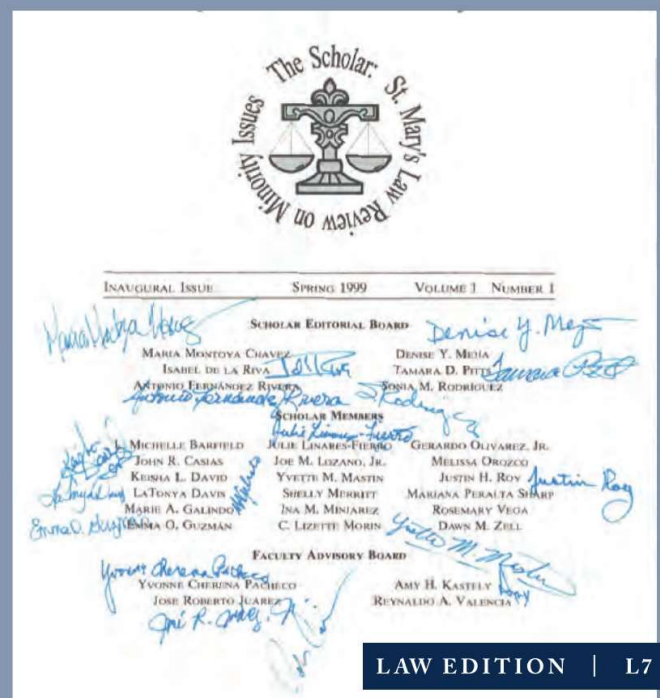
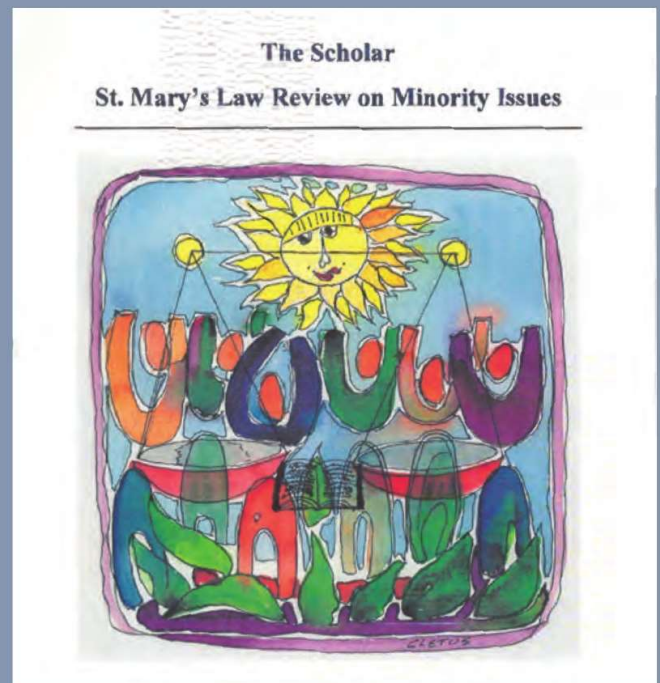
“Twenty years down the road, we’re still here,” Marrone said. “We’re still fighting, still trying to lift up those issues that were just as important 20 years ago.” ■

Left page: Compare the early days of the law journal, then called *The Scholar: St. Mary’s Law Review on Minority Issues*, to today.

Pictured in right photo are Cynthia Analis (from left), current managing executive editor; Steven Marrone, editor-in-chief; and staff writer Darius Coleman. Right photo by Robin Jerstad.

Right: The first issue of *The Scholar* featured artwork by beloved artist Brother Cletus Behlmann, S.M.

“We’re still fighting, still trying to lift up those issues that were just as important 20 years ago.”



PRIVACY PIONEER

Formerly Texas' chief privacy officer, alumna ensures clients meet data privacy laws

by Frank Garza

The learning curve can be steep when someone becomes the first in any given role. Elizabeth C. Rogers (J.D. '88) knows this well.

Before becoming a cybersecurity business lawyer in Austin, Rogers was the first chief privacy officer for the State of Texas. She created the Statewide Information Privacy Advisory Council, which is now the Statewide Information Security Advisory Committee (SISAC).

The purpose of SISAC is to promote best practices among its members and make recommendations to the Texas Department of Information Resources.

"We met monthly to review topics that were of universal concern to representatives of all of the members from state government located in Austin. We all needed to be each other's resources," Rogers said. "We all belong to the group of earliest pioneers in privacy and cybersecurity counseling."

As a cybersecurity business lawyer, Rogers works with her clients to ensure they provide adequate data protection and comply with data privacy laws. She also notifies them of potential vulnerabilities.

Rogers also serves on the Cybersecurity Task Force for the Greater Houston Partnership.

Many cities are beginning to transform into "smart cities," using data to improve quality of life. The ideal smart city will be an intersection of innovation through technology, cybersecurity preparedness and privacy, she said.

"A cybersecurity task force can serve as a valuable resource for these efforts," Rogers said. "It consists of members from the public and private sector across (industries), who will guide the local stakeholders to achieve multiple goals promoting the efficient delivery of natural resources, energy, safety of the grid and the protection of underlying personal data."

Her St. Mary's Law education ranks high among the many things for which Rogers gives thanks. Years later, she still keeps in touch with fellow alumni. She is also a former president of the Law Alumni Association and its Austin and Houston chapters.

"The sense of being a part of the St. Mary's family, whether as friends with dedicated members of the administration or with alumni — who are like my brothers and sisters — grounds me and guides me to this day," Rogers said. ■



Photo by Phil Kline

GOLD & BLUE

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Spring 2018

Spirit of Service

St. Mary's aids Puerto Rico's hurricane recovery

14

WOOLLY BUSINESS 10
DATA SENTRIES 18

Flip for Gold & Blue Law Edition

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Mary's University

Address Service Requested
One Camino Santa Maria
San Antonio, Texas 78228-8575

ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY



Defining music for the big Moment

Assistant Professor of Music Matthew Mireles, D.M.A., conducts the St. Mary's University Wind Ensemble during the kickoff of the University's Defining Moment Comprehensive Campaign in November at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel.

With a goal of \$130 million, the campaign easily ranks as the University's largest-ever fundraising effort. Twenty-four donors have already made gifts of \$1 million or more, helping the University raise more than 80 percent of the goal.

