The Art and Science of EDUCATION
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

JOURNEYS—ROOTED IN HISTORY, MAKING A DIFFERENCE TODAY, INSPIRING TOMORROWS LEADERS

Dear Alumnae and Friends,

I hope you enjoy our re-envisioned alumnae publication, now called JOURNEYS, to be published twice a year in April and October with College of Saint Mary’s attempts to respond to the national conversation about the affordability of a college education.

For a complete list of CSM Board Members and their company/community affiliations, visit CSM.edu/AboutUs/BoardofDirectors.

Audrey Mills ‘67
David O’Neill
Daniel Padilla
Sr. Laura Reicks, RSM
Steve Ritzman
Dr. Michon Rozmajzl, RSM, ‘65
Annette Smith
Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM
Dr. Shaila Megley, RSM
Dr. Tara Knudson Carl
Dr. Christine Pharr
Sandra Reding

Richard (Rick) Jeffries, J.D. - Chair
Kathleen Dodge - Vice Chair
Deborah Macdonald, J.D. - Treasurer
Terri Wachtler Campbell ’93 - Secretary
Jean Bartman
Jana Carnsdy, DNP, RN
Lorraine Chang, J.D.
William Cutler
Jean Knuth
Carol Kontor
David Krueger, J.D.
Dr. Shaila Megley, RSM

David Kramer, J.D.
Jane Huerter, J.D.
Ivan Gilreath, MBA
Jane Carmody, DNP, RN
Jean Bartman
Terri Wachtler Campbell ’93 - Secretary
Deborah Macdonald, J.D. - Treasurer
Richard (Rick) Jeffries, J.D. - Chair
Board of Directors

10 THE ART AND SCIENCE OF EDUCATION
Schools welcome College of Saint Mary students and grads with open arms because of what they have learned – and their ability to apply what they’ve learned to make a difference.

14 IS COLLEGE WORTH IT?
The value of a college education continues to exceed the cost to attain it – personally, professionally and financially. Fulfilling our Mission, College of Saint Mary turns no one away because she can’t afford it.

GRADUATION WEEKEND
SATURDAY, MAY 17
10:30 a.m. Commencement Exercises Speaker:
Dr. Carolyn Woo
President & CEO, Catholic Relief Services

For a complete list of all events, please visit CSM.edu/Events.

ON THE COVER: Junior education major Amir Daise from Tamarace, Florida, is shown with Special Child Development Center preschooler Claire Lenczuker. Lancaster is the daughter of Ashley Lenczuker, a junior nursing major from Fort Mill, South Carolina, and Madalina Hall resident. Photo by Heather Hall.

FIRST WORD

Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM

FIRST WORD

Greg Fritz
Vice President for Strategic Marketing & Communications
Sara Hanson
Vice President for Enrollment Services
Vicki Hoskovetz
Vice President for Institutional Technology
Dr. Tara Knudson Carl
Vice President for Student Development & Special Assistant to the President
Sarah Kottick, CPA, MBA
Vice President for Finance & Administrative Services
Dr. Christine Pharr
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Sandra Reding
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

JOURNEYS MAGAZINE
The Strategic Marketing & Communications Office publishes JOURNEYS magazine twice per year. eJOURNEYS electronic newsletter is distributed four times per year. JOURNEYS is copyrighted in its entirety. Send correspondence or address changes to JOURNEYS, College of Saint Mary, 7000 Mercy Road, Omaha, NE, 68104, or journeys@csm.edu.

In keeping with the Christian principles upon which the University was founded and is operated, College of Saint Mary does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, disability, age, marital status or national origin. Although it is a university for women, College of Saint Mary is in compliance with applicable federal and state laws prohibiting sex discrimination.

Brittny Long
Director of Public Relations & Communications
Allison Kidlis
Graphic Designer & Publications Coordinator

2015 SPRING EVENTS
THURSDAY, APRIL 23 • 11:30 p.m. Great Conversations featuring Alex Kava
FRIDAY, APRIL 24 - SUNDAY, APRIL 26 CSM Theatre Department Presents: Almost, Maine

Vice President for Institutional Advancement
President for Academic Affairs. “It will provide the flexibility of an online program with the be very attractive to those in search of an advanced degree,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice below) with emphasis in Health Professions Education to be of great interest.

College of Saint Mary’s new physician assistant studies program, prepare for program accreditation.

We’re on track for provisional accreditation. Students begin clinical rotations in the family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, emergency medicine, OB/GYN, psychiatry and general surgery. “In each site, a student will determine a patient’s health history, perform a physical examination, and craft a diagnosis and treatment plan with their preceptor,” said Fletcher.

The agreement offers CHI Health-affiliate employees a more convenient and even more affordable for CHI Health employees, thanks to a new partnership between College of Saint Mary and CHI Health.

The legal studies department hosted an report showcasing curriculum, academic stan-

“It’s thrilling to return to College of Saint Mary,” Reding said. “I’m very familiar with the campus and its culture, so much has changed in the last 5 years under Sister Maryanne’s leadership. I’m very impressed with the college’s growth and visibility, as well as its unwavering commitment to its mission.”

Since 2011, Reding has served as the exec-

maintained our feasibility study to the Accreditation Review Commission-Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) in March. The application and self-study are due in July with a site visit planned for September.”

Fletcher is also part of the team assisting Shaun Grammer, director of the physician assistant studies program, prepare for program accreditation.

“We’re on track for provisional accreditation in spring 2016,” Grammer said. “We submitted our feasibility study to the Accreditation Review Commission-Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) in March. The application and self-study are due in July with a site visit planned for September.”

Fletcher was the one of personal attention in our program.”

Dr. Kristi Preisman
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) presented Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM, College of Saint Mary president, with the Chief Executive Leadership Award during the District VI Conference in January in Denver, Colorado.

In his nomination of President Stevens, Rich-

Charles “Chuck” Fletcher
Clinical Lawson, Physician Assistant Studies Program

Shawn Grammer
Director, Physician Assistant Studies Program

The legal studies department hosted an report showcasing curriculum, academic stan-

“It’s thrilling to return to College of Saint Mary,” Reding said. “I’m very familiar with the campus and its culture, so much has changed in the last 5 years under Sister Maryanne’s leadership. I’m very impressed with the college’s growth and visibility, as well as its unwavering commitment to its mission.”

Since 2011, Reding has served as the exec-

maintained our feasibility study to the Accreditation Review Commission-Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) in March. The application and self-study are due in July with a site visit planned for September.”

Fletcher is also part of the team assisting Shaun Grammer, director of the physician assistant studies program, prepare for program accreditation.

“We’re on track for provisional accreditation in spring 2016,” Grammer said. “We submitted our feasibility study to the Accreditation Review Commission-Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) in March. The application and self-study are due in July with a site visit planned for September.”

Fletcher is also part of the team assisting Shaun Grammer, director of the physician assistant studies program, prepare for program accreditation.

“We’re on track for provisional accreditation in spring 2016,” Grammer said. “We submitted our feasibility study to the Accreditation Review Commission-Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) in March. The application and self-study are due in July with a site visit planned for September.”

CHI Health and College of Saint Mary are natural partners,” said Dr. Maryanne Stevens, CHI HEALTH

Leadership is designed for the professional who is eager to assume leadership in the field of education or within their business or corporation.”

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preis-

The Health Professions Education track is perfect for the working health-care professional who wants to teach in higher education or is looking to be an edu-

“With CHI Health having a national presence, we’re confident that our online Ed.D. will be very attractive to those in search of an advanced degree,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President for Academic Affairs. “It will provide the flexibility of an online program with the personal connectedness that College of Saint Mary is known for providing.”

