

A close-up portrait of Brian Hanlon, a middle-aged man with light brown hair and blue eyes, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He is wearing a dark blue t-shirt.

Monmouth

THE MAGAZINE OF MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY » FALL 2018

AN EXAMINED LIFE

Acclaimed sculptor **Brian Hanlon '88** finds the untold stories behind his famous subjects.

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BEATLEMANIA EXPLAINED

Why the Fab Four
still fascinate us.

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The life of a pet
funeral director.

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REEL EXCITEMENT

Catching sharks
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Information Session
11/17 @ 10 a.m.

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Vice President for Enrollment Management
Robert D. McCaig, Ed.D.

Associate Vice President, Marketing & Communications
Tara Peters '94, '99M

Editor
Tony Marchetti

Assistant Editor
Breanne McCarthy

Design & Layout
Dog Ear Consultants

Contributing Writers
Caren Chesler
Nick DiUlio
Morganne Dudzinski '11, '13M
Kelley Freund
Mark Gola
Michael S. Maiden '07M, '14M
Molly Petrilla

Photographers
Matthew Aquino
Anthony DePrimo
Matt Furman
Steve Greer
Tom Lynch

Illustrators
Josue Evilla
Dung Hoang
Julie McLaughlin

On the cover
Sculptor Brian Hanlon '88,
photographed by Matt Furman

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

West Long Branch, NJ 07764
732-571-3489
monmouth.edu

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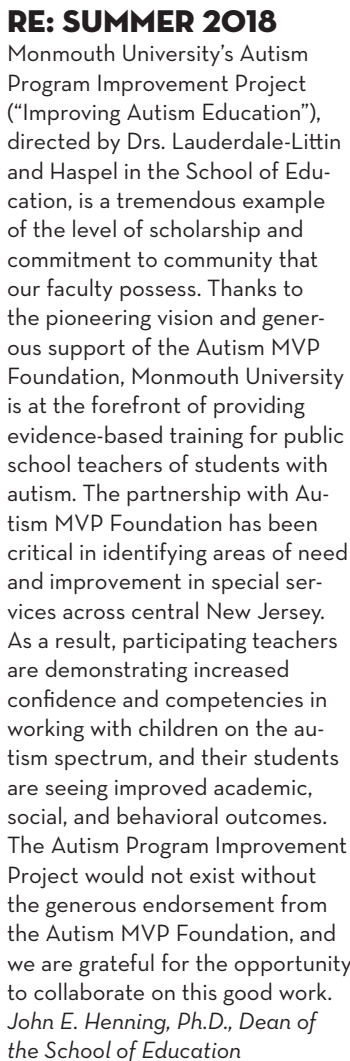
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Monmouth University's Autism Program Improvement Project ("Improving Autism Education"), directed by Drs. Lauderdale-Littin and Haspel in the School of Education, is a tremendous example of the level of scholarship and commitment to community that our faculty possess. Thanks to the pioneering vision and generous support of the Autism MVP Foundation, Monmouth University is at the forefront of providing evidence-based training for public school teachers of students with autism. The partnership with Autism MVP Foundation has been critical in identifying areas of need and improvement in special services across central New Jersey. As a result, participating teachers are demonstrating increased confidence and competencies in working with children on the autism spectrum, and their students are seeing improved academic, social, and behavioral outcomes. The Autism Program Improvement Project would not exist without the generous endorsement from the Autism MVP Foundation, and we are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate on this good work.

John E. Henning, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Education

Evie (Pizzulli) Dopart '61

I have a suggestion for future issues of the magazine: a series of articles about former and present professors who have significantly achieved notable accomplishments in their careers and fields of endeavor. Not only would this be interesting, but I feel noting these

Gary H. Barnett '63

@monmouthmag

Email us at magazine@monmouth.edu, or write us at *Monmouth* magazine, Monmouth University, Alumni House, 400 Cedar Ave., West Long Branch, NJ 07764. Submissions for the Letters page are subject to editing for clarity and length and must include the writer's name, address, and phone number for confirmation.

NEED TO KNOW » Topics & trends

BIGGER THAN THEMSELVES

Beatlemania will descend on campus in November courtesy of a four-day international symposium marking the 50th anniversary of the band's landmark LP *The Beatles* (aka *The White Album*). We asked Monmouth's own Kenneth Womack, a world-renowned authority on the Beatles, why the Fab Four are still the band everyone aspires to top.

INTERVIEW BY TONY MARCHETTI

How and when did you become a Beatles fan?

It was 1977, and my favorite morning television program¹ was replaced with *The Beatles Cartoons*². It's kind of a lame discovery story because the cartoons weren't voiced by the Beatles. They were just these little sing-alongs, and each featured a nonsensical plot with fake Beatle voices where they would act cool in that fashion, and do a couple of songs. But I'd never heard songs like that before. When you hear the Beatles, there is something instantly different about them. They don't sound like the '60s. They sound like really well-crafted songs.

So my father went to the Hous-ton Public Library and picked up all the Beatles books they had. Most of them were silly art books with paintings that depicted the lyrics. But he brought them home and I went from there.

So an obsession was born?

I suppose, though you used the word *fan* before. I've never really been a fan in the sense that I don't collect [Beatles memorabilia]. It's always been about the music.

What interests you about them as a researcher and an academic?

Their story is fascinating. How does this band in seven years³ move so quickly through all of these different musical, generic changes, and then disappear and leave the stage forever, and leave it on such a high note, having achieved a swan song like the *Abbey Road* LP? It's remarkable. James Joyce and Picasso didn't have careers like that, with such an intense period of ever-increasing quality and artistic growth. Pink Floyd and the Rolling Stones didn't. It's unique in music and art.

LINER NOTES

¹ KW: "New Zoo Revue, which, looking back, was kind of a goofy show but I can't speak to 11-year-old me about it."

² The animated television show originally ran on ABC in the 1960s.

³ KW: "Their first session with George is June 1962, and the last session with all four Beatles present was August 1969."

⁴ Womack is teaching "The Evolving Art-istry of the Beatles" this semester. Among other things, students explore how the band "begins with songs like 'Love Me Do' ... and ends with the powerful symphonic suite that is the *Abbey Road* medley. That's a long road to go in such a short period," says Womack.

⁵ KW: "There are debates on how certain [the Beatles] were that it was over, but nothing changes the fact that they had to foist themselves back together for one last stab at greatness."

⁶ KW: "They could only do that because they were the most privileged creative act in the world and they didn't need to go on the road to make money."

continued, p. 06

Why do you think the Beatles were able to do it?