The campaign's numerous fundraising objectives aim to meet the needs of St. Mary's students and, ultimately, the growing workforce in San Antonio and South Texas. These objectives include projects and programs that will impact every school at St. Mary's University.

For more information, visit www.stmarytx.edu/definingmoment.



The
**DEFINING
MOMENT**

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

The
**DEFINING
MOMENT**

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



WHAT'S INSIDE *table of contents*

- 4 **CAMPUS NEWS**
- 8 **LITTLE MEMORIES, LIFELONG IMPACT**
Rattler Tennis player coaches impoverished Vietnamese children.
- 10 **WOOLLY BUSINESS**
Business alumnus heads international wool empire.
- 12 **KEEPING WITH CHEMISTRY**
Early alumna helps with NASA experiments before building a career in cancer research.
- 14 **RECOVERY IN PUERTO RICO**
St. Mary's students, staff and alumni make a difference for Hurricane Maria victims.
- 18 **TO PROTECT AND SERVER**
Two graduates become the first to cross the commencement stage with a master's degree in Cybersecurity from St. Mary's.
- 20 **CLASS NOTES**

FIND LAW STORIES ON PAGES L1-L11.

On the cover: St. Mary's senior Mei-Ling Camacho Acevedo assembles a water filtration system in Maricao, a mountainous area of Puerto Rico devastated by Hurricane Maria. Photo by Ricardo Arduengo.

This page: St. Louis Hall is transformed into a winter wonderland. San Antonio received surprise snowfall the evening of Dec. 7, 2017, much to the delight of campus residents. At roughly 2 inches, it was the first measurable snowfall on campus since 2011 and brought back memories of the significant snow event of 1985. Photo by Gateway Photography.





Being Catholic and Marianist shows us the way

Treating everyone with respect and dignity

by Thomas M. Mengler, J.D., St. Mary's University President

I am privileged to serve on the Board of Directors — and, as of February, in the role of chair — of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU), an organization with the principal goal of fostering the Catholic mission and identity of the more than 200 Catholic colleges and universities in the United States.

At the most recent meeting, board members discussed the troubling absence of civil discourse almost everywhere we look. In politics on the left and right, in traditional and social media, and on many college campuses, public policy conversations have become shrill and intolerant and have too frequently given way to shouting an ad hominem attack.

What do I mean by civil discourse? In a nutshell, civil discourse is our ability to engage in informed conversations on topics about which we may differ in our views and to listen respectfully to those with whom we disagree.

My ACCU Board colleagues — presidents of 18 Catholic universities — agreed about the severity of the problem in our country and our responsibility as Catholic universities to be a wellspring for a different — Christian — way to converse.

I am pleased to inform you that at St. Mary's University we accept this responsibility to stand up for free expression, openness to viewpoints other than one's own, and principled, authentic argumentation. In fact, open and honest dialogue is at the center of St. Mary's as a university dedicated to integrating the liberal arts with professional preparation.

At its best, a liberal arts education is interdisciplinary in breadth and foundational in developing the lifelong skills of critical thinking and communication, both written and spoken. As a liberal arts institution, St. Mary's educates to develop among all our students a set of lifelong habits of the mind and ways of engaging others that will serve them well in whatever career path they choose.

More importantly, for more than 165 years, the St. Mary's Catholic and Marianist community has fostered the formation of a lived faith among students, faculty and staff. We impart, through our actions more than our words, Catholic Social Teaching's core value of respect for the dignity of each human person, because we are all God's children. Since the days of Blessed William Joseph Chaminade, Marianist spirituality has emphasized a teacher being entirely present to students — not only teaching, but nurturing, encouraging and loving them.

I won't claim here that we always live up to these enduring values in every way on every day. But I do assure you that our community's Catholic and Marianist way of being is still alive and well at St. Mary's University. ■



PRESIDENT

Thomas M. Mengler, J.D.

CHIEF OF STAFF
AND COMMUNICATIONS
Dianne Pipes (M.P.A. '11)

MANAGING EDITORS
Andrew Festa
Jennifer R. Lloyd (M.B.A. '16)

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
Gina Farrell (M.P.A. '11)

CLASS NOTES EDITOR
Candace Kuebker (B.A. '78)

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS
Emily Harris
Samantha Skory

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Evan Alderman
Ricardo Arduengo
Stacy Goldberg
Josh Huskin
Gateway Photography
Great Expectations Photography
Robin Jerstad
Phil Kline
Victoria Milkovich
Antonio Morano
Bob Owen
Daniel Prislovsky
Rachel Putman
Melanie Rush Davis
Bill Sallans
Solarshot

(Denotes degree from St. Mary's University)

Gold & Blue is produced for alumni
and friends three times a year by the
Office of University Communications.

CONTENTS © 2018 BY ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



MISSION

St. Mary's University,
as a Catholic Marianist University,
fosters the formation of people in faith
and educates leaders for the common good
through community, integrated liberal arts
and professional education,
and academic excellence.

CAMPUSNEWS

Greehey donates \$1 million for fourth year in a row to MBA and Scholars

For the fourth consecutive year, St. Mary's received a \$1 million gift from alumnus and philanthropist Bill Greehey (B.B.A. '60).

The gift will be split between the Greehey MBA for Values-Driven Leaders and the Greehey Scholars Program, a unique undergraduate program that focuses on servant leadership.

Greehey has long been a benefactor of St. Mary's. He donated \$3 million from 2014 to 2016 to benefit the Greehey Scholars, and he also gave \$1 million in 2012 to help revamp the University's MBA offerings. In 2005, his \$25 million gift resulted in the

naming of the Greehey School of Business and funded academic and scholarship programs to attract world-class faculty and students.

Greehey is honorary co-chair of the University's ongoing Defining Moment Comprehensive Campaign, which officially announced its \$130 million goal in November.

"Bill Greehey has helped make defining moments possible for countless students over the years," said President Thomas Mengler, J.D. "This gift will provide for many more in the future. We are thankful for his enduring generosity."

Marianist Heritage Award recipients honored

Several members of the St. Mary's University community were honored in January with the 2018 Marianist Heritage Award.

This year's recipients were Eva Bueno, Ph.D., Professor of Languages; Irwin Goldberg, Ph.D., Professor of Engineering; and Denise Delgado, Senior Administrative Assistant for the School of Science, Engineering and Technology.

Ana M. Mahomar, senior Psychology student, and Stephanie Harlien, third-year J.D. student, were named Marianist Heritage Student Leadership recipients.