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preisman. Preisman has been an associate professor at Peru State College for the past decade and will join the Col-

College of Saint Mary just made enrolling in course-

work more convenient and even more affordable for CHI Health employees, thanks to a new partnership between the two organizations.

The agreement offers CHI Health-affiliate employees reduced tuition for any of the University’s 30+ undergraduate programs.

“CHI Health and College of Saint Mary are natural partners,” said Dr. Maryanne Stevens, RSM, College of Saint Mary president. “College of Saint Mary graduates well-prepared, car-

The Health Professions Education track is perfect for the working health-care professional who wants to teach in higher education or is looking to be an edu-

“With CHI Health having a national presence, we’re confident that our online Ed.D. will be very attractive to those in search of an advanced degree,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President for Academic Affairs. “It will provide the flexibility of an online program with the personal connectedness that College of Saint Mary is known for providing.”

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preis-

The Health Professions Education track is perfect for the working health-care professional who wants to teach in higher education or is looking to be an edu-

“With CHI Health having a national presence, we’re confident that our online Ed.D. will be very attractive to those in search of an advanced degree,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President for Academic Affairs. “It will provide the flexibility of an online program with the personal connectedness that College of Saint Mary is known for providing.”

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preisman. Preisman has been an associate professor at Peru State College for the past decade and will join the Col-

College of Saint Mary will launch an online Doctor of Education degree in June for career-driven, degree-

seeking professionals. Students in the three-year pro-

gram can choose from two emphases: Health Professions

College of Saint Mary will launch an online Doctor of Education degree in June for career-driven, degree-seeking professionals. Students in the three-year program can choose from two emphases: Health Professions Education or Educational Leadership. The Health Professions Education track is perfect for the working health-care professional who wants to teach in higher education or is looking to be an education director in a medical facility,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President for Academic Affairs. “Educational Leadership is designed for the professional who is eager to assume leadership in the field of education or within their business or corporation.”

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preisman. Preisman has been an associate professor at Peru State College for the past decade and will join the College of Saint Mary at the end of the academic year.

“College of Saint Mary has created a program that is affordable, accessible and facilitates exceptional learning, all while sitting in the comfort of your own home,” said Preisman. The Ed.D. is offered as a cohort program. All courses are online with the exception of a one-week residency requirement each summer.

Learn more about the program at CSM.edu/EdDOnline.

The Health Professions Education track is perfect for the working health-care professional who wants to teach in higher education or is looking to be an education director in a medical facility,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President for Academic Affairs. “Educational Leadership is designed for the professional who is eager to assume leadership in the field of education or within their business or corporation.”

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preisman. Preisman has been an associate professor at Peru State College for the past decade and will join the College of Saint Mary at the end of the academic year. College of Saint Mary has created a program that is affordable, accessible and facilitates exceptional learning, all while sitting in the comfort of your own home,” said Preisman. The Ed.D. is offered as a cohort program. All courses are online with the exception of a one-week residency requirement each summer.

Learn more about the program at CSM.edu/EdDOnline.

The Health Professions Education track is perfect for the working health-care professional who wants to teach in higher education or is looking to be an education director in a medical facility,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President for Academic Affairs. "Educational Leadership is designed for the professional who is eager to assume leadership in the field of education or within their business or corporation."

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preisman. Preisman has been an associate professor at Peru State College for the past decade and will join the College of Saint Mary at the end of the academic year. College of Saint Mary has created a program that is affordable, accessible and facilitates exceptional learning, all while sitting in the comfort of your own home,” said Preisman. The Ed.D. is offered as a cohort program. All courses are online with the exception of a one-week residency requirement each summer.

Learn more about the program at CSM.edu/EdDOnline.

The Health Professions Education track is perfect for the working health-care professional who wants to teach in higher education or is looking to be an education director in a medical facility,” said Dr. Christine Pharr, Vice President for Academic Affairs. “Educational Leadership is designed for the professional who is eager to assume leadership in the field of education or within their business or corporation.”

Dr. Vicky Morgan is hosting virtual open houses with prospective students from across the country and is serving as interim program director pending the arrival of newly appointed program director Dr. Kristi Preisman. Preisman has been an associate professor at Peru State College for the past decade and will join the College of Saint Mary at the end of the academic year.

“College of Saint Mary has created a program that is affordable, accessible and facilitates exceptional learning, all while sitting in the comfort of your own home,” said Preisman. The Ed.D. is offered as a cohort program. All courses are online with the exception of a one-week residency requirement each summer.

Learn more about the program at CSM.edu/EdDOnline.
COMMUNITY SPIRIT

VANDENACK INSPIRES HONORS STUDENTS

Mary E. Vandennack, J.D., ’90, founding and managing partner of the Omaha law firm Houghout Vandennack Williams, recently shared her keys to business and personal success with student achievers at the annual Walk Tall Honors luncheon.

“Mary opened my eyes to not only the importance of choosing a job I love, but also finding it in a place I love where I can also find hobbies I love,” said Jamie Williams, a junior occupational therapy major from Elkhorn, Nebraska. “The trifecta to finding the perfect setting is preparation, wellness and confidence.”

Maryta Roman, a junior mathematics secondary education major from Rio Vista, California, said she was impressed with Vandennack’s support of other women.

“She emphasized the importance of lifting each other up, especially in environments where women are still fighting for equality,” Roman said. “At College of Saint Mary, I’ve been able to witness how well women can work together and how much we can all learn from each other.”

Vandennack graduated summa cum laude from College of Saint Mary with her bachelor’s degree in business and accounting. She attended Creighton University School of Law, graduating magna cum laude. While in law school, she served as editor-in-chief of the Creighton Law Review and won Best Oral Advocate honors in Domestic Moot Court. Vandennack serves on the editorial board for the American Bar Association Law Practice Management Magazine and on the ABA Women Rainmakers and the Commission on Youth at Risk board.

CSM ADVANTAGE POSTS RECORD ENROLLMENT

Before the fall 2014 semester began, a record number of new, first-time students participated in a five-day kick-off designed to ensure a smooth transition to college life. Participants met other new students, faculty and staff and brush-up on necessary study and test-taking skills.

CSM Advantage also focuses on the development of mind, body and spirit. Students participated in a weekend retreat where they learned important health and wellness tips and participated in a weekend retreat where they learned important health and wellness tips and participated in a weekend retreat where they learned important health and wellness tips and participated in a weekend retreat where they learned important health and wellness tips and participated in a weekend retreat where they learned important health and wellness tips and participated in a weekend retreat where they learned important health and wellness tips and participated in a weekend retreat where they learned important health and wellness tips.

SAFETY PROGRAM GETS NEW WHEELS

At 6’6” tall, it’s a tight squeeze for Dave Ferber, College of Saint Mary’s director of safety and security, to get in the University’s new patrol vehicle. But it’s a sacrifice he’ll gladly make to quicken his response time to someone in need.

The new “egg mobile,” as students commonly call it, allows Ferber and his seven-member security team to patrol the 25-acre campus in bitter cold temperatures with high-quality lighting. And unlike standard security trucks, the Polaris Global Electric Motorcar (GEM) navigates narrow sidewalks and parking lots with ease.

The motorcar can travel up to 27 miles per hour on an eight-hour battery that takes about an hour to recharge.

“It’s important for us to utilize an eco-friendly mode of transportation that doesn’t leave much of a carbon footprint,” said Ferber.