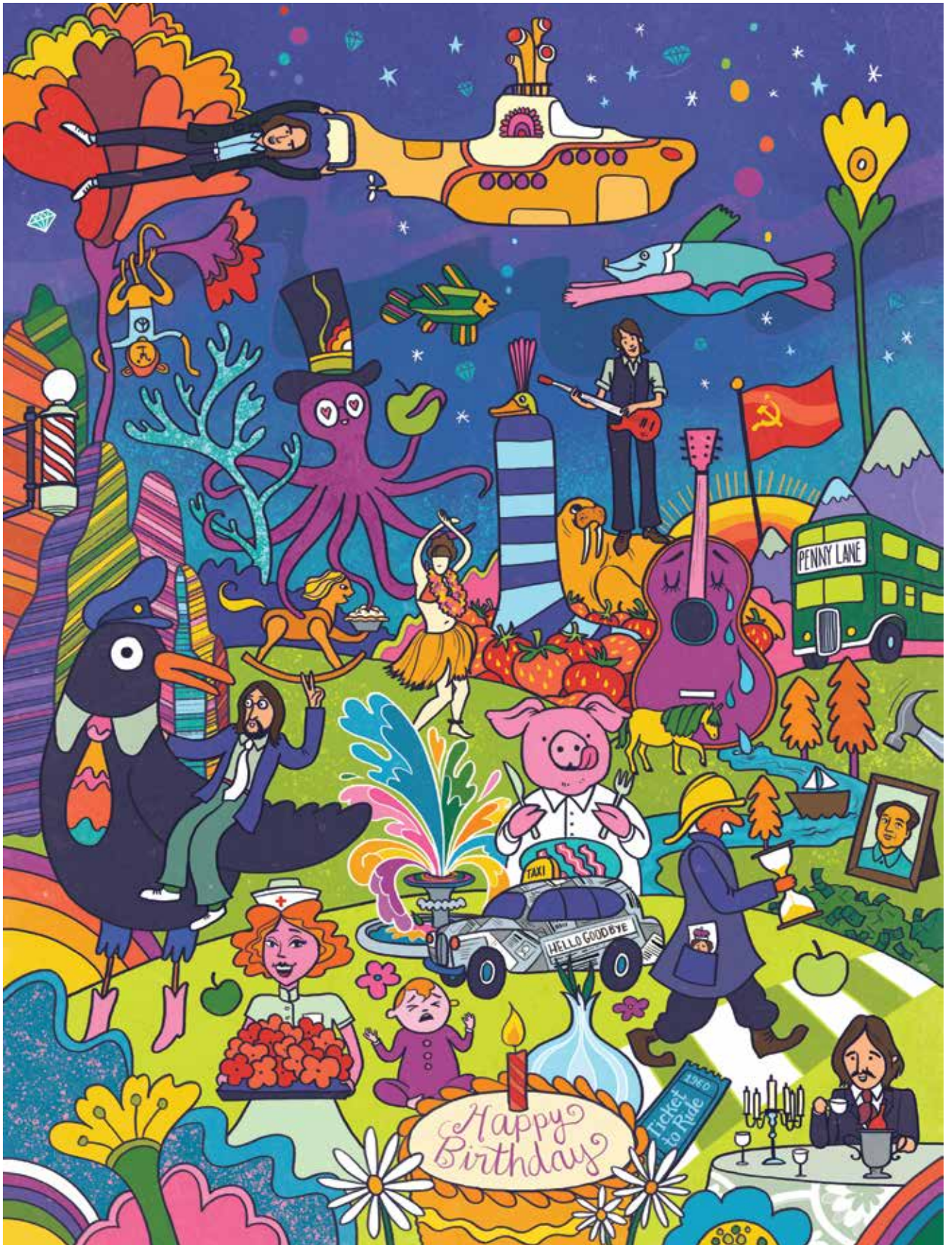
I think it has very much to do with their lives. They were working-class kids when they started this project in Liverpool, and may not have had many of the privileges—but they knew how to work hard. These are guys who had everything in the world by the time they were roughly 22 to 24 years old, and yet they still persisted. They still wanted to take their music and their ideas places. That's exciting to me, and it's a great story for our students⁴.

That self-consciousness is why the Beatles are no different from Picasso or Joyce. They aren't just trying to, as Paul once said, "write a song and get a swimming pool." They're thinking, "This is for all time." There's a certain point where they begin to think, "What we're doing here is bigger than us." That's probably why they're still in the studio trying to make the *Abbey Road* record in the summer of 1969⁵. They know it's bigger than they are.

You mention they didn't record together for long. How and why were they able to have such an impact in their time?

One important factor was they very smartly got off the road⁶ in August 1966. That was easily the most important move they made after hooking up with Brian Epstein and George Martin. ■

OPPOSITE: Can you spot all of the Beatles references? Visit monmouth.edu/magazine to see how you did.



Another factor was that in 1964 alone there were three different television specials devoted to the “genius of Lennon and McCartney.” I would argue that raised the stakes of authorship in art very high inside the band, and it told them, “You’re doing something important.”

And as my friend and fellow Beatles author Steve Turner says, there was an arms race that developed. As the ’60s wore on a lot of good bands were suddenly in vogue. You’ve got the Stones finding their feet in 1965. You’ve got The Who. You’ve got The Kinks. You have great American acts like the Beach Boys. And suddenly—it’s not that the Beatles felt challenged, but they wanted to stay ahead of the pack, and that has a lot to do with them moving forward too. They didn’t want to produce the same sound with every album. They were very conscious about that.

And why has that influence endured?

Two reasons. One is George Martin⁷. He was absolutely impeccable about ensuring their music was recorded with the highest possible quality, so when you hear the Beatles, there are very few songs you hear today and think, “Wow, that sounds like a record recorded in 1963.” Most of their records have good punch and freshness to them; there’s a certain live sound to them. George worked painstakingly to ensure their recordings had that kind of lasting power.

Part two is really part one in the sense that they’re great songs. It’s good composition, great songwriting. That’s why in that moment in 1977 [when I first heard them] I heard something different. I believe the song was “Help!” and when you think about it, that song is rife with little fascinating touches. It has descending bass lines. It has a very difficult arpeggiated guitar part. It has that driving drum sound. Great lyrics.

⁷Womack is the author of *Maximum Volume: The Life of Beatles Producer George Martin (The Early Years, 1926–1966)* and *Sound Pictures: The Life of Beatles Producer George Martin (The Later Years, 1966–2016)*.

⁸The Beatles’ *The White Album*: An International Symposium will be held Nov. 8–11 at Monmouth University. Info at monmouth.edu/the-white-album.

⁹KW: “I like how Paul McCartney speaks about it as ‘The Beatles’ *White Album*.’ It’s as if the LP has eclipsed the bandmates. His famous line is ‘It’s great. It sold. It’s the bloody Beatles’ *White Album*. Shut up!’”

¹⁰The so-called Esher tapes were “blueprints” for what would become *The White Album*, says Womack. Award-winning Beatles author Robert Rodriguez will lead a panel discussion of the tapes during Monmouth’s symposium.

There’s even a part where the instruments drop away and it’s just the acoustic guitar and Lennon singing. All of this and the song is, what—two minutes? That’s what makes them great, right there.

But there are a lot of great bands. Why are people still studying the Beatles and their music? Why, for example, are people coming from around the world for a conference⁸ on *The White Album* 50 years after it was released?

There are many factors, but again it comes down to creating great material and being able to sustain it at a certain level.

And there’s a high versus low culture argument at a certain point. Think of James Joyce. He is undeniably high culture: a high-minded writer whose books—*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, *Ulysses*—are challenging works that force us to learn a new language, or a new way of reading at least, but are not easily consumable. Then you’ve got Robert Ludlum, who can mesmerize you with a spy tale and draw you in with a page-turner. We teach courses on James Joyce. We’re not teaching Robert Ludlum.

The Beatles were the high culture of their genre. They eclipsed their genre. And *The White Album*—it’s not a perfect record. It’s a sort of warts-and-all kind of thing, but they were trying to do something big with it⁹. It was designed to be the kind of art object that says, “Study me,” in the same way that you open up *Ulysses* and it says, “Study me.”

How so?

They *crafted* those songs. They wrote them in India where they went to become enlightened, and they were living in huts and going to lectures—who does that at the height of their fame, when they can be doing anything else that they want?


Then they come back, make these demos¹⁰, and begin spend-

ing more time on these songs than they did making *Sgt. Pepper*. And the coup de grâce is at the end. They have a 24-hour mixing and sequencing session with George Martin, where they sequence every song and they make choices about how it goes from “Back in the USSR” to a song called “Good Night.” They very carefully made artistic choices all the way through, often so that you experience a kind of whiplash as it goes from one style to a completely different one.

With all of that going on, what will the symposium focus on?

There’s something for everybody. There’ll be academic paper presentations, sure, but we’ll also have musical performances. We’ll have a music demonstration room with guitars, pianos, and drums where people will show you how the Beatles did what they did, and how sounds were discovered accidentally. We’re going to have a recording demonstration room where you can mix a track yourself and take the MP3 home. We’ll have a lot of important Beatles authors, including Mark Lewisohn and Rob Sheffield. Geoff Emerick, the engineer, will be here. Chris Thomas, who stepped in for George during *The White Album* sessions, will be here. People will have a chance to meet and talk with them. That’s pretty rare.

Last question. Do you think any band can ever again have the decades-spanning influence the Beatles have enjoyed?

I want it to happen, very badly. I want to hear a band that is working at that kind of innovative, world-breaking level. I’m ready for the next pop explosion. I want to hear it. I want to be blown away by it, to be transfixed. Don’t you? 

Kenneth Womack is dean of the Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Monmouth University.

UNLOCKING HEALTH AND SELF

MONMOUTH'S NEW INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS IS DESIGNED TO POSITIVELY IMPACT COMMUNITY HEALTH.

BY MORGANNE DUDZINSKI

Monmouth University launched its new Institute for Health and Wellness (IHW) in September with the hiring of its founding director, Belinda Anderson.

The IHW is a campus-wide initiative that will serve as a central health and wellness resource for the University and surrounding community. A hub for education, research, and community engagement, the IHW will leverage Monmouth's existing academic programs in the health fields and regional partnerships with hospitals and other community-based partners.

"The concept of the Institute for Health and Wellness was developed through iterative conversations across campus and with external partners during Monmouth's most recent strategic planning process," says Vice Provost for Graduate Studies Michael Palladino. "It is a direct response to the disrupted health care landscape, and an emphasis on preventative medicine, public health, and population health management.