The honorees were recognized during the Marianist Heritage Mass at Holy Rosary Parish.

The Marianist Heritage Award, given each year since 1981, recognizes faithfulness to our Marianist heritage. It is expressed by an interest in the 200-year development of the Marianist charism through efforts to increase knowledge and work for its transformation into practice in the University community.

The award is also for faithfulness to our Catholic heritage, shown by an active participation in liturgical celebrations, in the development of the local Christian community, and in service to the broader Christian community. It is an award for faithfulness in supporting and promoting the Catholic and Marianist educational mission and tradition at St. Mary's University.



Photo by Gateway Photography

University receives \$1.5 million from anonymous donor

A \$1.5 million gift from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous will establish the San Jose Endowment to promote the Catholic Intellectual Tradition at St. Mary's University.

The University's educational mission is based on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, which sees the universe as God's creation and all knowledge as linked, with the potential to lead students incrementally to a closer understanding of God and the nature of things, including truths about the meaning and purpose of human life. The endowment will provide for the pursuit and promotion of this core principle.

"Because we are a Catholic and Marianist university," said President Thomas Mengler, J.D., "we encourage all our students — undergraduate, graduate and professional — to explore who they are, what really matters, and how they ought to live as servant-leaders. All areas of study can lead to a broad-based view of the world and commitment to a faith-filled life. This holistic education ensures that St. Mary's is an integrated University fostering the formation of future leaders in our communities, rather than an institution of silos providing only technical, unduly narrow instruction."

The gift will support the work of the faculty member who holds the St. Mary's Chair in Catholic Philosophy, currently Glenn "Chip" Hughes, Ph.D., and professors who seek to enrich their understanding of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and integrate it into their teaching and scholarship.

The endowment also will benefit the soon-to-be-established Center for Catholic Studies, which will explore Catholic and Marianist views on the most pressing social policy issues.

Music Department launches Summer Band Camp

This spring, the Department of Music opened registration for its first Summer Band Camp. Open to middle school and high school students, Summer Band Camp at St. Mary's will provide a fun and educational opportunity for students passionate about music to advance their musicianship during their summer break. Summer Band Camp includes full band rehearsals, technique classes, ensemble sectionals and elective classes.

Students will work with industry professionals, including the camp's featured artist, John Mackey, a musician of world-class repute. To learn more about Summer Band Camp at St. Mary's, visit www.stmarytx.edu/band-camp.

Next Forum Breakfast Series to feature concierge CEO

The Meadows Center for Entrepreneurial Studies will host the final Forum on Entrepreneurship Breakfast for the 2017-2018 series on Thursday, April 5, at the Pearl Stable of the Historic Pearl Brewery.

The last keynote speaker of the year will be Lynda Ellis (B.A.S. '81), St. Mary's trustee and owner, CEO and president of the Washington, D.C.-based Capitol Concierge, the nation's largest provider of corporate, residential and commercial concierge services.

She joined Capitol Concierge in 1998 and purchased the company in 2007. Since then, she has been redefining the concierge industry.

At the previous Forum Breakfast, local business leaders and area high school students joined Greehey School of Business faculty, staff and students in hearing from keynote speaker James R. Garvin, Ph.D., CEO, president and director of the San Antonio-based CytoBioScience Inc.

The company creates and manufactures devices that allow researchers, medical institutions and pharmaceutical companies to better understand how human cells react to medicine. But creating high-tech products is only part of the recipe for business success.

"We can talk about our technology and talk about our company," said Garvin, who touted the extensive biotech industry in San Antonio. "The technology is not who we are. The people are who we are."

He said entrepreneurship is "more art than science" and that mathematical model testing doesn't equal entrepreneurship because "it has no soul."

"Entrepreneurship is not for the faint of heart," Garvin said. "If you're looking for safety, run away. While fear is a healthy thing, it cannot be the governing fabric of how you make business decisions."

History Department unveils new graduate offerings

The Department of History will offer a Master of Arts in Public History and a Graduate Certificate in Public History this fall.

The 30-credit-hour master's program is designed for aspiring public historians, K-12 educators and individuals in professional settings who wish to pursue advanced professional training in public history. The program fits students interested in museum studies, heritage tourism, documentary filmmaking, digital history and archives careers. In addition to meeting the growing demand for professionals in the field, the program will transform students into historians in the digital age.

The 12-hour certificate program is for professionals and K-12 educators interested in gaining expertise and training in new areas of public history to help them further their professional goals.

Graduates will find public history employment opportunities in San Antonio and Texas, as well as nationally. The graduate program builds on projects and partnerships already established with local, state and national institutions including the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Sam Houston, the Bullock Texas State History Museum, The Texas World War I Centennial Committee, as well as Washington, D.C., sites such as Ford's Theatre and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

2018
SUMMER BAND CAMP
ST. MARY'S
UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Advance your musicianship this summer by working with industry professionals, including the camp's featured artist, John Mackey.



Alumni Association praises 2018 Distinguished Faculty

The St. Mary's Alumni Association recognized five faculty members during its annual Faculty Appreciation Dinner in January.

The Distinguished Faculty Award was established in 1984 to recognize outstanding faculty in each school.

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

- Kathleen M. Gallagher, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Graduate International Relations
- Refugio "Ito" Romo, Ph.D., Associate Professor of English and Communication Studies

School of Science, Engineering and Technology

- Pamela Fink, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair of Computer Science

Greehey School of Business

- Ajaya K. Swain, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Quantitative Management

School of Law

- David A. Schlueter, J.D., LL.M., Professor of Law

Faculty Conference Fund Recipients

- Violeta Díaz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Finance
- Daniel Long, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Music
- Rafael Moras, Ph.D., Professor of Industrial Engineering
- Meghann Peace, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Languages and Assistant Professor of Spanish

“What a great occasion, this special night is. I am grateful for this event, for the amazing faculty we recognize this year, and for an Alumni Association that provides a meaningful and long-standing reflection of what it means to experience, witness and live the St. Mary's transformational tradition.”