LAB WELCOMES DIGITAL CADAVER

Thanks to a grant from the Armstrong McDonal Foundation, students in the health professions are benefiting from a new high-tech learning tool.

An Anatomy table, a mobile digital cadaver measuring seven feet by two feet and costing nearly $90,000, arrived in late March and comes equipped with a touch screen and two 60” display monitors.

With the swipe of a finger, students will be able to rotate the body in all directions, and with a scalpel “swipe” tool, they’ll slice, layer and segment and cross-section tissue to demonstrate anatomical relationships.

Until recently, animal dissection and plastic models were the only methods available to demonstrate the systems of the human body at the undergraduate level. College of Saint Mary recently developed a cadaver lab to enhance anatomical instruction; however, the lab is less than optimal for the more than 200 students who are enrolled in anatomy courses annually.

“Today’s students love technology and are drawn to it. This device will use that love of technology to encourage the exploration of human anatomy through this space-age device,” said Dr. Jeff Keyte, division chair of Arts & Sciences.

Winter Commencement

Fifty-four students received degrees in December. Among the graduates were:

JOURNEYS MAGAZINE S P R I N G 2 0 1 5

students get off to a great start and then support them throughout this exciting journey.”

The College of Saint Mary Institutional Advancement Office welcomed nearly 175 alumnae and friends to a preview performance of “Little Women” at the Omaha Community Playhouse on January 22. Following a reception hosted by President Maryanne Stevens and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Christine Pharr, guests enjoyed Louisa May Alcott’s timeless tale of sisters Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy, guided by their beloved mother Marmee.

“This was such a wonderful event to bring CSM women and their guests together with the performers on stage,” said Pharr, who is an Omaha Community Playhouse board member. “It was a magical night celebrating the joys and triumphs of women throughout history.”

CSM HOSTS LITTLE WOMEN PREVIEW NIGHT

STUDENTS POST HIGH MARKS FOR SATISFACTION

College of Saint Mary faculty and staff work hard to meet the needs of a diverse group of students. According to results of a recent survey, the University is succeeding.

“Every three years, we administer the Noel-Levetz Student Satisfaction Inventory to full-time undergraduates,” said Dr. Tony Knudsen Carl, vice president for student development, special assistant to the president and retention advisory council chair. “The survey measures satisfaction and priorities (items of importance), and offers national benchmarks on nearly 60 items related to students’ happiness on campus.”

The survey also collects demographic information to help administrators gain a better understanding of the specific needs of campus sub-groups.

Forty-two percent of College of Saint Mary’s student body participated in the recent survey. Those students praised competency in academic advising and instruction, the application of coursework to career goals, and the availability of faculty and online resources. Campus safety and security, and a welcoming campus culture also posted high scores. Similarly, the Achievement Center earned high marks as an environment conducive to learning and studying.

“The responses are right in line with what students feel is important,” said Knudsen Carl. “In areas where students expressed concern, we’ve modified processes and services as needed. Overall, the results are very affirming of our work and commitment to students.”

CSMFLAMES.COM

MERCY HALL READIES FOR A MAKEOVER

With genuine excitement President Stevens delivered news that the planned renovation of Mercy Hall was a go.

“We’re moving forward with the Mercy Hall renovation announcement this spring,” President Stevens posted in a late February blog to students and faculty. “Within the last few days, generous donors confirmed the additional pledges needed for the nearly $8 million project.”

S P R I N G 2 0 1 5

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER

MERCY HALL READY FOR A MAKEOVER
ON DECK FOR GRAND SLAM DIGS

The Heritage Park softball complex, just east of the Lied Fitness Center and home to the Flames softball team, is scheduled for an all-star upgrade. The proposed complex addition includes restrooms, locker rooms, a concession stand and accommodations for umpires, statisticians, announcers and the media.

“As we move toward great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC), it’s imperative that we provide an exceptional facility for our athletes and their fans,” said Flames Athletic Director Jim Krueger. “This past year, the softball team had its best record in 10 years. The addition will allow our team to compete at a higher intercollegiate level and assist our coaches in recruiting top players.”

A fundraising campaign is currently underway for the project, estimated to cost $500,000.

FLIGHT NURSE HELICOPTER LANDS AT CSM

College of Saint Mary’s soccer field served as the landing pad for a recent visit from the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) Flight Nurse and Medical Helicopter.

College of Saint Mary’s Student Nurses Association hosted the visit and welcomed UNMC Chief Flight Nurse Jeremy Moore and his crew to campus.

“This was a wonderful opportunity for our nursing students to experience a specialized career path within the nursing profession,” said Tracey Green, Ed.D. (c), assistant professor and Student Nurses Association advisor.

UNMC Flight Nurse and CSM Alumna Jen Newcomer ’02 and Dr. Kathleen Zajic, chair, College of Saint Mary health professions.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Sarah Kottich knows a thing or two about strategic planning, having been through the process several times. The vice president for finance and administrative services is pursuing a doctorate in interdisciplinary leadership, studying best practices in institutional planning.

Kottich and co-facilitator Dr. Tara Knudson Carl, vice president for student development and special assistant to the president, have mapped out a process to take the University through 2020.

“Vision 2016 brought us to where we are today, financially stable and living out our mission. It’s exciting to be looking ahead to develop the next chapter in the University’s history,” Kottich said.

The yearlong process began in November with input from faculty, staff and board members on the University’s mission, values and vision.

“We’re in the business of developing powerful women who make the world a better place. As such, we are developing a plan that will support this important and meaningful work,” said Kottich.

Over the next several months, College of Saint Mary’s Council for Institutional Effectiveness (CIE) will analyze the University’s critical success factors, which will lead to the development of areas of focus, goals and strategic tactics.

Send ideas for College of Saint Mary’s 2020 Strategic Plan to JOURNEYS@csm.edu.

WEDNESDAY WALKING WOMAN CLUB

The College of Saint Mary Mission inspires students, faculty and staff to pay careful attention to the development of mind, body and spirit. The University encourages employees to take advantage of weekly wellness time, utilize the facilities at the Lied Fitness Center (LFC), participate in the annual wellness challenge, and walk alongside colleagues every other Wednesday at noon.

---

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ACADEMIES, VISIT CSM.edu/LSA OR CSM.edu/AASA.
College of Saint Mary graduates are highly prized across myriad fields, but what makes Deana “Dee” Acklie most is how schools especially welcome the students of our programs! Dr. Acklie is Associate Professor of Education and Director of Undergraduate Teacher Education and Special Education. “Preparing our students for the classroom is an understatement. Our undergraduate students average between 200 and 250 practicum hours. That’s more than double the 100 hours required by the state of Nebraska. Beyond having exceeded the requirements, it’s our students’ ability to apply a wealth of experiences to their teaching that makes them so valuable.”

Acklie should know about meeting requirements. She leads the charge among the education faculty who are active participants with the Nebraska Council of Teacher Education Association (NCTE), the state organization comprised of administrators, teachers and college representatives from teacher education programs, and the Nebraska Association of Colleges of Teachers of Education (NCTE). Acklie’s dedication runs deep. She serves on both of these councils and is the secretary of the NCTE working committee. She attends regular webinars on current topics and even spent winter break reading the 600 pages of the new proposed federal guidelines to discern their impact on College of Saint Mary programs.

College of Saint Mary served as one of the pilot colleges for the new statewide student guidelines to discern their impact on College of Saint Mary programs.