"As we grow new undergraduate and graduate programs in the health sciences, we are taking a closer look at the roles we can play. We are well positioned to be a leader in innovating and collaborating with the

health care industry in New Jersey to increase the quality of life for Monmouth County residents and the region more broadly."

The IHW is not embedded in a particular school but is instead a cross-disciplinary resource for health and well-

ness, echoing the current shift in health care requirements. Palladino says he looks forward to working with Anderson to refine and communicate the vision and mission of the IHW, and says he could see a new graduate degree in public health as a potential educational goal that the IHW would pursue.

"Improving health care by bringing together different healing traditions, translating research into tangible benefits for patients, and raising awareness of the importance of the patient narrative have been lifelong passions of mine," says Anderson. "I am thrilled to be the founding director of the institute, and am committed to working across the University and within the community to improve the lives of residents in the surrounding area and beyond."

An internationally recognized researcher and clinician, and an experienced academic administrator and educator, Anderson will oversee the development and implementation of the IHW. This includes developing the structure, building new internal and external relationships, and identifying strategic projects to advance health and wellness in the region. For more information, visit monmouth.edu/ihw.

CALL HER BEAU



Belinda Anderson is an accomplished researcher, professor, and clinician and currently serves on the National Institutes of Health National Advisory Council for Complementary and Integrative Health. She is a federally funded investigator on projects related to education and promoting health and wellness, including acupuncture clinical trials, a residency training program for medical doctors, and training acupuncturists in evidence-based medicine. Anderson earned her doctorate in molecular biology from the University of Sydney, her master's in acupuncture and Oriental medicine from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and her master's degree in education from Teachers College, Columbia University.

HEIDI LYNN SCULTHORPE

» Length:

49 FEET

» Beam height:

16.8 FEET

» Passenger capacity:

21 PASSENGERS

» Cruising speed:

10 KNOTS

» Distance offshore:

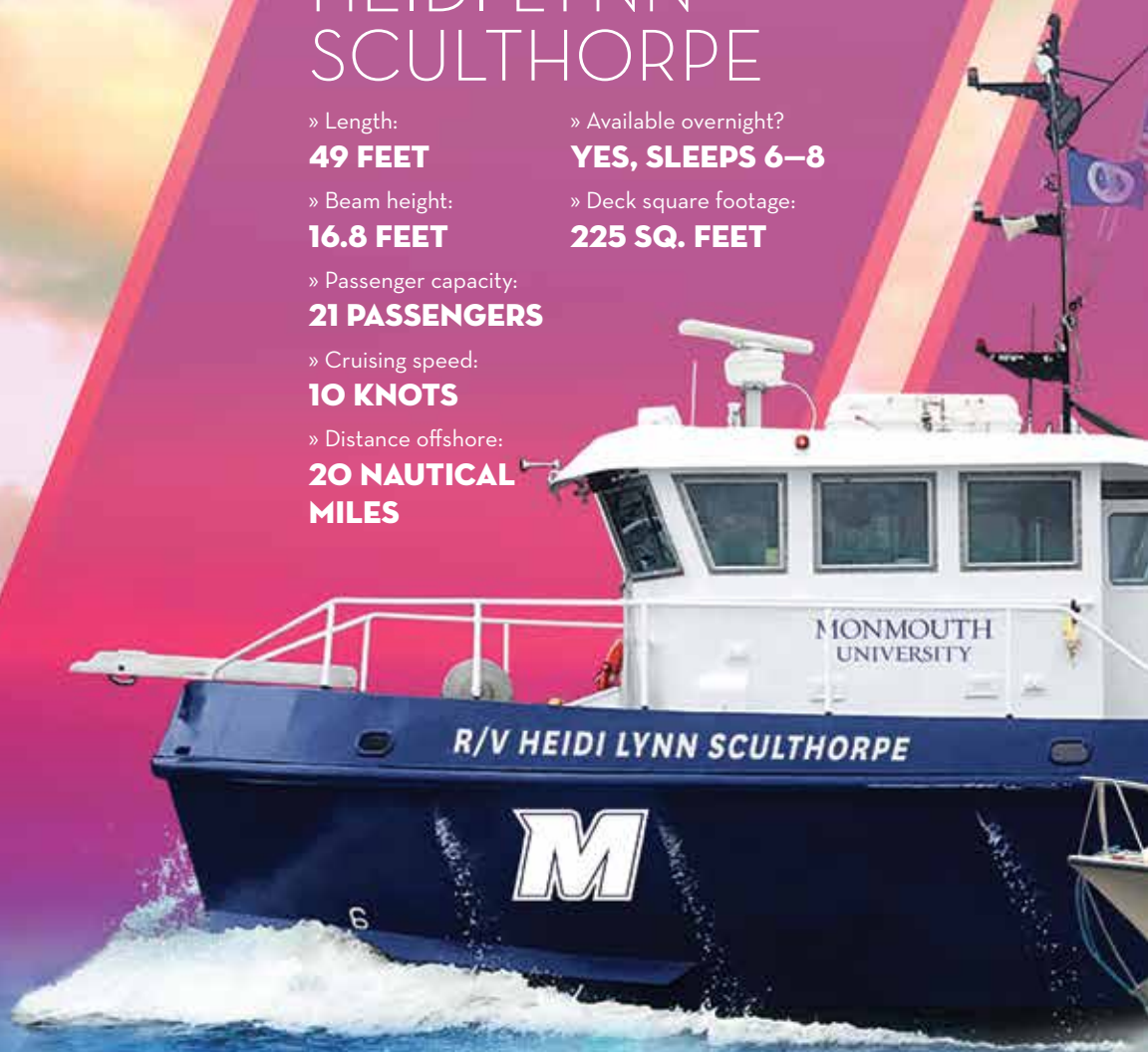
**20 NAUTICAL
MILES**

» Available overnight?

YES, SLEEPS 6–8

» Deck square footage:

225 SQ. FEET



CONCEPTS »

Dispatches from the research field

MEET THE FLEET

A LOOK AT HOW MONMOUTH'S MARINE RESEARCH VESSELS STACK UP.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY

In June, Monmouth University unveiled the newest addition to its Research Vessel (R/V) fleet: the 49-foot, 40-ton *Heidi Lynn Sculthorpe*.

The largest ship in Monmouth's fleet, the *Heidi Lynn* provides researchers with an array of state-of-the-art technologies, including side-scan sonar and hydrographic survey equipment that allow for detailed seabed mapping. It can tow up to a 30-foot trawl, allowing for larger swaths of marine

life to be netted, and can deploy and recover oceanographic buoys and moorings, which allows researchers to study stock assessments of coastal marine species. The vessel also supports diving and dredging operations and allows for sediment collection via benthic grabs and gravity corers.

SEAHAWK

» Length:

27 FEET

» Beam height:

9.5 FEET

» Passenger capacity:

6 PASSENGERS

» Cruising speed:

20 KNOTS

» Distance offshore:

**10 NAUTICAL
MILES**

» Available
overnight?

YES

» Deck square
footage:

**88 SQ.
FEET**

LITTLE HAWK

» Length:

18 FEET

» Beam height:

7.5 FEET

» Passenger capacity:

6 PASSENGERS

» Cruising speed:

20 KNOTS

» Distance offshore:

**3 NAUTICAL
MILES**

» Available overnight:

NO

» Deck square footage:

36 SQ. FEET



“Few universities throughout the East Coast have a research vessel of this class,” says President Grey Dimenna. “The *Heidi Lynn* will advance our growth as a premier marine research and policy center in the region.”

The boat, originally christened the *Nauvoo*, was used as a Coast Guard buoy tender before being acquired by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association for research work. In October 2017, NOAA gave the boat to Monmouth at no cost. The vessel was renamed this past Oc-

tober in memory of Heidi Lynn Sculthorpe, daughter of University Trustee Emeritus Robert B. Sculthorpe '63, '15HN, who gave a generous gift that will help the University continue to improve the vessel.

Unlike Monmouth's other two R/Vs, the *Heidi Lynn* sleeps up to eight researchers for overnight, around-the-clock operations, allowing for additional capacity to work collaboratively with government agencies, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations.

While this newest R/V allows for work at a larger scale than ever before, Monmouth's other two research vessels¹ are not to be outdone. The *Seahawk* is still the go-to boat for smaller crews that need to get out on the water quickly to conduct operations in shallow areas. And the *Little Hawk* is ideal for small crews who need only work with hand-deployed equipment within three miles of the coast.