— Aaron Tyler, Ph.D., Provost

1. Terri Boggess, Ph.D., Chair of the Exercise and Sport Science Department (left) and Kathleen Gallagher, Ph.D.
 2. President Thomas Mengler, J.D. (from left); David Schlueter, J.D., LL.M.; and Linda Schlueter
 3. Pamela Fink, Ph.D.
 4. Tanuja Singh, D.B.A., Dean of the Greehey School of Business (from left); Sharmistha Swain, Ph.D.; and Ajaya Swain, Ph.D.
 5. Ito Romo, Ph.D. 6. Winston Erevelles, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Science, Engineering and Technology (from left); Aaron Tyler, Ph.D., Provost; Mengler; and Michael Martinez (B.A. '85), Alumni Association President



Professional counselor Frost addresses 296 fall grads

St. Mary's University alumna Kelley L. Frost, Ph.D., licensed professional counselor, served as keynote speaker at the 17th annual Fall Commencement on Saturday, Dec. 9, at Greehey Arena.

Frost provides individual, couples and family counseling in private practice. She earned her master's in Community Counseling in 2007 and doctorate in Counselor Education and Supervision in 2012 from St. Mary's.

She's also a member of the St. Mary's Board of Trustees.

A defining moment for 296 new graduates, the University awarded 154 bachelor's degrees, 134 master's degrees and eight doctoral degrees.

Professor of Law Bonita K. Roberts provided remarks at the St. Mary's School of Law's sixth annual Hooding Ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 16.

The School of Law honored Doctor of Jurisprudence, Master of Laws and Master of Jurisprudence candidates.

STEM summer camps make for hot ticket at St. Mary's

While summertime means rest and relaxation for most students and faculty at St. Mary's University, the School of Science, Engineering and Technology gears up with summer camps for middle and high school students.

Ranging from computer science and physics to robotics and Java programming, these summer programs have increased in popularity in recent years.

Take, for example, the new Girls Code! Summer Camps — one-week camps for girls in grades 6 through 8 taught by St. Mary's Computer Science professors — filled up quickly in 2017.

"The purpose of Girls Code! was to buck the trend, which means to gain the interest

of middle school girls in the sciences during a time when we traditionally lose them," said Professor of Computer Science Carol Luckhardt Redfield, Ph.D. "Because once we lose them, it's hard to get them back."

Game development, robotics, cybersecurity and web programming are all topics covered in Girls Code!

The School of Science, Engineering and Technology-sponsored summer camps center on preparing local youth for future careers in STEM.

"These camps give young students the opportunity for hands-on learning and a chance to apply their skills," said Gil Gomez, STEM Outreach Coordinator. "A lot of what we offer gives them insight into what the trending STEM careers are for the next half-century."

For details, visit stmarytx.edu/outreach/summer-camps.

Save the Date

Financial Wisdom FOR Women

Friday, May 18

Take part in a financial and estate planning event for the women of St. Mary's University and hear keynote speaker Lynda Ellis (B.A.S. '81), owner, president and CEO of Capitol Concierge.

Contact Collanne Bramblett West at cwest1@stmarytx.edu or 210-431-4361 for more information.

Coaching for Impact

St. Mary's Women's Tennis player and Greehey Scholar forms bond with impoverished Vietnamese children

by Chad Peters (B.A. '06)

Hannah Petersen heard stories of how difficult it would be to say goodbye to her new friends in Vietnam after a three-week stay of service in Summer 2017.

"You're going to be crying," Petersen recalled fellow camp instructors telling her. "You're not going to want to leave."

Petersen, a Finance and Risk Management major on the St. Mary's Women's Tennis team, was in Vietnam in July and August volunteering for a service-learning program called Coach for College. The program pairs American student-athletes and Vietnamese university students to teach academics, sports and life skills to disadvantaged children in rural Vietnam.

The junior is the definition of student-athlete. A standout in class and on the court, she reached the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's South Central Regional Doubles Championships in 2016, receiving ITA Scholar-Athlete and First-Team All-Heartland Conference honors along the way. She also earned all-conference second team recognition in 2017.

As her time to leave Vietnam neared, Petersen thought she would escape the grief countless others had felt upon leaving.

That was, at least, until her last day arrived.

"It hit me really, really hard," Petersen said. "The kids make the most delicate little gifts for you. A lot of them wrote letters to us. After giving us those gifts, they're just standing there, sobbing. They're hugging us and won't let go, holding on so tight."

"It makes you realize how much of an impact you can have on someone's life."

Petersen, a Greehey Scholar and President's Ambassador at St. Mary's, knew she had entered a different world as soon as she landed in the Hậu Giang Province, located in southern Vietnam.

Responsible for teaching eighth- and ninth-graders skills such as developing goals and encouraging teamwork, she was struck by the condition of the school and surrounding homes.

"There were broken windows everywhere, no air conditioning, wasp nests all over the place," Petersen recalled of the school. "Complete chaos."

The nearby homes were in similar disrepair, featuring palm and banana leaves as exterior walls, tin roofs, and hammocks and wooden pallets for beds. One such home, with 5-foot-high metal sheets and curtains stapled together to form walls, was attached to the tennis court where Petersen practiced with the children.

"Here we are whacking tennis balls into their living room," said Petersen, whose trip was made possible by the support of numerous St. Mary's faculty and staff. "Yet the family didn't care. They had a little girl who would come to the court every day with this big smile on her face."

No matter the children's circumstances, smiles abounded, she said. This, more than anything, left an impression.



“You could see the impact on some of their lives very tangibly.”

Most of the children knew little English, requiring the Vietnamese university students to translate for Petersen and the other Americans. But even with this language barrier, lifelong bonds formed.

“Every day the kids would show up at our guest house on bikes and offer us rides on the back of their bikes,” said Petersen, who remains in contact with several of the children through social media. “Little memories like that: You could see the impact on some of their lives very tangibly.”

Intending to help others through her time in Vietnam, she said she returned home better off, as well.

“It showed me what it means to someone just to give them your time,” Petersen said. “It made me re-prioritize what’s most important. Is it about going through life and having an income? Or is it about impacting people’s lives?”

“People are the most important thing we have.” ■



1. Hannah Petersen, a junior Finance and Risk Management major, reviews schoolwork with a child in Hậu Giang Province, in southern Vietnam.
2. Petersen formed a close bond with eighth- and ninth-grade students during her three weeks in Vietnam.
3. A Rattler Tennis standout, Petersen teaches her craft to a group of children.
4. The Coach for College service-learning program pairs American student-athletes with Vietnamese university students to teach academics, sports and life skills to disadvantaged children in rural Vietnam.