“The other reason is truly the heart of the program.” College of Saint Mary has cultivated longstanding relationships with organizations in the community that give students ample opportunity to learn how to apply what they’re learning–real time. Plus, as Dr. Melanie Felton, Associate Professor of Education and Director of Early Childhood Education put it, “Children in classrooms today have the same needs for physical and psychological safety, a sense of belonging, a feeling of acceptance and recognition for their abilities and talents as they had many years ago. However, today there are many new issues that impact the ability of teachers and families to meet these needs. These issues include academic pressures through frequent high stakes testing, rapid changes in technology and the role of social media in our lives, as well as the economic strains felt among families and communities. In order to help our children develop holistically, teachers must have an even stronger foundation in child and adolescent development and family systems to be able to judge each of my professors is committed to our personal lives such as being ill or having a sick child, and they work with us to specify what we need to get caught up. I truly believe each of my professors is committed to us and to the profession by making sure we will be the best teachers we can be.”

“We have never been content to simply respond to state and federal decisions.” Acklie added. “College of Saint Mary leads in teacher education. We get involved when it matters and lend our expertise and insight to policy/regulations decisions that affect the university, our students and the students they serve.” This dedication to leading in the field is one reason the practicum hours are so high for College of Saint Mary students.

**THE OTHER REASON IS TRULY THE HEART OF THE PROGRAM.**

Corrie Lusch

Senior, Early Childhood Education

Murray, Nebraska

“I attended a very small all girls’ Catholic high school. When I graduated in 2006, I attended Creighton University. I felt like the school was too big and there were so many students that I was lost in the crowd. I took a few years off before I decided to go back and complete my degree. I was drawn to College of Saint Mary because of the small class sizes. The fact that it is a women’s college and Catholic were also factors to me because it is what I know and love.

After I became a mother I realized how much I enjoyed being around children and watching them learn and discover things. I knew I wanted to be a part of that process and facilitate children’s learning. To me there is no greater feeling than watching as the ‘light bulb’ goes off and you know you have taught a child something they will use for the rest of their life.

That’s why I am earning my bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education with a minor in Special Education. I would like to be a classroom teacher in the range of preschool to third grade. Younger students have such a sense of wonder and excitement and are so eager to learn. Working with them keeps me energetic and on my toes. Preschool and kindergarten teachers are especially on the ‘front lines’ and are so crucial to setting the stage for students’ future learning.

My professors in the education department are great. They are all very knowledgeable and talented teachers. They take the time to get to know each of us as individuals and build relationships. They are all very understanding of things that may come up in our personal lives such as being ill or having a sick child, and they work with us to specify what we need to get caught up. I truly believe each of my professors is committed to us and to the profession by making sure we will be the best teachers we can be.”

To continue reading about Corrie’s experiences as a College of Saint Mary education major and her journey to the classroom, visit CSM.edu/JOURNEYS.
what truly are best and developmentally appropriate practices. Teachers must work with families to be strong advocates for children in a much more dynamic way in today’s schools and in society as a whole. That’s the value of the net effect of what we teach in our College of Saint Mary classrooms combined with in-depth practice experiences. We help move our students from a ‘student mindset’ to a ‘teacher mindset.’ We are preparing reflective teachers who are ready to engage in lifelong learning and service to their students and communities. Outcomes exemplify the Mission of College of Saint Mary.

“This isn’t about building up hours, this is about tapping into each student’s best and highest developmentally appropriate practices and teaching acumen,” said Acklie. “In addition to partnering with community schools, the University enjoys valuable partnerships with Girls, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides girls ages 5 through 18 a safe place to go after school and in the summer), Mercy House, a program that provides low-income housing for individuals with special needs, and of course, the Spellman Child Development Center which is located on the campus.

The education department assures that the students are prepared—and that the partners don’t go into partnerships lightly. Each is selected for its opportunity to provide a training ground for students, and an opportunity for the student to really make a difference by her presence there. “Our community partners understand our high level of expectation,” said Acklie. “They work with our students to meet those expectations. It becomes a real ‘win-win.’ Some of our practicum classroom partnerships have had College of Saint Mary students helping for 10 years in a row!” The partnerships are varied and allow College of Saint Mary students to gain application experience in their area of study, and to work with children from a variety of backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures.

**OUR FACULTY ARE PREPARED, TOO.**

- Preparing College of Saint Mary students to enter classrooms armed with knowledge and theory starts right here on campus with dedicated faculty. In addition to being active with state associations, the faculty are motivated to enter classrooms armed with knowledge and teaching acumen.” said Felton. “We offer our students helping for 10 years in a row!” The Spellman Child Development Center which is located on the campus.

- Students enrolled in College of Saint Mary’s guidance and management and multi-cultural education programs provide tutoring to elementary age children who live in Mercy Housing. The Spellman Child Development Center provides many opportunities for College of Saint Mary education students. Early childhood education students complete field experiences at the center that involve observing children and teachers, as well as interacting directly with children to implement activities and teach lessons. The opportunity to work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers in a program that focuses on offering high quality care and education is invaluable. Students enrolled in other classes such as Child Psychology are also provided opportunities to observe children in a way that enhances their learning.

- The College of Saint Mary Early Childhood Education program is working on new initiatives with the Spellman Center including celebrating The Week of the Young Child, designing service learning projects and building opportunities to teach early childhood education students on site at the center.

**Education Department Works with Local Organizations to Provide Real-World Teaching Experience**

- Operation S.M.A.R.T (Science, Math and Relevant Technology) – a partnership with Girls, Inc.

  Through Operation S.M.A.R.T., kindergarten through sixth grade girls of diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds receive instruction in natural and social sciences, math and technology from College of Saint Mary students who are learning how to teach in this area. The girls from Girls, Inc. come to campus two afternoons a week for instructional activities. This is a long-standing partnership (nearly 20 years) that yields awareness and inspiration for girls in our community and hands-on applied learning to College of Saint Mary students.

- Creative Homework Club – a partnership with Mercy House.

  Students enrolled in College of Saint Mary’s guidance and management and multi-cultural education programs provide tutoring to elementary age children who live in Mercy Housing.

- Spellman Child Development Center – on the College of Saint Mary Campus.

  The Spellman Child Development Center provides many opportunities for College of Saint Mary education students. Early childhood education students complete field experiences at the center that involve observing children and teachers, as well as interacting directly with children to implement activities and teach lessons. The opportunity to work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers in a program that focuses on offering high quality care and education is invaluable. Students enrolled in other classes such as Child Psychology are also provided opportunities to observe children in a way that enhances their learning.

The latest research and best practices around the topics they teach. College of Saint Mary supports this learning with travel funds provided through the Lieseu Fund and lecture series right here on campus at the Teaching and Learning Center. The faculty has a broad range of teaching experience in the K-12 arena.

1. Current adjunct faculty members include a Alice Buffett Teaching Award winner as well as teachers who work daily in the field.

2. “One thing we do that may be underimated in its efficacy is incorporate technology into our teaching,” said Felton. “We offer a specialized course and work with all students to prepare electronic portfolios. Over the years many of our graduates have become technology leaders in their schools because of their preparation at College of Saint Mary.”

3. The education department assures that the students are prepared—and that the partners don’t go into partnerships lightly. Each is selected for its opportunity to provide a training ground for students, and an opportunity for the student to really make a difference by her presence there. “Our community partners understand our high level of expectation,” said Acklie. “They work with our students to meet those expectations. It becomes a real ‘win-win.’ Some of our practicum classroom partnerships have had College of Saint Mary students helping for 10 years in a row!”