Above is a look at how the boats in Monmouth's fleet stack up.

¹The University also has two johnboats that are used for research on coastal lakes.

A TRUE ORIGINAL

VINCENT DIMATTIO HAS BEEN PRACTICING WHAT HE TEACHES FOR HALF A CENTURY.

BY MOLLY PETRILLA

Almost every day for the last 50 years, Professor Vincent DiMattio has gone into his art studio at Monmouth and made something. It may be a painting or a sculpture, a drawing or a collage. It could be playful or mysterious, sensual or haunting. Some days it may be only a few brushstrokes, others a near-finished piece. But week after week, year after year, DiMattio is there, putting the techniques that he's taught at Monmouth for the last five decades into practice himself.

"I'll give it to you in one word: compulsion," says DiMattio. "I have no choice—I just have to keep making things. I think I'll have a sketch pad with me on my deathbed."

Whether it's discipline, devotion, or, as he says, compulsion, his daily practice has resulted in a massive body of work. This semester, Monmouth is celebrating that work—and the artist behind it—with a retrospective exhibition. From now through Dec. 7, roughly 500 pieces that DiMattio made during his 50 years at Monmouth are on view in three campus galleries, including the one named in his honor.

"His work is simply astonishing," says Robert Rechnitz, professor emeritus of English, a longtime friend of DiMattio. "It's deeply moving and profoundly original. I don't know

of anybody who works like he does—and there is so much of it."

Rechnitz's wife, Joan '84 '12HN, who has taken several courses with DiMattio, says she is particularly drawn to his sense of color. "They just look so beautiful together," she says. "Some are unexpected, and sometimes they almost vibrate in a very beautiful way."

DiMattio started making art as a kid in Quincy, Massachusetts, but he never thought it could become a career. He had finished high school and was playing American Legion Baseball when a friend invited him to tag along on a visit to Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston. "I was astounded," DiMattio remembers. "This was a place where kids could actually scribble and make things—I didn't even know these art

schools existed." He put together a portfolio, submitted it, and was soon an incoming freshman at MassArt.

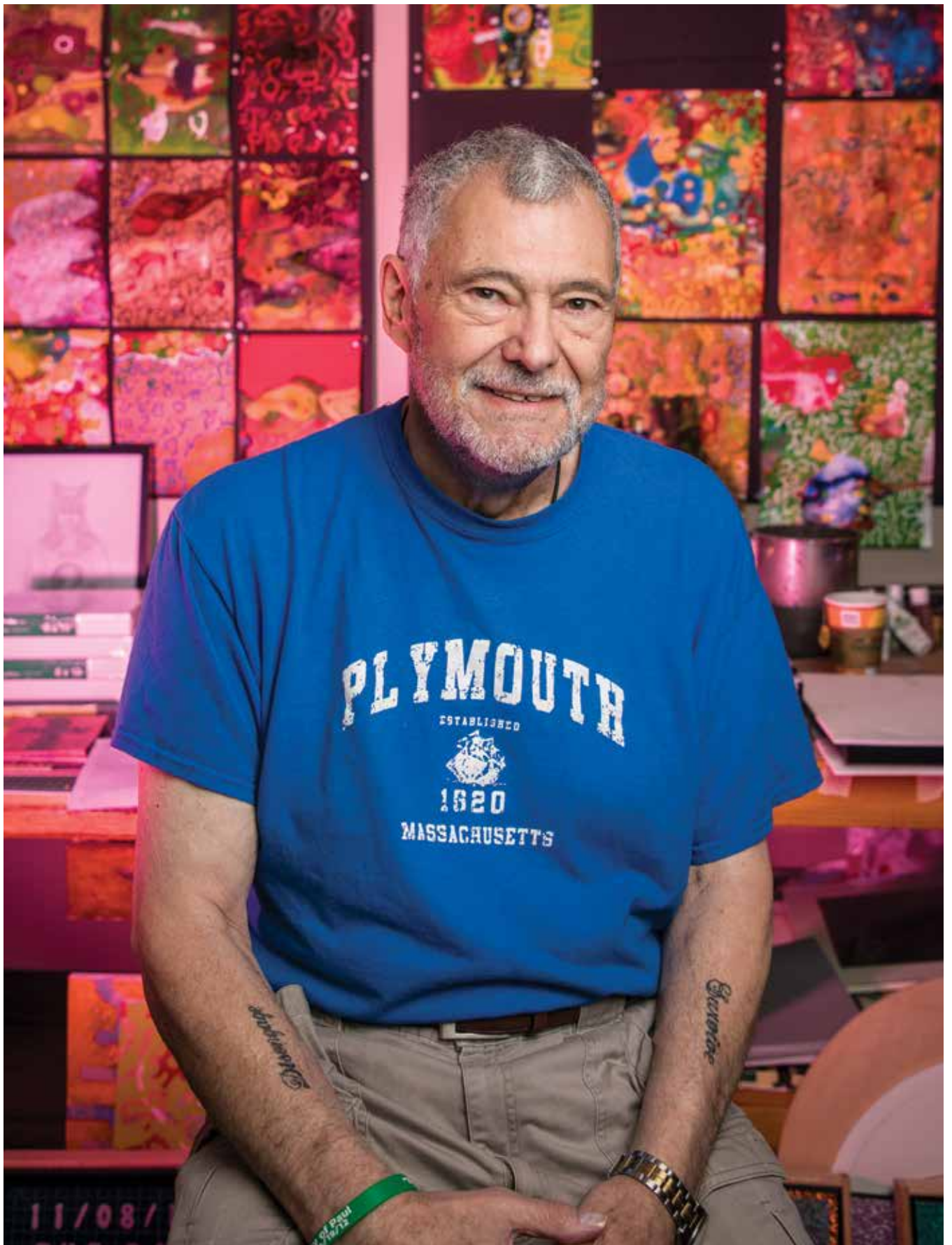
After an MFA from Southern Illinois University and a couple of years teaching at the University of Wisconsin, DiMattio arrived at Monmouth in 1968—the height of Vietnam War protests. Although he'd been hired to teach undergraduates about composition and color, he often found himself managing them outside the classroom, too.

"I'm out with a megaphone trying to keep students off the street so that state troopers won't beat them over the head with clubs," he remembers of an especially eventful night. It was a new but not uncomfortable role for DiMattio, who had marched with Martin Luther King Jr. in Milwaukee and whose baby son was, according to DiMattio, the youngest member of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in the country.

"Vince was high-spirited, exploding with energy, wary of authority, and absorbed in his work," recalls Kenneth Stunkel, professor emeritus of history and a former dean of Monmouth, who still calls DiMattio a close friend. And from the time they met, it was obvious: "He was driven from within to create," says Stunkel.

Soon after he arrived at Monmouth, DiMattio channeled some of that drive into giving the University its first art gallery. He found a small room on campus and helped transform it into a showcase for student and faculty work. Eventually the gallery moved into a

OPPOSITE: "Color is what keeps me going," says DiMattio, pictured in his studio in Rechnitz Hall. "There's no color I dislike."



larger space, with DiMattio still overseeing it—on top of his other responsibilities. “At one time, I taught an overload, I was chair of the department, *and* I ran the gallery,” he says. “That’s kind of unheard of.”

Still, he kept making time for those daily studio visits. “I think it’s important for artists to be productive,” he says. “This business of waiting for an idea—that’s a lot of crap. It’s better that you do something, even if

it isn’t successful, that you can look at and learn from.”

The pieces on view in his 50-year retrospective are proof not only of DiMattio’s dedication and productivity, but also the range of his work. “There are so many beginnings,” says Bob Rechnitz. “He does not create the same things over and over. As a matter of fact, he seems constantly to be realizing new visions. And of course that’s one of the appeals: How did you

“
**I THINK IT’S
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CAN LOOK AT
AND LEARN
FROM.**
”

come up with *this*? How did you dream up *that*?”

Phil Imbriano ’15, who took three of DiMattio’s courses, says DiMattio often invited students into his studio, which sits beside his classroom. “He’d always show us what he was working on, and that passion rubbed off on me for sure,” Imbriano says. “When I’d see his work, it inspired me.”

The two are still close friends, but Imbriano admits that it wasn’t an instant connection. At first he struggled with his new instructor’s blunt critiques and difficult assignments. But as his own technique improved, he started to see the value in DiMattio’s approach. He still remembers DiMattio telling the class that artists “don’t go out every weekend to party; they stay in and work.” It’s a message that echoes in his head today—and that keeps him committed to making his own work, even with a full-time job in graphic design.