Basketball teams shine in made-for-TV victories

St. Mary’s Basketball put on a show on the small screen in January, taking down Oklahoma Christian for a pair of breathtaking victories aired on local TV.

The women’s team won 72-57 behind a career-high 26 points from freshman guard Soteria Banks, while the men prevailed 70-67 on a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from senior guard Robbie Benavides.

The games, played at Bill Greehey Arena, were aired locally on KCWX Channel 2.

Volleyball wins Heartland Conference

Rattler Volleyball won the Heartland Conference championship for the first time since 2010, riding the hot hand of libero Monica Ramon, the Heartland Conference Tournament Most Valuable Player.

The Rattlers won 11 out of 15 matches over a hot stretch in October and November, propelling them to their first appearance in the NCAA South Central Regional since 2010.

Sophomore claims Rattler Invitational title

Difficult course conditions could not stop Emilio Gonzalez from claiming the individual title at the Rattler Invitational.

Gonzalez, a sophomore, posted a final-round 66, making him 7-under-par for the tournament. His effort helped lead the Rattlers to second place in the team standings as they fought through rainy conditions that forced the cancellation of the final round.

The victory marked the second of Gonzalez’s career.



Photo by Antonio Morano



Photo by Great Expectations Photography

SHEAR SUCCESS

Business alum heads international wool empire

by *Melanie Skaggs (M.A. '02)*

It was 10 a.m. and Michael T. “Terry” Martin (B.B.A. '81), president of Anodyne Wool, was on his way to the hardware store to pick up supplies. Freezing temperatures in San Angelo the night before had damaged a pipe in the warehouse.

While most business owners would call a handyman, Martin is the hands-on type, especially when it comes to running a multimillion-dollar, family-owned wool empire. Anodyne is the sole supplier of wool for the U.S. Department of Defense. Whenever you see a service member in a formal wool or wool-blend dress uniform, you're looking at wool sourced by Anodyne.

Growing up in San Angelo, Martin worked as a day laborer on sheep ranches, but he never thought about going into the industry. It was more likely he would end up a lawyer, like one of his brothers, or go into the wholesale liquor business with other family members.

After graduating from high school, Martin thought he might attend Angelo State University, where his girlfriend (and future wife), Jackie, and several high school friends were enrolled. However, his parents had other plans. They were major advocates of higher education and put all eight of their children through college.

They also valued an education away from San Angelo. So unbeknownst to Martin, St. Mary's University would become his new home-away-from-home.

Martin's father had a friend in San Antonio he had met through the Serra Club, an organization of lay Catholics to foster vocations to the priesthood, who he wanted to visit and introduce to his son. Agreeing to the trip, Martin packed a bag and drove to San Antonio with his father to meet the Rev. James A. Young, S.M., Ph.D., then-president of St. Mary's. After going to lunch and having a brief discussion about admission, Martin — to his surprise — was enrolled. Within just a few hours, he moved into Chaminade Hall.

Residence hall life for Martin was a “cornucopia of cultures” and a stark difference from that to which he was accustomed. His peers were from diverse locations, including Mexico, Peru, Bolivia and Greece.

“This point in time shaped the direction of my life in many ways. Through my early experiences at St. Mary's, I learned to embrace new people, along with their cultures and traditions. I learned there is great personal gain from viewing life through the eyes of people you meet and, the more diverse, the richer the experience,” he said.

After graduating from St. Mary's, Martin moved back to San Angelo and joined Anodyne Wool as a wool buyer's apprentice. The company, founded by Martin's father-in-law, was a commission-based wool and mohair-buying firm.

Martin's introduction to the textile industry was about to get wild and woolly.

During the early 1980s, the implementation of two international trade agreements led to the industry rapidly downsizing and moving overseas. Martin, who was new to the business, saw this as an opportunity for Anodyne to export American wool.

At first, exporting to a European company went well. However, after only a year, their overseas customer went belly up, and Martin needed to unload a lot of wool.

“I heard through the grapevine that a delegation of Iraqi cotton buyers was traveling through Texas on a buying mission sponsored by the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture),” he said.

It turns out, Martin is a dyed-in-the-wool salesman. He met with the buyers in Dallas and made the most important sale of his career, beginning a five-year trade agreement with the Iraq Ministry for Textile Industry that would triple the size of Anodyne Wool.

The Iraq deal ended with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Anodyne experienced a huge decline in domestic wool production during the 1990s, when many U.S. textile mills went out of business.

“We survived by diversifying our client base,” said Martin, who focused on the growing export market in Europe, China and India.

With grit, perseverance and a boots-on-the-ground approach, Martin found success and created a world-renowned brand.

“At St. Mary's, the exposure to multiple cultures, viewpoints, and regions of the country and world gave me a good base to succeed in international trading,” Martin said. The University, he said, also gave him “the confidence to walk into a room anywhere in the world and believe you belong there.”

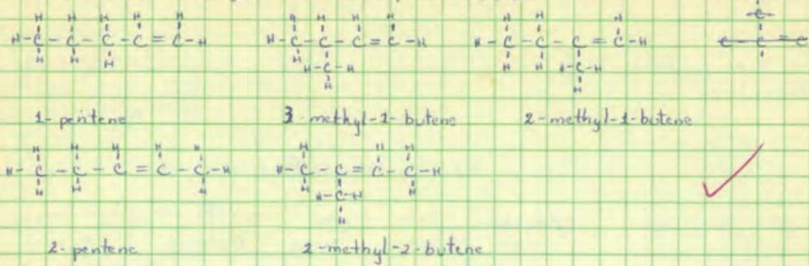
Martin became Anodyne's president when his father-in-law retired in 2001. The company now acquires millions of pounds of wool each year from wool growers across the United States and has trade alliances in Europe, Russia, Australia, South Africa and South America.

“Wool is a fiber that, as it unraveled, led me around the world,” Martin said. “From the Silk Road to the back roads, wool has taken me to all corners of the globe and has allowed me to meet many wonderful people. Growth and success in my business happened as I followed wool around the world. I did not set out to achieve great success. It just happened as I stayed focused on wool and all who touch it.” ■

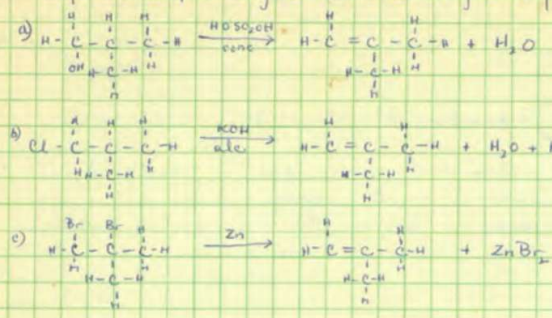
Left: Michael T. “Terry” Martin stands in front of a mound of freshly shorn fleece or “grease wool” in the Anodyne warehouse. The wool will be washed, picked and combed.