4. Spellman Child Development Center provides many opportunities for College of Saint Mary education students. Early childhood education students complete field experiences at the center that involve observing children and teachers, as well as interacting directly with children to implement activities and teach lessons. The opportunity to work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers in a program that focuses on offering high quality care and education is invaluable. Students enrolled in other classes such as Child Psychology are also provided opportunities to observe children in a way that enhances their learning.

5. The College of Saint Mary Early Childhood Education program is working on new initiatives with the Spellman Center including celebrating The Week of the Young Child, designing service learning projects and building opportunities to teach early childhood education students on site at the center.

6. What truly are best and developmentally appropriate practices. Teachers must work with families to be strong advocates for children in a much more dynamic way in today’s schools and in society as a whole. That’s the value of the net effect of what we teach in our College of Saint Mary classrooms combined with in-depth practice experiences. We help move our students from a ‘student mindset’ to a ‘teacher mindset.’ We are preparing reflective teachers who are ready to engage in lifelong learning and service to their students and communities. Outcomes exemplify the Mission of College of Saint Mary.

7. “This isn’t about building up hours, this is about tapping into each student’s best and highest developmentally appropriate practices and teaching acumen,” said Acklie. “In addition to partnering with community schools, the University enjoys valuable partnerships with Girls, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides girls ages 5 through 18 a safe place to go after school and in the summer), Mercy House, a program that provides low-income housing for individuals with special needs, and of course, the Spellman Child Development Center which is located on the campus.

8. The education department assures that the students are prepared—and that the partners don’t go into partnerships lightly. Each is selected for its opportunity to provide a training ground for students, and an opportunity for the student to really make a difference by her presence there. “Our community partners understand our high level of expectation,” said Acklie. “They work with our students to meet those expectations. It becomes a real ‘win-win.’ Some of our practicum classroom partnerships have had College of Saint Mary students helping for 10 years in a row!” The partnerships are varied and allow College of Saint Mary students to gain application experience in their area of study, and to work with children from a variety of backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures.

9. **OUR FACULTY ARE PREPARED, TOO.**

- Preparing College of Saint Mary students to enter classrooms armed with knowledge and theory starts right here on campus with dedicated faculty. In addition to being active with state associations, the faculty are motivated to enter classrooms armed with knowledge and teaching acumen.” said Felton. “We offer our students helping for 10 years in a row!” The Spellman Child Development Center which is located on the campus.

- Students enrolled in College of Saint Mary’s guidance and management and multi-cultural education programs provide tutoring to elementary age children who live in Mercy Housing. The Spellman Child Development Center provides many opportunities for College of Saint Mary education students. Early childhood education students complete field experiences at the center that involve observing children and teachers, as well as interacting directly with children to implement activities and teach lessons. The opportunity to work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers in a program that focuses on offering high quality care and education is invaluable. Students enrolled in other classes such as Child Psychology are also provided opportunities to observe children in a way that enhances their learning.

- The College of Saint Mary Early Childhood Education program is working on new initiatives with the Spellman Center including celebrating The Week of the Young Child, designing service learning projects and building opportunities to teach early childhood education students on site at the center.

**College of Saint Mary Sophomore Rachelle Connelly feels personal reward in the smile on a student’s face when he or she first understands a concept.**

As a student learning to teach at the high school level, Rachelle says that her early role models often motivated her to attend College of Saint Mary. My professors are also a driving force. I see them—some married, some with children—achieving these huge milestones. I came here to earn my degree in secondary education, but I’m learning here with plans to return. Why not make new, bigger goals? Doctorate maybe? I see them and I think, “They did it. They’re living proof that women can make it and conquer these amazing goals.”...
Our Response to This Question is a Resounding “YES!”

IS COLLEGE WORTH IT?

One doesn’t have to go far to hear about the escalating cost of tuition today and the impact it is having on Americans and the nation’s colleges and universities. While it can be argued that the media has greatly exaggerated the cost of tuition—using “list” prices vs. those that most students actually pay—the fact remains that college is one of the greatest expenses a person will have in her lifetime. After adjusting for inflation, the costs of college tuition more than tripled between 2000 and 2010 forcing more students to borrow money for their education. According to the Institute for College Access and Success, graduating seniors in 2013 averaged $28,400 in student loans.

Finding the funds—and a way to graduate without massive debt—might be classified as a new sport for students and their parents. Responding to those students and their needs, while staying viable and relevant, is a challenge for institutions, and College of Saint Mary is no exception.

LET’S START BY DEFINING WHAT “WORTH IT” MEANS.

Omaha’s own Warren Buffett said, “Price is what you pay. Value is what you get.” People tend to measure whether anything is “worth it” by what they get in return. Relative to tuition, a student needs to consider whether she will become gainfully employed such that she can pay back student loan debt incurred. More than the monetary return on the investment, students today are considering the potential personal return they will receive from funding the college experience—and well they should.

According to a March 2014 Gallup survey of 30,000 college graduates of all ages across all 50 states, people who borrow significant college loans score worse on quality-of-life measures. The survey revealed that those who finished college between 2000 and 2014 with more than $50,000 in debt were significantly worse off than those who graduated with no debt in the following five categories:

- Feeling there is purpose to their lives
- Being in supportive relationships
- Having financial security
- Having a sense of community
- Having physical well-being

High debt might contribute to the feeling of lack of purpose because people may choose jobs that pay well versus those that are interesting or fulfilling and, thus, feel trapped in their jobs versus feeling free to leave and try something new. Debt can cause a delay in buying a home, getting married, starting a family—which in turn stifles becoming involved in a community. When this happens, there are societal side effects as well.

THE COST OF NOT ATTENDING COLLEGE IS EVEN GREATER—FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY.

Pew Research reported in February 2014 that those with a bachelor’s degree or higher earn more money than those with two-year degrees or some college credits. They also enjoy a lower unemployment rate and much lower rate of poverty.
WHY MOST STUDENTS NEED MORE THAN BOOTSTRAPS.

It may be hard for people who graduated from college many years ago to understand but how steep the tuition climb is for students today, but one thing is clear: It is not like it used to be.

To put it in perspective, since 2000, the cost of tuition has tripled, the cost of healthcare has doubled and real household income has remained flat. College tuition requires more money that many do not have. That is why the College of Saint Mary response to this challenge is so important.

Disparity among Millennials Ages 25-32 By Education Level in Terms of Annual Earnings...

[Median among full-time workers]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Annual Earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-year degree/Some college</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or more</td>
<td>$45,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESPONDING TO STATISTICS FROM THE HEART OF OUR MISSION.

In June 2014 College of Saint Mary formed a Tuition Strategy Task Force to take a deep dive into the issue and derive solutions that work for the students the University serves. The Task Force unearthed and poured through hundreds of pages of reports about the issue, reviewed the University’s historical and current tuition-setting strategies, and considered its unique position in the market.

This research has set the groundwork College of Saint Mary can use in developing additional tactics so that College of Saint Mary might ensure student access and affordability while maintaining long-term financial stability for the university.

“Forming the Tuition Task Force was a natural extension of our mission and commitment to our students,” said Dr. Maryann Stevens, RSM, College of Saint Mary president. “Even when the tuition discussion wasn’t on the national radar, we were helping students find ways to pay for this extraordinary opportunity. The need has heightened and we see it as our responsibility to rise to the challenge.”