Imbriano is also one of several hundred students who have wandered through famous museums and explored new cities alongside DiMattio. After a sabbatical in Madrid for the full 1979–80 academic year, DiMattio came back to campus eager to give students a taste of his life-changing experience. Two years later, he led his first “Art in...” trip during spring break. He’s now taken classes to Europe 20 times—most recently, Berlin in 2017.

In 2013, DiMattio’s 45th year at Monmouth, a two-story art gallery in the new Joan and Robert Rechnitz Hall was dedicated as the DiMattio Gallery. He admits that the gesture brought him to tears. Now five years later, he’s embracing another Monmouth milestone.

“Monmouth University is special in so many ways and I am so damn lucky to have spent 50 years on this campus,” he says. “I’ve been through a lot, the school has been through a lot, and we have both survived. I’m very lucky to be here and to have been here.”

STATE OF THE ART

Although DiMattio insists that “if I could explain everything about my work, then it’s time to give it up,” he walked us through the inspiration and process behind several of his series.

1. DREAM SERIES

“I used to have these nightmares—one almost every night. Then I started making these drawings. I’d use the method of stippling—a lot of little dots. I’d fill the page with that and then look at those dots and find all of these creatures and strange people. I made about 60 pieces—pen and ink, directly on paper—that had to do with the dream series. It let out a lot of frustrations I was feeling.”

2. ANCIENT WALLS

“I’ve always been in love with the written word—with letters. I’ve invented my own kind of calligraphy. They’re invented forms and the messages have to be felt, not seen. People will come up to me and say, what does this say? I tell them that it says what you feel when you’re looking at it. Of course, they have trouble understanding that sometimes. But invention is so damn important to an artist. I love ceremony, I love magic. The letters relate to a lot of that.”

3. FOUND OBJECTS

“There’s a real history of artists who’ve shown interest in assemblages and using things that society has pretty much cast aside. That interested me. I’d pick things up off the street when I was in Europe. I’d buy old magazines. Then I’d start to play with these things in the studio, not knowing in advance what they were going to look like. They’re very spontaneous.”

1



2



3





GATHERING TOGETHER

A NEW CAMPAIGN WILL SUPPORT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS.

BY MICHAEL MAIDEN

Jonathan Meer, vice president for University Advancement, announced the public launch of a campaign to raise \$12 million in private funding to support student scholarships at Monmouth University at a kickoff event during a meeting of the Board of Trustees in October. The fundraising effort, Together We Can—The Campaign for Scholarship, will include all gifts and pledges made to scholarships from July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2019.

“The campaign is ambitious in its scope and timing,” Meer said. “Members of our Board of Trustees and thousands of others in the University family want to provide much-needed support for our students while honoring the student-focused tenure of President Dimenna before the end of his term as Monmouth’s ninth president.”

“Those who know Monmouth, especially our trustees, alumni, parents, faculty, and staff, are keenly aware of the impact of scholarships on the recruitment and retention of academically qualified students, and this campaign is a critically important way to strengthen the University’s commitment to accessibility for those who seek a Monmouth

education. It will also highlight President Dimenna’s legacy at Monmouth,” he added.

Dimenna’s commitment to student scholarships is personal as well as professional. In addition to frequently expressing gratitude for the scholarships that aided his own education, the president and his wife have established the Grey Dimenna and Nancy Kaplen Distinguished Endowed Scholarship, with a pledge of \$75,000.

Trustees Valerie Montecalvo and Carol Stillwell are serving as campaign co-chairs and coordinating the efforts of a team of volunteers who represent a broad spectrum of the University community.

“Monmouth is a relatively young University, and the finan-

cial needs of students are outpacing the growth of endowment funds designated to support scholarships,” Montecalvo said. “That’s why this campaign is so important.”

Stillwell echoed that sentiment.

“Monmouth cannot depend upon a sizable endowment built over centuries and across many generations,” she said. “Private support is needed to increase scholarships so that the University can continue to attract and retain the best and brightest students.”

Stillwell’s passion for higher education stems from her own lack of access to college as a young woman. “College was never a realistic option for me,” she said. “My parents could not afford to help me with tuition, and I had to work to help support our household. During my time associated closely with Monmouth students I have seen the tremendous impact of a comprehensive education firsthand,” she said.

For more information about the campaign, or to make a gift of support, please visit monmouth.edu/together.

RISING TOGETHER:

Members of the campaign committee pictured after a September planning meeting (l-r): Mary Lee Bass ’92M; Leah K. Lazzaro ’04M; Dean Robin Mama; Rita L. Mangan ’77; Patricia Ralph; Jim Pillar; Trustee Thomas Michelli; Senior Class President Nicholas Verzicco; Antoinette “Toni” Musorrafti; Dean John Henning; Campaign Co-Chair Valerie Montecalvo; Raymond N. Brunt Jr. ’77, ’78M; Joyce DeJohn; Dean Steven Bachrach; Cynthia Fair; Harry Silver; John “Jack” Ford; Alumni Association President Karyn F. Cusanelli ’89; Richard L. Ricciardi ’86M.

HOW MONMOUTH WAS MADE » Landmarks & stories

OUR HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

On a chilly November afternoon in 1933, several hundred students and faculty gathered in the auditorium of Long Branch Senior High School for the first day of classes at Monmouth Junior College.

The federally funded, tuition-free institution had been created to serve as a stepping stone for local students whose families were impacted by the Great Depression. At the time of its founding, MJC provided two years of college-level courses in 23 subject areas, and all classes were taught in the high school between the hours of 4 and 9 p.m., after the building's daytime occupants had been dismissed.

MJC was meant to be around for only a few years—just long

enough to support families through the Depression. But whereas other junior colleges across the country were dismantled over the next few decades, MJC persevered. When the institution gained full college status in 1956, operations were moved to the current campus. But for nearly a quarter-century's worth of Monmouth graduates, Long Branch Senior High School was the center of the academic universe.

—Compiled by Breanne McCarthy from Monmouth archival sources

ODE TO A BUILDING

The following is excerpted from "A Ballad of MJC," which was printed in the 1949 Monmouth yearbook.

"The building's plain, its beauty chaste,
Its tower a call to man
To soak his brow in honest sweat
And learn whate'er he can,
So that in life's unruly race
He'll never be an 'also ran.'"

An undated photo of Monmouth's first home, Long Branch Senior High School.





THIS IS MONMOUTH » The scene at West Long Branch

CAMPUS BRIEFS

HIGH MARKS FOR MONMOUTH

Money magazine named Monmouth University one of the “Best Colleges in America” in its 2018–19 rankings. The magazine factors in affordability, educational quality, and alumni success to “identify colleges that have a strong record of helping students graduate and preparing them for jobs at which they’ll earn enough to pay off their debt.”

Monmouth was also named one of “The Best 384 Colleges” in *The Princeton Review*’s 2019 rankings. This is the 14th year Monmouth has made the list.

INCREASING DIVERSITY

Monmouth launched a Mentorship Program this semester in an effort to diversify its faculty, expand student research opportunities, increase cross-cultural exposure and experience among faculty and students, and expand opportunities for collaboration and educational exchange. For the program’s

inaugural year, Monmouth has partnered with Morgan State University, a historically black college/university in Baltimore, Maryland. Alexandra Burrell and Tracy Cudjoe, advanced doctoral candidates from Morgan State, are serving as mentor-scholars in Monmouth’s Schools of Education and Social Work, where they are teaching courses, participating in campus activities, and developing a capstone project about the experience.

PREVENTING SUICIDE

“Connect to Wellness: A Competent Community Initiative” is a new, federally funded effort underway at Monmouth, aimed at creating a stronger, broader infrastructure to prevent suicides on campus. The project is designed to better serve young adults on campus by increasing the connection between students and services; strengthening the linkages between general health, mental health, and substance abuse resources on campus; and fostering collaboration with local providers. It is funded by a

ABOVE, FROM LEFT: Resident assistants Brianna Thorn, Onnie Coles, and Natalia Voitek greet members of the Class of 2022 on Move In Day in September.

Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention Grant, administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, with matching funds from the University. This is Monmouth’s second GLS grant, said Michelle Scott, the principal investigator and director of the SRF Suicide Prevention Research and Training Project at Monmouth.

KYRILLOS IS NEW PUBLIC SERVANT-IN-RESIDENCE

Former New Jersey state Sen. Joseph M. Kyrillos is serving as Monmouth University’s 2018–19 public servant-in-residence. Throughout the academic year, Kyrillos will lead four panel discussions at the University that will be open to the public. The first, held in September, focused on pension and benefit reform. Future panel discussions will address the topics of bridging the partisan divide, jobs and the economy, as well as oceans and shore protection.