Questions

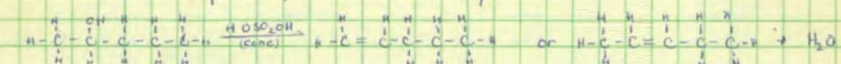
1. Structural formulas for all isomeric pentenes (C₅H₁₀)



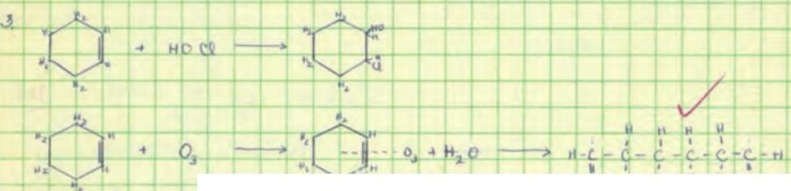
5. Preparations of isobutylene which are all general p



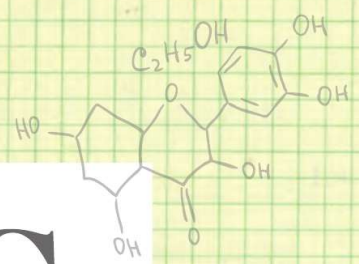
2. In addition to 2-pentene, there would be 1-pentene



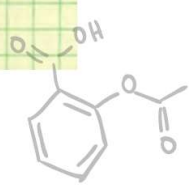
In some cases, there may be a choice of two or more adjacent carbon atoms from which the hydrogen might come, giving rise to double bonds in different locations.



6. Propene is obtained in the production of the *glycerol* used for plastics in polymerisation.



BREAKING MOLDS



Early St. Mary's alumna's love of chemistry leads to career in aerospace, cancer research

by Alex Z. Salinas (B.A. '11)

Minerva De La Garza (B.S. '67) ranks among the first female undergraduate students to earn her degree from St. Mary's University. She spurned stereotypes by following her love of chemistry into a long career in scientific research and a life of service.

The St. Mary's campus she remembers from 50 years ago was much different than from today; there wasn't yet a residence hall for women (Dougherty Hall would open in 1968), and the only women's restroom was in the basement of St. Louis Hall.

And since De La Garza didn't own a car, she rode the bus every day to and from St. Mary's.

"We grew up poor," De La Garza said of her upbringing on San Antonio's West Side. "I was born in the house my father bought, where I stayed until 1973. Back in those days, Mexican-American women didn't leave the home until they were married."

It was there that De La Garza and her sister were initially home-schooled by their mother, who taught them how to write in cursive and read using whatever was available, including newspapers and canned food labels.

Eventually, De La Garza became valedictorian of her 503-student class at Fox Tech High School. Despite the honor, she was dissuaded

from going to St. Mary's by the dean of women at her high school. She was told, instead, to focus on becoming a secretary.

"I'll never forget she told me that if I went to college, I would fail," De La Garza said.

Rather than take the comment to heart — De La Garza said such remarks to women at the time were commonplace — she pursued what was in her heart.

"The chemistry classes I took in high school really got me interested in that field," she said. "I soon learned that St. Mary's had one of the best Chemistry departments in the city, and that's why I decided to go there."

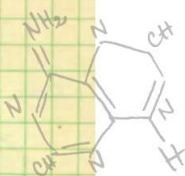
As a Chemistry major and Mathematics minor, De La Garza often found herself as the only woman in her classes. In addition, she admitted to having trouble keeping up with coursework at first.

"There weren't many educational resources in the schools I went to growing up, so I felt behind the other students when I got to college," De La Garza said.

She recalled especially struggling in trigonometry. However, her mentality to "move forward" enabled her to persist.

In the summer going into her senior year, De La Garza applied for a civil service job as a clerk typist. In the comments section of the

reparations for aldehydes



Left: Minerva De La Garza's notes from chemistry class were checked frequently by her professor for grades.

Right: This handwritten note, dated Nov. 18, 1964, informs De La Garza she is the recipient of a \$100 scholarship.

Below: De La Garza (B.S. '67) stands with some of her classmates as an undergraduate. This photo was taken from De La Garza's personal St. Mary's yearbook.

Courtesy images

making of petroleum. It is

JCS

Nov 18, 1964

My dear Minerva,

This is to inform you that the Scholarship Committee of San Antonio Paulistick Association has chosen you as recipient of our annual elegy Scholarship in the amount of \$100.

be presented to December 3 meeting. for coffee in the Museum after which award to you. Ms and Mrs Greenbeck as our guests at coffee

Sincerely Mrs Austin



application, she included science classes she'd taken at St. Mary's and the grades she'd earned. She didn't know that by doing so, a life-changing door would open.

De La Garza was accepted as an intern at the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, at the now-closed Brooks Air Force Base, but not as a typist.

They wanted her in the labs, researching how to enhance rocket fuel for astronauts.

"My work ended up getting published," De La Garza said. "To be a co-author right after my junior year in college was great, but I didn't really understand what that meant back then."

After De La Garza graduated, the School of Aerospace Medicine, impressed with her work the previous summer, hired her full time. She worked there for several years conducting experiments for NASA in its early days.

In 1970, De La Garza's supervisor at the School of Aerospace Medicine put her in touch with his good friend, the personnel director of a newly constructed medical school in town — what's today UT Health San Antonio.

"He hired me because I had a degree in Chemistry," De La Garza said. "While I had really no experience in biology, he told me, 'You can teach a chemist biology.'"

She was signed on as a research assistant for the then-new division in breast cancer studies, for which she collaborated with a five-person team

of dedicated scientists. Much of De La Garza's work involved examining tumor tissue in rats.

"We would get tumor specimens from all over the country, and I would log them all into our system," De La Garza said.

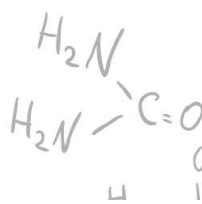
De La Garza explained how taking chemistry classes with the late Brother Charles Cummiskey, S.M., helped her in her career.