“We spent a significant amount of time reviewing solutions being implemented by other colleges and universities across the nation,” said Sarah Kortich, MBA, CPA, vice president for finance and administrative services. “It was insightful to learn that, while the national conversation about tuition has received a lot of attention, few institutions are making drastic changes to their tuition-setting strategies.”

Kortich noted that, according to the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, from the 2009 to 2013 academic years, only 3.5 percent of colleges froze tuition and only 1.3 percent reduced tuition.

“When I transferred, I didn’t know what I knew now about scholarships and grants because at my old school they did everything for me. Here, they help you understand what aid you’re receiving and why you’re getting it. They definitely help you pursue your dream and become whatever you want to become.”

- Deandra Young
  Junior, Nursing
  Miami, Florida

“Two-year degree/Some college $30,000”

“High school graduate $28,000”

Unemployment Rate...

Bachelor’s degree or more 3.8

Two-year degree/Some college 8.1

High school graduate 12.2

And Share Living in Poverty...

Bachelor’s degree or more 5.8

Two-year degree/Some college 14.7

High school graduate 21.8

“We operate with a passion for our mission,” Kortich said. “We are dedicated to the education of women in an environment that calls forth potential and fosters leadership. The first step in being able to fulfill our mission is to provide access to all we offer. This means that no woman is turned away from College of Saint Mary undergraduate programs because she can’t afford it.”

“We’ve been working with our students for years to assure they can get on board, stay on board, graduate and go out into the world as unburdened by debt as possible,” she continued. “We have already addressed affordability in a number of ways and we believe we have been ahead of the industry curve in developing tactics to keep finances from being a hurdle to our students.”

Kortich noted that College of Saint Mary already:

- Offers need-based financial aid on a sliding scale based on the particular financial circumstances of the individual student.
- Makes on-staff financial aid counselors available to meet one-to-one with students about their financial options.
- Has eliminated all fees—no parking, activity, library or lab fees.
- Provides free cable, internet access and laundry facilities in the residence halls.
- Provides donor-funded scholarship opportunities.
- Partners with local employers, including the Catholic school system, CHI Health and BoysTown to offer discounted tuition to their employees.
- Offers grants for books to students who cannot afford them.

“For many of our students, finances can be a stumbling block when seeking higher education,” said Beth Sisk, director of financial aid. “Thirty-nine percent of our students in fall 2014 were eligible for Pell grants from the federal government. We are able to help them apply that federal aid, but we must supplement that aid. That is why the support of our alumnae and donors is so critical—and appreciated.”

During the 2013-2014 academic year, 64 percent of full-time undergraduate College of Saint Mary students received financial need-based aid. The University awarded $1.3 million in need-based aid, of which donors funded $700,000.

“‘I was very nervous when I learned how much tuition costs yearly, but once I came in and talked about financial aid, I calmed down and thought, ‘I can do this.’ What I learned is you can afford to go here and you can achieve your dream.’”

- Monika Adhikari
  Sophomore, Nursing
  Bellevue, Nebraska

“‘It’s important to us that our students know they are not in this alone,’ said Kelley Miller, College of Saint Mary assistant dean for enrollment management.

“They have lots of resources available to them both on and off campus. We do more than hand them money. We help them be smart consumers and take advantage of everything that’s out there.”

When asked if college is worth it today, Kortich gave a resounding, ‘Yes!’

“When you think of the mission of College of Saint Mary, the financial aid office may not be the first department that comes to mind, but the work done in this office and, by extension, through the Tuition Task Force, is very reflective of what we are about here. Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, said ‘No work can be more productive of good to society than the careful education of women.’

‘What do we do in our financial aid department every day helps women access education which leads to employment, fulfillment and creating more good in the world,’ she continued. ‘And the best part is the ripple effect. One woman attends and then we’re enrolling her sister, her cousin, her mother and, hopefully, one day, her daughter. Even when there are no further legacies who attend College of Saint Mary, we experience the positive effect one woman’s education has on her family, her circle of friends and her role in her profession and in society. That’s worth it!’

“I just knew that this was where I wanted to be and whatever it took, I was going to come here. When my counselor showed me how much it would cost, she said, ‘Don’t worry, there are scholarships and there is so much aid out there that if this is where you want to be, this is where you’re going to be.’ ‘Third-fourths of my tuition and fees and all my books were paid for.’”

- Shawya Assadi
  Senior, Pre-Physician Assistant Studies
  Omaha, Nebraska

“I would like to learn more about CSM’s commitment to helping students fund their education, visit CSM.edu/PayingforCollege.
CROSS COUNTRY
College of Saint Mary’s cross country team repeated as the MCAC Champions, winning the conference title held in Lawren-
cce, Kansas.
Emily Weber ’14 (masters, occupational therapy) repeated as individual conference championship and was named Runner of the Year.

Haden Mikesell (junior, biology) finished third in the conference. The conference title qualified the Flames for a second consecutive trip to the NAIA National Tournament where they finished in 36th place. Head Coach Derek Fey was named MCAC Coach of the Year.

First-Team All-Conference Honors: Emily Weber, Haden Mikesell and Paige Orth (junior, occupational therapy). Second-Team All-Conference Honors: Sydney Svehla (sophomore, occupational therapy) and Stephanie Albert (senior, nursing). MCAC Scholar-Athlete Honors: Stephanie Albert, Erin Grundmayer (junior, nursing), Haden Mikesell, Paige Orth, Sydney Svehla (sophomore, occupational therapy), Jackie Uihing (junior, nursing), and Emily Weber.

SOCCER
The Flames soccer team finished the fall season with a record of 11-7 and a 3-3 record in the MCAC. This marked the 13th winning soccer season in the history of Col-
lege of Saint Mary and the second winning season in a row. The Flames fell to No. 19 Bellevue University in the first round of the conference tournament. The University’s soccer team had 14 Scholar-
Athletes, the most in the league.

First-Team All-Conference Honors: Abby Zach (senior, business anal-
lytics and strategic communication) and Sarah McGuire (junior, psy-
chology). Second-Team All-Conference Honors: Payton Roby (junior, occupational therapy) and Erika Yost (junior, occupational therapy). MCAC Scholar-Athlete Honors: Payton Roby, Megan Wilda-Wulf (junior, business analytics and strategic communication), Jordan Mee- dowes (junior, nursing), Erika Yost (junior, occupational therapy), Sarah McGuire, Abby Zach, Christa Manning (junior, human biology), Shannon Brandiff (sophomore, occupational therapy), Jordan Coppell (sophomore, occupational therapy), Jennifer Brash (sophomore, business analytics and strategic communication), Sharon Landry (senior, biology), Taylor Arnesworth (junior, occupational therapy), MaryBeth Smith (junior, psychology), and Flora Zemero (junior, biology).

BASKETBALL
College of Saint Mary’s basketball team enjoyed another successful season this year, winning the Midlands Collegiate Athletic Conference (MCAC) Tournament for the second time in a row and earning a trip to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Tournament. In the NAIA tournament, the Flames advanced to the Sweet 16 before falling to the eventual runners-up, Concordia out of the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC). The team completed the season with a 28-6 record and went 14-3 in conference play.

Deaundra Young (junior, nursing) led the team this season earning a First-Team All-american honors, MCAC Player of the Year and All-MCAC. This is the second year in a row that Young earned these honors. Tiffany Anzalone (senior, applied psychology and human services) broke the University’s all-time scoring record January 16 against Central Chris-
tian College, ending her career with 1,795 points.