A DAY AT THE BEACH

» Coastal moments, captured

RISE AND SHINE

Kids (and kids at heart) get an elevated perspective via the Wave Swinger at Jenkinson's Boardwalk at Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey.

GRIDIRON GRIT

STUDENT FOOTBALL MANAGER FRANK DELANEY IS READY TO TACKLE WHATEVER CHALLENGES LIFE THROWS AT HIM.

BY MARK GOLLA

For years, Frank Delaney has listened to defensive coaches instruct their football players to “read the eyes of the quarterback.” The eyes can speak volumes with regard to intent.

Sitting across the table from Delaney in conversation, the look of determination in his eyes sends a clear message: *Just give me a shot.*

Now in his fourth and final season with the Hawks football program, Delaney walked onto campus his first year as a student living with cerebral palsy who strived to continue performing managerial duties for a football team. Next spring, he will leave campus as a friend to many, an invaluable team member, and a college graduate. Above all, he’ll depart more determined than ever to pave the road to his future and become an asset to a new team in the professional workforce.

“I enjoy every day to the fullest because I know that I may never work at another job like this one,” says Delaney, a communications studies major. “I am nervous about getting hired after I graduate, but I’m confident in my skill set and what I have to offer. I have learned a lot from my professors and experience with the football team, and feel I’m ready for more.”

Delaney attended nearby Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School, where he began serving as that football team’s manager as a sophomore. Monmouth Head Coach Kevin Callahan and assistant Brian Gabriel learned about Delaney from the Rumson staff and welcomed him to the Hawks football family his freshman year.

Working for a Division I football program is by no means a relaxed gig. Practices are intense and meticulously planned to the minute. Reliability is shared by each member of the crew to keep the vessel moving forward. That dependence spawned a heightened sense of independence for Delaney. He took ownership of his responsibilities and developed essential skills in time management and working in a group environment. Most important, the experience strengthened his self-confidence.

“I was overjoyed that he was welcomed so heartily by the football program,” says Anne Delaney, Frank’s mother. “He has experienced tremendous

FRANK, FETED

Last January, Monmouth’s Student Athlete Advisory Committee organized a fundraiser for cerebral palsy—which they tabbed *Frank Strong*—to recognize and celebrate their peer. During a men’s basketball game, Delaney was called out to center court, where he was joined by the entire Hawks football team and given a rousing, standing ovation by the OceanFirst Bank Center crowd.

growth at Monmouth and his involvement with the football program played a huge part. Coach Callahan holds student-athletes to a high standard, and Frank became even more motivated by those standards.”

Over time, Delaney became a familiar face and staple figure in the Hawks’ program. Incoming players and newly hired student managers look to Delaney to find their way. Returning players see him as “one of the guys,” and several have taken inspiration from his resolve and fortitude.

Like every college senior, Delaney entered his final year at Monmouth with great anticipation tempered by shades of anxiousness. The uncertainty of where his feet will comfortably touch down to stride forward is sometimes consuming. His objective, however, is clear and concise.

“I want a full-time job with a salary and benefits,” said Delaney. “My goal when I came to Monmouth was to graduate in four years and have a grade point average over a 3.0. I’m on track to do both. I can’t control what people might think of me, but I am confident in my abilities and work ethic.”

A dream job for Delaney would be to work in communications or marketing for the NFL. For now, he is happy to provide messaging to those in need, free of charge.

“I was scared going into college because I didn’t know what to expect,” says Delaney. “So, my best advice to anyone entering college would be to take chances and get involved.”

In other words, just give it a shot.

OPPOSITE: “Frankie is a profile of courage and perseverance for me,” says Delaney’s dad, also named Frank. “He opens people’s eyes to what they themselves can accomplish.”



SPORTS SHORTS

THE BATTLE FOR THE GARDEN STATE

Though separated by just 34 miles, Monmouth and Rutgers have never met on the football field. That will change on Sept. 5, 2020, when the Hawks travel to High Point Solutions Stadium for the program's first game against a Big Ten opponent. Don't say we didn't give you enough time to clear your calendar.

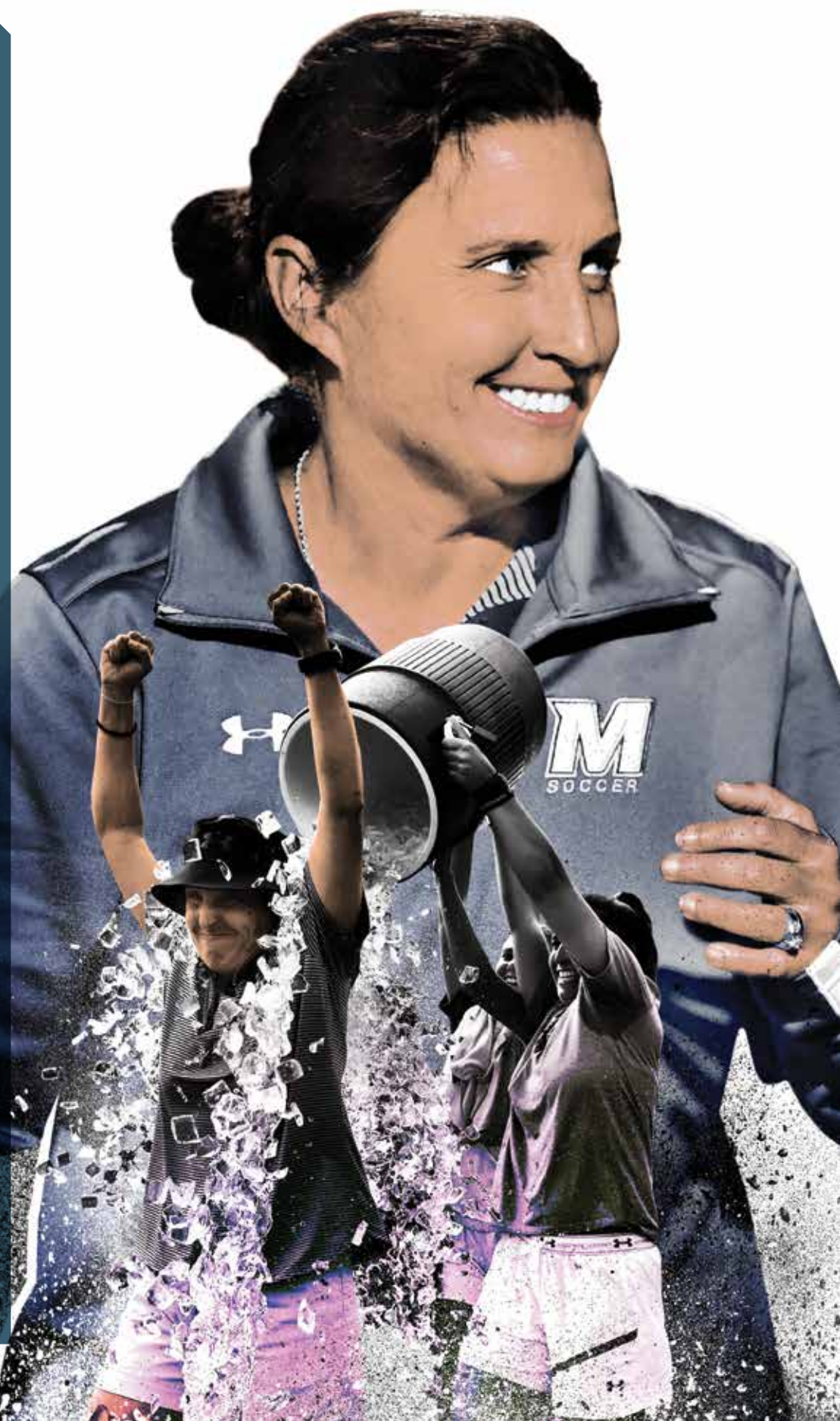
REID ON

Men's Basketball Head Coach King Rice added former NBA first-round pick J.R. Reid to his coaching staff for the upcoming season. Reid played professionally for 14 seasons, and was a consensus first team All-American at the University of North Carolina as well as a member of the 1988 USA Men's Basketball Olympic Team. He and Rice were teammates for two seasons at UNC.

NEW AND IMPROVED

So Sweet A Cat Field and E. Todd Murray track inside Kessler Stadium received upgrades this past summer. So Sweet A Cat's new water-based turf system features a uniquely engineered polyethylene filament that gives it exceptional durability. And the new full pour polyurethane track and field system is Monmouth blue with grey exchange zones.