"The most important thing I learned was how to write lab reports," she said. "It became tremendously helpful, knowing how to ask the right questions for your experiments and how to design them."

At the health science center, De La Garza said she felt she'd found her place. She poured years into breast cancer research, and often worked seven days a week. Eventually, her duties expanded, and she became an administrator helping to oversee grant funding for her division. After 35 years of service, she retired in 2005.

Today, she spends much of her time caring for her chronically ill sister. Despite the physical and mental rigors of caretaking, De La Garza believes she's simply applying the values her parents instilled in her, the same values she applied at St. Mary's and in the labs.

"My whole personality is that of service," she said. ■





Floodwaters overwhelm the neighborhood of Juana Matos in Cataño, Puerto Rico, after Hurricane Maria inundated the island in September.



Recovering from catastrophe

The St. Mary's community aids Puerto Rico's slow recovery after Hurricane Maria

by Jennifer R. Lloyd (M.B.A. '16)

Hurricane Maria swept over Puerto Rico with nearly Category-5 force on Sept. 20, 2017, a mere two weeks after Hurricane Irma made a damaging pass over the U.S. territory.

The strongest storm to hit the Caribbean island since 1932, Hurricane Maria did not just whip the island with rain and wind for more than 30 hours. It destroyed vital infrastructure and catastrophically damaged electrical, communications and water systems.

The St. Mary's University community has dozens of students, staff and alumni who call Puerto Rico home, some of whom also have strong ties to a Marianist school there, Colegio San José.

And as they returned home before the Spring semester, they discovered how slow the progress toward recovery had been in the months since Maria hit. They heard heartbreaking tales from their loved ones of hardship, sickness, crime and death. And, in the St. Mary's spirit of service, they found ways to help however they could.

"Our education is focused on helping and giving back to people in the community, not just getting a good education," said Andrés Palacios, a junior Exercise and Sport Science major and Biology minor.

Palacios, a Colegio San José graduate, visited home in December and joined a group that included St. Mary's staff, students and their families to help assemble 100 water filtration systems for those without drinkable water in a mountainous area of the island.

"People don't just come to St. Mary's and forget about the values when they leave," Palacios said. "They keep using those values for the rest of their lives."

Living with the aftermath

Many of the threads that form the fabric of a civil society in Puerto Rico have frayed because of the length of the recovery.

In January, hundreds of thousands of people still did not have power. According to CNN, the Army Corps of Engineers estimated power would not be fully restored until May — about eight months after the storm.

Badly damaged roadways and the lack of electricity for streetlights contributed to a multitude of collisions, including one involving Palacios' father. Lack of power left schools, businesses and courtrooms shuttered for months. In the meantime, those who could get their hands on a generator were spending hundreds of dollars a month on fuel, Palacios said.

St. Mary's University Trustee Brother Reinaldo Berrios, S.M., who lives at the Marianist community at the all-boys Colegio San José and directs its financial aid program, said the school relied on a generator for several weeks to remain open. He added that repairs cost about \$1 million. He anticipated students attending Colegio

Continued on next page



1



2



3



4

1. A volunteer prepares spigots as part of the assembly of water filtration systems.

2. José Rafael Rodríguez (from left) drills a hole for the spigot with St. Mary's student Andrés Palacios and local Yared Feliciano.

3. Brother Jose Julian Matos-Auffant, S.M., St. Mary's Minister for Spiritual Development, (from left) and St. Mary's students Mei-Ling Camacho Acevedo, David Pagán and Paola Díaz Portela meet over Christmas break inside Colegio San José.

4. A tattered Puerto Rican flag waves.

5. Matos-Auffant (from left); Rosalind Alderman, Ph.D., St. Mary's Vice Provost for Enrollment Management; and St. Mary's Trustee Brother Reinaldo Berrios, S.M., visit Colegio San José.

Photos 1-3, 5 by Ricardo Arduengo. Photo 4 by Evan Alderman.



5

Continued from Page 15

San José will require more financial aid for tuition because of the economic impact of the storm, but the school was unable to hold a planned scholarship fundraiser.

The lack of lighting, especially at night, combined with a spate of sick days by thousands of police officers protesting overdue overtime pay, may have contributed to an increase in crime on the island.

Mei-Ling Camacho Acevedo, a senior Marketing major, recounted a harrowing tale of her mother trying to get enough fuel to reach the airport to reunite with family in Tampa, Florida. As her mother waited overnight at a closed gas station in hopes of buying fuel when it reopened the next morning, someone tried to rob her at gunpoint. Camacho Acevedo said a police officer intervened and stopped the holdup.

Residents in fragile health have suffered too. Some struggled to keep diabetes medication refrigerated or receive chemotherapy for cancer. Camacho Acevedo said her family had to bring her uncle to Houston for cancer treatment he could no longer obtain on the island.

In December, while cleaning and repainting his mother's home in Puerto Rico, Brother Jose Julian Matos-Auffant, S.M., Minister for Spiritual Development at St. Mary's, said he learned of a young man who had a medical condition requiring him to remain on a ventilator. One night, the generator powering the ventilator ran out of diesel and the man died.

"I was not expecting all of the deaths that people told me about, even in my own neighborhood, that are not being related to the storm because these people were not blown away by the wind," Matos-Auffant said. "People I had said hi to a year ago had died because of all of these complications. That, for me, was very shocking."

Rattlers lend a hand

Soon after the hurricane, Rosalind Alderman, Ph.D., St. Mary's University Vice Provost for Enrollment Management; Matos-Auffant; and students from Puerto Rico gathered in the Contreras Student Lounge at St. Mary's for prayer and support since they were unable to communicate with their families on the island. Alderman said the students wanted to help those back home. They ultimately raised several thousand dollars by selling Puerto Rican dinners at Casa Maria and by other means, which helped fund scholarships to Colegio San José students.

St. Mary's is also planning to offer two new full-tuition scholarships next fall to graduates of Colegio San José, Alderman said.

"It's not like these families are going to recover tomorrow. This would guarantee that we could help someone on a bigger level," Alderman said of the scholarships, which will be awarded based on merit and financial need.

Alderman said the University also re-evaluated the financial aid packages of Puerto Rican students already enrolled, creating greater financial aid resources for some.

Matos-Auffant said he is considering service trips that St. Mary's students could undertake to help Puerto Rico next academic year. In the meantime, St. Mary's students at home over Christmas break helped neglected communities in the mountainous interior.