MCAC: Tiffany Anzalone and Deaundra Young. Honorable Men-
tion All-MCAC: Tiffans Lewis (senior, occupational therapy) and Pay-
ton Hagen (freshman, occupational therapy). MCAC Scholar-Athlete: Tiffany Anzalone, Andrea Christensen (junior, occupational therapy), and Justice Riss (sophomore, occupational therapy). Daktronics-
NAIA Scholar-Athlete: Tiffany Anzalone.

First-Team All-Conference Honors: Mallory Babic (junior, elemen-
tary education), Second-Team All-Conference Honors: MacKarrie Hyde (freshman, occupational therapy), Aysa Jansen (sophomore, nursing), and Jessica Kvaerner (sophomore, occupational therapy).

MCAC Scholar-Athlete Honors: Aysa Jansen (junior, nursing), Megan Reabe (sophomore, occupational therapy), Paige Indra (sophomore, nursing), Jessica Kvaerner (sophomore, early childhood education), Lindsey Fiegenschuh (sophomore, occupational therapy), and Malory Babic (sophomore, elementary education).

JOIN THE JOURNEY AT FLAMESFANS.COM

For schedules, rosters and more, visit CSMFam.com.

SPORTS STATISTICS
All sports statistics compiled by Flames Sports Information Director Morgan O’Rear. Photography by Heather Hall.

SPORTS STATISTICS
All sports statistics compiled by Flames Sports Information Director Morgan O’Rear. Photography by Heather Hall.

ATHLETICS
College of Saint Mary’s softball team had its best season last year since 2005 with a 16-22 record. The team hopes to improve over last year as play continues this spring. After the first 10 games of the year being cancelled because of bad weather, the Flames finally took the field in Tucson, Arizona, where they went 3-5. The Flames current record is 5-6 with much of the season still ahead of them.

SOFTBALL
College of Saint Mary’s softball team had its best season last year since 2005 with a 16-22 record. The team hopes to improve over last year as play continues this spring. After the first 10 games of the year being cancelled because of bad weather, the Flames finally took the field in Tucson, Arizona, where they went 3-5. The Flames current record is 5-6 with much of the season still ahead of them.

VOLLEYBALL
College of Saint Mary’s volleyball team finished the fall season with a 20-9 record and a 6-2 conference record that tied them for second place in the regular season. The Flames lost in the first round of the confer-
ence tournament to Haskell Indian Nation University in a five set match.

First-Team All-Conference Honors: Mallory Babic (junior, elemen-
tary education). Second-Team All-Conference Honors: Aysa Jansen, MacKarrie Hyde (freshman, occupational therapy), Aysa Jansen (sophomore, nursing), and Jessica Kvaerner (sophomore, occupational therapy).

MCAC Scholar-Athlete Honors: Aysa Jansen (junior, nursing), Megan Reabe (sophomore, occupational therapy), Paige Indra (sophomore, nursing), Jessica Kvaerner (junior, early childhood education), Lindsey Fiegenschuh (sophomore, occupational therapy), and Malory Babic (sophomore, elementary education).

GOLF
The Flames golf team continues to im-
prove under Coach Keni Rodrigues, in her fourth year at the helm. The team will build off an impressive fall in which College of Saint Mary finished in the top three at four of five events. Spring action began in April.

The Flames golf team continues to im-
prove under Coach Keni Rodrigues, in her fourth year at the helm. The team will build off an impressive fall in which College of Saint Mary finished in the top three at four of five events. Spring action began in April.
SPOTLIGHT ON COLLEGE OF SAINT MARY EDUCATION GRADS

Across this nation, College of Saint Mary education graduates are teaching, enlightening and preparing students for the future. JOURNEYS asked a few education alumnae to share why they choose to be teachers, what they love about their profession and how their College of Saint Mary experiences ultimately influenced their career paths.

For more about these graduates and others, visit CSM.edu/AlumniSpotlight

BARBARA MARCHESI, ED.D. ’76
Principal at St. Vincent de Paul School
EDUCATOR FOR 40 YEARS

“I have always loved being around kids, that’s what inspired me to go into education. I found them interesting, honest and not afraid to try things. I was never very serious as a student myself, and appreciated my teachers seeing some possibilities in me. I wanted to do that for others.”

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

ERICKA BOSTON ’04
Teacher, Child Advocate and Educational Consultant
EDUCATOR FOR 11 YEARS

“I love being an educator because I love children and enjoy working with them. Hearing children have ‘ah-ha moments’ continues to inspire me to teach! There is such great power in learning!”

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

KRISTAL RENÉ TUREAUD ’02
First Grade Teacher at St. Jerome Catholic School
EDUCATOR FOR 12 YEARS

“College of Saint Mary helped me become knowledgeable of the society we live in and to be able to reason and think critically. I have learned that children must be cultured and become independent learners who are capable of remembering, understanding, applying, analyzing, evaluating, and creating using a wide variety of skills and resources.”

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

DOREEN SUTHERLAND
Principal at St. Vincent de Paul School
EDUCATOR FOR 38 YEARS

“After practicing law for 15 years, I was being called in a different direction and was motivated to go into the field of education. I wanted to help shape and influence a younger generation to push themselves beyond what they previously thought possible.”

NEBRASKA

MARILYN STEFFES BARTA ’77
Fifth Grade Teacher at Kuemper Catholic Schools
EDUCATOR FOR 38 YEARS

“The most rewarding part of being an educator is hearing from so many students many years later. It’s always a wonderful surprise, and it validates my vocation… that somehow, in some small way, I must have been important to that student once upon a time.”

PAPILLON, NEBRASKA

CATHERINE (KATIE) STRAND ’13
Teacher at Harold Kayesook School
EDUCATOR FOR 2 YEARS

“The best part about being an educator is that my job will never become stagnant; every year brings different challenges and gifts. Plus, as an educator, I have the ability to enter into different places and cultures that I normally couldn’t.” Here in northern Alaska, so far from where I was raised, I am just as much of a learner as my students.”

KAKTOVIK, ALASKA

THERESA CONNEALY WIGGS ’80
Montessori Consultant; Board of Directors, Montessori International School of the Plaice
EDUCATOR FOR 35 YEARS

“I absolutely love being an educator because I get to see ‘the light bulb turn on’ in a child’s eyes when they learn something new, that is a wonderful thing. I also love the opportunity to inspire young teachers to be exceptional educators.”

BENNINGTON, NEBRASKA

HEATHER PAWLING STACK ’98
Intervention Coach at Wagram Elementary
EDUCATOR FOR 17 YEARS

“I’m not sure there was ever an inspiration, exactly to go into this profession. I’ve just always known I would be a teacher and have known since I was in third grade. This is where God wants me to be.”

LAUREL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

LIANA MARTINEZ ’97
Teacher, Reading Specialist, ESL Teacher at Floresville Middle School
EDUCATOR FOR 18 YEARS

“College of Saint Mary greatly influenced my career. CSM and my professors gave me real-world experiences and lessons that prepared me for challenges I had to overcome my first few years of teaching.”

FLORESVILLE, TEXAS

TESS BRESLEY SYKES M’13
English Teacher at Zoo Academy
EDUCATOR FOR 11 YEARS

“My own children inspired me to go into education. I love to watch the ‘light bulbs go on’ when they grasp something new, or uncover something to explore. I feel the same kind of joy when my students make a connection between their world and something we’ve read or come into class brimming with questions and ready for a discussion.”

PAPILLON, NEBRASKA

JOAN COSTANZI ‘82
Teacher, Child Advocate and Educational Consultant
EDUCATOR FOR 11 YEARS

“I absolutely love being an educator because I get to see ‘the light bulb turn on’ in a child’s eyes when they learn something new, that is a wonderful thing. I also love the opportunity to inspire young teachers to be exceptional educators.”