Compiled from Office of Athletics Communication and New Media reports.



AHEAD OF THE GAME

A Q&A WITH WOMEN'S SOCCER HEAD COACH KRISSY TURNER.

BY MARK GOLA

Want proof that Krissy Turner truly loves coaching soccer? Her first collegiate coaching position paid a grand total of \$1—before taxes. As an assistant at then-Trenton State College in the early '90s, Turner was called on to drive the team van. “To do so I had to be a paid employee,” she recalls. “There was no money, so they paid me \$1. When I got the check, they actually took taxes out, and I deposited the remaining 69 cents.”

Humble beginnings aside, Turner, who's now in her 21st season at the helm of the Hawks program, is considered by many to be the “dean of New Jersey's Division I women's soccer coaches.” We caught up with her recently to ask how she and the game she loves have changed.

What's the biggest difference between women's soccer players today and when you began coaching in 1992?

I would say greater athleticism and a higher degree of technical skill. The sport has better athletes due to more advanced training and competing in multiple sports. I know it can be unhealthy to specialize in a sport too early, but having opportunities to play more often throughout the year does allow players to develop better touch on the ball and technical skill.

How has your coaching style evolved?

To be an effective coach, you need to build relationships with your players. It's much more than X's and O's and recruiting the top talent. In order to motivate players, you need to get to know them and let them know that you care. Not only as a soccer player, but as a person.

Your roster is loaded with talent from the Garden State. Is there a reason you recruit so heavily here?

There are two main reasons. The first is that New Jersey now ranks at the top in the women's soccer talent pool. College coaches from all over the country are coming to New Jersey to recruit players. The second is that we have the opportunity to see local players more often. So not only does your assessment become more accurate, but you learn more about the player's character and whether or not they are a good fit for the program.

Also, New Jersey players have that swagger and carry some attitude that a coach wants in a player.

You're a staff member of the U.S. Soccer National Training Centers Program, so we'll ask you to make a prediction for the 2019 World Cup. What two countries will square off in the championship match?

Well, the brackets aren't out yet, but I'm going to go with the U.S. vs. Australia. Australia has been up and coming, and they have the best player in the world in Sam Kerr.

What motivated you to pursue your Ph.D. in performance psychology?

I was looking for a new challenge and the subject came up during a conversation with our athletic director, Dr. Marilyn McNeil. Since I work in higher education, I wanted to become a better role model for my players. I'm in the final stages of my dissertation and hope to earn my degree in the next few months. My dissertation discusses the relationship between leadership behavior, team cohesion, and athlete satisfaction.

Your husband, Bob, is a longtime assistant soccer coach at TCNJ. Is that a good thing?

Some nights I wish he knew nothing about soccer. Like the other night driving home after a tough loss to Lehigh, he said, “I don't think I've ever seen your team play that poorly.” I could have done without that at the moment. But seriously, it's great. We both have great respect and understanding for each other, along with a mutual love for the game. We are both huge sports fans.

GROWING NUMBERS

2 straight NCAA Championship Tournament appearances

5 straight regular season MAAC Championships

8 Conference Coach of the Year awards¹

21 seasons as Hawks head coach

31 shutouts in 50 MAAC contests²

¹ 4 MAAC, 3 NEC, 1 ECAC

² As of Sept. 5, 2018.



LARGER THAN LIFE

BRIAN HANLON '88
SEES HIS SUBJECTS—
ATHLETES, COACHES,
MASCOTS, RELIGIOUS
AND HISTORICAL
FIGURES—FROM A
UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE.

BY NICK DIULIO
PHOTOS BY MATT FURMAN



Everything changed when Bob Roggy died. It was August 1986 and the Holmdel, New Jersey, track star was ascending toward the peak of his athletic career. Having set the American record in javelin just four years prior, Roggy was firmly ensconced on the national track and field stage, with his sights fixed on competing in the 1988 summer Olympics. But that dream came to a sudden and tragic end when Roggy was thrown from the back of a pickup truck in Houston and died a few hours later. He was 29.

Brian Hanlon '88 was beginning his first year at Monmouth as an art education major when he heard about Roggy's death. The news hit him especially hard. Hanlon had grown up with Roggy in Holmdel, attended the same high school as the track star, and he felt immediately moved to pay tribute to the young man. So Hanlon shuttered himself in his dorm room and began working on a clay sculpture.

"The whole town was in shock. And I was just moved to make that sculpture for the sake of tribute and remembering," recalls Hanlon from the bright, sunlit interior of his home office in Toms River, New Jersey.

In the 32 years since that moment Hanlon has gone on to become the United States' premier sculptor of athletes, coaches, mascots, and celebrated moments in both sports and American history. He's the official sculptor for the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and the Rose Bowl. And he's been commissioned to render more than 500 pieces over the course of his career—which can be found everywhere from Los Angeles to Puerto Rico and dozens of states in between—including nuanced and evocative bronze sculptures of legends like Shaquille O'Neal, Evander Holyfield, Jackie Robinson, and Yogi Berra.

But back in 1986 Hanlon was just an unassuming Monmouth undergrad with a tenuous notion of the future ahead of him. "I didn't have any formal training when I did that piece for Roggy," he says. "I just did it from my gut."

Using an image from the cover of *Track & Field News* showing Roggy about to release a javelin from his intimidating right arm, Hanlon worked tirelessly on the piece. Less than a year later it was

unveiled in a formal ceremony at Holmdel High School—where the two-and-a-half foot bronze likeness remains to this day—and it was there, at the unveiling, that Hanlon knew his life would never be the same.

"I'll never forget the look on Mrs. Roggy's face that day. It was a look of momentary mercy. Of letting go, even for just a few seconds. She'd been on my mind the entire time I was working on that sculpture and she was the only thing that was important to me in that moment," says Hanlon. "If you know that your art has the potential to make that kind of difference, then you must pursue it. And it was in that moment that I knew what I would do for the rest of my life."

Hanlon never aspired to become an artist, even though he had an almost instantaneous and innate talent for working with clay that was fostered and encouraged by his high school art teacher.

"Clay was easy for me. It wasn't just some pile of mud. I realized early on that I could actually make things out of it. And it made me feel like Superman," says Hanlon, who's as perpetually bright and enthusiastic as he is contemplative about his work. "It was also striking to me that clay came from the earth, and I always felt some strange connection to it. But never in a million years did I think I'd become an artist. I just didn't see the practical application at all."

After high school Hanlon embarked on a somewhat aimless and potentially dangerous path. Without any college plans, he spent several years employed as an ironworker in New York and then as a teamster at Monmouth Park Race-



track. The money, he says, was "really good." But the lifestyle—which included an ongoing struggle with substance abuse—was slowly eroding away his mind, body, and spirit.

"I wasn't focused on becoming a contributor to society whatsoever. I was bad news, man. I was not a good citizen. I was mostly a trouble to myself, and I realized that I was destined to just crash and burn," says Hanlon. "Eventually I looked around and thought, 'This is not what I'm supposed to be doing with my life.'"

So he decided to hit the reset button and enroll at Monmouth as a 25-year-old freshman, and it was there that a series of revelations washed over him, providing him with a dawning sense of humility, courage, and purpose. After completing the Roggy sculpture he abandoned his plans to become a teacher and doubled down on his own sculpt-



ing, which led him to create his second piece—*The Involved Student*.

It's his favorite to this day, and it depicts a young woman lying on her back reading a book, her right leg propped up by a soccer ball, her head resting peacefully on a gym bag. Hanlon's then-girlfriend and now-wife Michele (née Adamkowski '90) modeled for the sculpture, which is located outside Woodrow Wilson Hall, and the meaning behind it still has a powerful resonance for the 57-year-old artist.

"I wanted to create something that embodied my experience as a student at Monmouth," says Hanlon. "If you're involved in government, athletics, and academics, that's a worthy experience. I never knew that until I felt it myself. I wanted to put that into a sculpture."

Three decades later, Hanlon has once again lent his artistry to Monmouth's

campus with a gargantuan bronze sculpture of the University's Hawk.

Measuring 15 feet high with a 22-foot-long wingspan, the 29,000-pound sculpture was unveiled this fall on Brockriede Common. It was a gift to the University made possible through generous donations from Hanlon and the Brockriede family (including Monmouth University Trustee John A. Brockriede Jr. '07, '10M). No university funds were used for the sculpture, which Hanlon says he created to represent much more than athletic pride.