In an effort Alderman orchestrated in December, her family, Palacios, Camacho Acevedo, Matos-Auffant and others helped assemble rainwater filtration systems to provide drinkable water to remote communities in Maricao. They also wrapped hundreds of toys for area children to enjoy a Three Kings Day celebration and set up a generator at a church.

"The community we went to was completely forgotten. I opened my eyes to even more need," Camacho Acevedo said. "To help put together something that is going to help with everyday living, it really was a step forward because we were getting our 'hands dirty.'"

Palacios added that while it will take months longer for Puerto Rico to return to some semblance of normality, volunteering in the mountains "felt good, because I was doing something for a really underserved community that was being ignored by the local government."

"Part of this test, this crisis, is to make sure that we embrace the students here and their families," said Alderman, adding another part of the mission is to help students understand what has happened in Puerto Rico. "We are part of the solution. We're part of what needs to be done in this crisis." ■

“

I OPENED MY EYES TO EVEN MORE NEED.”

Mona Mengler leads StMU's #HarveyHelp

by Andrew Festa

Days after Hurricane Harvey hit Texas, Mona Mengler opened a box containing a tube of toothpaste, a toothbrush and a bar of soap.

She thought, "Why bother?" when Hurricane victims needed so much more.

Then it hit her — it may have been all someone could spare. She visualized the Gospel parable of the elderly widow with only two copper coins for an offering. That thought motivated her as she volunteered for more than a month with Catholic Charities of San Antonio.

"It was rooted in faith and genuine caring," she said of that touching gift, as well as the encouraging notes people packed with donations.

Mengler and the St. Mary's community jumped into action as soon as it became clear that San Antonio would avoid the worst of "the most significant tropical cyclone rainfall event in U.S. history," according to the National Hurricane Center.

The Office of Civic Engagement organized campus donation drives and funneled items to Catholic Charities. Dozens of students, faculty and staff sorted and packed items at the San Antonio Food Bank.

Mengler — and husband Thomas Mengler, President of St. Mary's — are longtime supporters of Catholic Charities, so it was natural to answer the call. The outpouring of food, water, bedding, clothes and other necessities was great, but "it was total chaos," she said.

She saw a lot of overwhelmed faces at Catholic Charities, so she took charge of the effort to process mountains of donated items.

As chaos gave way to efficiency, Catholic Charities sent 65 truckloads of supplies to Houston and the Texas coast.

For her efforts, Mengler earned Catholic Charities' Volunteer of the Year award. The real reward, she said, was the sense of purpose.

"It was quite the privilege to throw myself into something that was really going to help people," she said.

It's not over. A group of St. Mary's students will spend Spring Break helping Rockport, Port Aransas and Victoria rebuild. ■



</First Line

Duo becomes University's first Cybersecurity graduates

by Alex Z. Salinas (B.A. '11)

When graduate students Goutham Dhongadi Rukmasah and Erick Buenrostro completed their studies in December, they became the first graduates ever to leave St. Mary's University with a master's degree in Cybersecurity.

"We're making history," said Buenrostro (B.S. '16, M.S. '17). "It's hard to put it into words. And the best part is we're coming in at the prime of a field that'll only keep growing and growing."

Buenrostro, who was among the first students to enroll in the Master of Cybersecurity program in 2016, along with Rukmasah (M.S. '17), already knew he wanted to continue his higher education at St. Mary's after finishing his bachelor's.

"I was comfortable with the faculty and staff here," he said. "The community at St. Mary's is great."

For Rukmasah, who came to St. Mary's from India, where he graduated from Anna University in 2011 and worked at IBM for four years, starting the master's degree

marked a more significant transition, living in another country and adjusting to a new way of life.

But he wasn't alone.

"We're a diverse program," Rukmasah said. "We have students from Kenya, Pakistan, Singapore and other places around the world. It's great. It shows the worldwide significance of this program."

Defending against cyberattack

Rukmasah said the Cybersecurity program at St. Mary's is a defensive one, "teaching us how to protect machines from attack."

"The program is designed in such a way that it starts with the basics of cybersecurity, such as encryption and programming," he added. "Then each class adds to your knowledge, which helps you with your research project and keeps you

updated with what's going on in industry."

Buenrostro said that not only do Cybersecurity students learn about programming logic to "improve security for computers, networks, browsers and users," but also how information is written and stored manually, and about cybersecurity policy and law.

"With something happening every day in the news, and with daily evolving trends, it can be tough," he said, "but with the theory and practice embedded in our program, we've been prepared for the real world."

Buenrostro also commented on the program's faculty, which not only includes experts in cybersecurity, but also in engineering and in law enforcement.

"One of the coolest things I've seen is the use of adjunct professors," Buenrostro said. "One of them is a San Antonio Police Department detective and is also an FBI Task Force participant. Learning from him firsthand, someone who's long



© Bob Owen/San Antonio Express-News/ZUMA Press

of Defense >

incorporated cybersecurity principles in his field, has been invaluable.”

For his research project, Buenrostro built what he calls a “Mobile, Browser and Cryptography Security Package,” which

“Light Weight Security Application” — a networking and security tool with a graphical user interface that aims to simplify the work of analysts by allowing users to digitally sign confidential files,

statement, saying that he believes what they’ve built for their research projects “can compete in the market.”

Buenrostro plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Computer Science and eventually open his own cybersecurity business in his hometown of El Paso. He said the greatest thing about a St. Mary’s education has been that it’s helping him think on his own.

“We’ve been taught how to problem-solve and how to teach ourselves,” Buenrostro said. “That speaks volumes about the community of the program and the school, from the program director and the faculty and staff to my classmates.” ■

< “ ” >

We’re making history ... And the best part is we’re coming in at the prime of a field that’ll only keep growing and growing.

< / ” >

he developed to target security across different platforms of the cyber field. It contains software that both protects and educates users about the dangers of the connected world.

Rukmasah’s research project was a

test firewalls for attacks, generate strong passwords and share files within a network.

“This program has given me so much confidence,” Rukmasah said. “I’m ready to see what comes next.”

Buenrostro echoed Rukmasah’s

Erick Buenrostro (B.S. ’16, M.S. ’17) and Goutham Dhongadi Rukmasah (M.S. ’17) sit in the new cybersecurity lab at St. Mary’s University.