VERMONT

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

WHERE ARE OUR EDUCATION ALUMNI?
(Based on our current records.)

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

ADALINA BEDNARZ ’81
Teacher, Child Advocate and Educational Consultant
EDUCATOR FOR 17 YEARS

“I absolutely love being an educator because I get to see ‘the light bulb turn on’ in a child’s eyes when they learn something new, that is a wonderful thing. I also love the opportunity to inspire young teachers to be exceptional educators.”

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

VANESSA KATHLEEN MEYER ’03, M’08
Principal at Ulta Halee Academy
EDUCATOR FOR 11 YEARS

“Whether it has been working with a student who is three or a student who is 18, watching the student’s growth and being part of their success is what keeps me motivated. We have the opportunity to change lives for our students and the families we work with, so building those relationships and collaboration as a team is most meaningful for me.”

LAKEWOOD, COLORADO

KRISTIN L. MAGNUSON M’07
Teacher, Child Advocate and Educational Consultant
EDUCATOR FOR 10 YEARS

“I love being an educator because I love children and enjoy working with them. Hearing children have ‘ah-ha moments’ continues to inspire me to teach! There is such great power in learning!”

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

NERO KNIGHT ’05
Teacher, Child Advocate and Educational Consultant
EDUCATOR FOR 5 YEARS

“I absolutely love being an educator because I get to see ‘the light bulb turn on’ in a child’s eyes when they learn something new, that is a wonderful thing. I also love the opportunity to inspire young teachers to be exceptional educators.”

FLORESVILLE, TEXAS

14 CSM ALUMNI HAVE RECEIVED THE ALICE BUFFET OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD
This award, that began in 1988, recognizes Omaha Public School Teachers (K-12).
**NEW BEGINNINGS - MARRIAGES**

Baylee Collins '14 to Colton Mink.

Hannah Thompson '13, M'14 to Michael Waeger.

Amber Onder '12, M'13 to Clinton Tonzor.

Mollie Scheel '12, M'13 to Mitchell Mane. Mollie is an occupational therapist for the Balance, Institute for Aquatic and Athletic Center in Grand Island.

Julianne Gass '12 to Shawn Gray. Julianne is a seventh-grade math teacher at Central Middle School in Omaha.

Samantha Mchilda '11 to Caleb Grummert.

Lisa Utterback '93 was named executive director for the Omaha Public Schools. Utterback provides daily support and planning to principals at 20 area schools.

Jill Heft-Breed '93 and her family recently moved to Castle Rock, Colorado. She and her children wrote a new children's book titled, Go Granny Go.

Barbara Clinkenbeard '95 is a psychiatric nurse practitioner in private practice providing cancer counseling at Psycho-Oncology in Omaha.

Sarah Cheney Porto '95 is a personal banker at Nebraska Bank of Commerce in Lincoln.

Jodi Polenz McQuillen '76 is a visiting instructor in the social work department at the University of Nebraska in Omaha.

Trish Kucinick Sedgill '99 completed her ninth season of coaching volleyball at Bellevue University.

**CLASS NOTES**

**1940s**

Patricia McNemara '45 is a member of the Los Padres Watercolor Society in Santa Barbara, California.

**1960s**

Sr. Marie Michletta, RSM, '62 received the 2014 University of Omaha Department of Gerontolgy Alumni Award.

Carolyn Bless Larsen '63 received the 2014 Betty Super Historical Award from the Platte County Historical and Genealogical Society of Platte County, Missouri.

Dr. K. Bidget Broshin Prossman '65 received the Lifetime Achievement Award of the InterAmerican Society of Hypertension in Salvador, Brazil. Broshin Prossman is a professor of scientific studies/physiology and pharmacology in the Hypertension and Research Center at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Maureen Coufal Prossak '66 received the 2014 Volunteer of the Year Award from the Bennington, Nebraska, Community Foundation for the many hours she volunteered with the Bennington Library, Festival of Trees and the Bennington Women's Club.


**1970s**

Sofo Grochala Kock '71, principal of Holy Name School in Omaha, received the 2014 Sofia Kock Celebrating Partnership Program Award from the Sisters of Mercy.

Deborah Wright '74 retired from the University of Nebraska at Omaha as treasurer and tax collector. She lives in Long Beach, California.

Beth Tacke Black '75 and her husband, Philip, have moved their bookstore, The Bookworm, to new location at the Loveland Centre in Omaha. They have owned the bookstore for 27 years.

Laura Oliver '76 has been elected Monona County Treasurer in Mapleton, Iowa.

Laura Snyder Wallace '79 was named 2014 Administrator of the Year by the Arborindsaya of Omaha. She has been the principal of St. Joan of Arc since 2009 and served as principal at Mary Queen of Our Lord for 10 years.

**1990s**

Mary Vandenack '90 is a founding member of Americas of Arc since 2009 and served as principal at Mary Queen of Our Lord for 10 years.

Mary Kathleen "Kathy" Mahoney '84 Worked in the CSM registrar's office for 42 years from 1960-2002 while raising five children and earning a bachelor's degree at age 50.

**MARCH 2015**

Joan Turner Hamilton '67 Kathy Mahoney '84

**FEBRUARY 2015**


**JANUARY 2015**

Joan Tierney '48 Betty Jean O'Leary Lee '42 Ruth O'Keeffe Wilms '40 Mary Joan Wogan '58 Brittany Woods Collins '08

**NOVEMBER 2014**

Joan Marie Bortles, RSM, '60 Joan Premer Civito '47 Mary P. Montgomery '60

**SEPTEMBER 2014**

Margie "Peg" McCauley Drzenie '42

**AUGUST 2014**

Barbara Beckwith Mcgraw '59 Sr. Agnes Maria Osty, ND '67

**JULY 2014**

Joanne Boyer, founding director of the College of Saint Mary occupational therapy program. Nazema Catahan O'Hair '44 Matilda "Tillie" Black Bear '69

**JUNE 2014**

Ann Karkm '55 Barbara Beckwith Mcgraw '59 John Karkm '70 ( Sister of Brenda Bennett Clark '71) Mary Kay McCauley Uraga '67

**MAY 2014**

Marcia Hinchey Nuschy '86

**APRIL 2014**

Dona Pattison Fabbick '93 "Audrey" Pat Hamilton Metz '60 Shirley Von Dorn '93, '96

**For up-to-date information on your classmates, visit CSM.edu/Alumni/spotlight**
Are you receiving eJOURNEYS?

eJOURNEYS, the companion newsletter to JOURNEYS magazine, is emailed to alumnae and friends four times per year. Don’t miss an issue! Send your email address to: JOURNEYS@CSM.edu.

SAVE THE DATE

COLLEGE OF SAINT MARY

Alumnae Reunion Weekend

SEPTEMBER 11, 12 & 13 | CSM.EDU/REUNION

Celebrating all class years & featuring these HONORED YEARS:
1955 • 1960 • 1965 • 1970 • 1975 • 1990 • 2005

2015 Alumna Achievement Award recipients

SUZANNE (SUE) LIEBENTRITT GARCIA
Elementary Education
1970

AMY GAUGHAN MCAULIFFE
Business Administration
1990

PEGGY (MARGARET) O’NEILL
English
1965

BETH TACKE BLACK
Early Childhood Education
1975

ORLANDO WHITFIELD
Business Leadership, MOL ’06, ED.D. ’12
2005