"This isn't just about the physical hawk. It's about the symbolism and the energy and enthusiasm of students, alumni, faculty, and anyone else who passes by. It's not about sports. It's about creating and fostering spirit," says Hanlon. "Monmouth gave me a

new start on life. I discovered the talent and courage to pursue the artist's life at Monmouth. That was a profound experience, and that's the energy I put into making this sculpture."

It's an uncharacteristically cool, breezy August morning as Hanlon sinks into a comfy loveseat and sips his daily glass of pressed juice. He's still buzzing from the ELO concert he attended at Madison Square Garden two nights ago with his brother Al.

"We were walking to our car and I just kept saying, 'Why do I feel so damn happy?' It's that music, man," he says. "Every single song was a hit. Every song. It was beautiful."

Hanlon unfurls an infectious smile punctuated by a burst of high laughter, his signature glee always right around the corner. He could just as easily talk about music—or American history, or the trees in his yard, or the joys of his family—as he could about his own artistic pursuits.

A mounted television that faces Hanlon's desk plays ESPN on mute and an in-ground pool in the backyard paints his large windows with soothing shades of blue, casting wisps of watery reflections against the ceiling and walls. Various paintings of his five children dot the interior landscape. This is where Hanlon does his design work, and nearly every corner of the office contains evidence of his long, celebrated career as a master sculptor, with dozens of miniatures resting on shelves, tables, and even the floor.

There's a miniature version of the James Naismith statue that stands outside the Basketball Hall of Fame in Massachusetts.

There's a miniature of the life-size statue of Boston Celtics point guard Bob Cousy, which stands in front of the Hart Recreation Center at Cousy's alma mater, Holy Cross.

There's another miniature, this one of college basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian seated on a bench clutching a towel between his teeth, which mirrors the eight-foot-tall bronze installation that Hanlon did for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2013.

And there, inconspicuously perched on a nearby table, is a small sculpture

depicting John Elway's famous helicopter leap in Super Bowl XXXII, which Hanlon hand-delivered to the legendary quarterback's home a few years ago. He says he eventually hopes to make a larger installation of it for the Denver Broncos organization.

But despite the eye-popping nature of his subjects, Hanlon is not your stereotypical fanboy. Sure, he's rubbed shoulders with some of the most celebrated names in American sports, but he's not interested in the vaunted mythology of the individuals he sculpts—or even in the games in which they competed. He's interested in the stories behind the athletes and the moments they helped create.

"Yes, I get to do some really cool stuff for some cool people, but I'm more of a social scientist than I am a sports fan," says Hanlon, who is currently in the middle of an astounding 17 sculpture projects in this second half of 2018. "I'm fascinated by the culture of stadiums and athletics. When I unveil a statue at a stadium I don't usually even go to the game. I stand outside the stadium and I watch the people coming and going. I'm more interested in everything that leads up to the game than I am in the game itself. I'm not into the rah-rah and all that, and I think that's why my perspective is so effective. It's the unearthing of stories and moments that gets me out of bed every day."

For instance, Hanlon recently completed a memorial statue of LSU running back Billy Cannon that will be unveiled at his alma mater in late September. To college football fans, Cannon is interesting because of his athletic accomplishment as the only Heisman Trophy winner to ever come out of LSU. But what Hanlon finds most fascinating is Cannon's life story.

After retiring from the NFL Cannon started a successful dental practice, but he fell into financial turmoil due to bad real estate investments and a crippling gambling addiction. The football star eventually got wrapped up in a counterfeit money racket and wound up printing more than \$6 million worth of hundred-dollar bills in his basement. He served nearly three years in federal prison, and after his release he decided that he wanted to start practicing dentistry again—but this time he'd do it at the same federal prison in which he'd been recently incarcerated.

"He wound up doing that for 45 years! Now that's what I call a redemption sto-

"
**I'M MORE OF
A SOCIAL
SCIENTIST
THAN I AM A
SPORTS FAN.
... I'M MORE
INTERESTED IN
EVERYTHING
THAT LEADS
UP TO THE
GAME THAN
I AM IN THE
GAME ITSELF.**
"

ry," says Hanlon. "That Cannon sculpture is one of the most interesting projects I've ever done. Not because of the athletic accomplishment, but because of the story behind the man. And I love the backstories, man. I love them even more than I love the statues."

Hanlon's refined ability to see his subjects from a unique perspective goes back to his time spent working on a fine arts master's degree at Boston University, which is where he landed after graduating from Monmouth. While there Hanlon was commissioned to create a statue of Saint Francis for the Church of Saint Leo. After that he was commissioned to sculpt a statue of Saint Mary in Marlboro, New Jersey, and then another bust for a church in Rumson shortly after that.

"Suddenly my schoolwork was getting in the way of my professional work, and I had to decide if I was going to work hard for a grade or work hard for a paycheck," he says. "I chose the latter."

And so, early in his third semester at B.U., Hanlon packed up his things and came home to work out of his mother's garage in Manahawkin, where he became increasingly busy sculpting liturgical statues for churches throughout the region. And that was his exclusive area of focus for the next 10 years—crafting detailed, evocative works of religious art that not only reflected the individuals but also the passions and stories they carried in their hearts.

Eventually he "upgraded" from his mom's garage to a cold, dark, dirt-floor cemetery garage in Toms River, where he remained for a while before eventu-

ally settling into the 3,000-square-foot abandoned chicken coop that remains his studio space to this day.

"When you're sequestered in a cold garage and crawling around on the freezing ground by yourself, knowing that these statues are your only source of income, you're humbled every day," recalls Hanlon. "That's how I really learned my craft. That's why I'm here. Now I'm doing the things I've always wanted to do, paying tribute to interesting historical markers and moments."

Hanlon's body of work isn't confined to the world of athletics. It's remarkably diverse and includes several sculptures honoring first responders and American tragedies, including a 9-11 memorial called *Angel in Anguish*, which was unveiled in 2011 to honor eight residents of Brick Township who died on that infamous morning 17 years ago.

He's also currently working on two historical pieces—a seven-foot-tall statue of Harriet Tubman for the Equal Rights Cultural Heritage Center in Auburn, New York and an eight-foot-tall bronze installation of Susan B. Anthony that was commissioned in April by the Adams Massachusetts Centennial Celebration committee. The Anthony piece will feature two depictions of the celebrated suffragist—one of her as an adult speaking atop a flight of steps with her childhood likeness sitting at the base reading a book.

"I do research on everyone I sculpt, and in the case of Susan B. Anthony I wanted to create a link between her reading as a child and the way that made her into the strong woman and public speaker she became," says Hanlon. "That's more than just a sculpture. That's telling a story."

Admittedly, those stories are sometimes emotionally draining for the artist.

"It was emotional sculpting Billy Cannon. I met with his daughter and she cried to me," recalls Hanlon. "And the piece I did for Brick? When I started that project I met with a widow who was pregnant with the child of the husband she lost on September 11. I was eventually hospitalized for dehydration while I worked on that piece because I wasn't eating or drinking. I was so consumed by it. I'm not a priest or a rabbi. I'm an artist. I'm not wired to hear some of the things I hear. But that's what you do sometimes to capture the truth of a piece."

Despite the physical and emotional toll of his work, Hanlon shows no signs of slowing down. After all, there are still



TOP: Hanlon works in his home studio space.

BOTTOM: The Hawk at Brockriede Common was installed on campus in mid-September.



so many subjects left to sculpt. For instance, he has a miniature of guitarist Duane Allman that he one day hopes to do for the city of Nashville. And another of Amos Alonzo Stagg, one of the founding fathers of American football. In the meantime, Hanlon remains propelled day after day by perpetual gratitude and disbelief at the life he's managed to sculpt for himself and his family.

"I was walking through Monmouth's campus just the other day thinking about the Hawk, and I was hit by this wave of emotion. Like, Whoa! How did this happen? Why me? Why didn't someone else get this gift?" he says. "But art is so much bigger than us, and it always will be. I'm going to be a little blurb in history as far as my contribution to art. And it's only when you understand your size and your humility that you can really make a difference. When you think you're bigger than the stories or the art itself, you will always fail. Always." [M](#)



A CHANGING INDIA

CAN EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PUT AN END TO THE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE THAT HAS PLAGUED THE WORLD'S LARGEST DEMOCRACY?

BY CAREN CHESLER AND REKHA DATTA
ILLUSTRATIONS BY DUNG HOANG

It's been said the most dangerous time for a woman in an abusive relationship is when she tries to leave it. The same could be said on a societal scale about women in India, who after centuries of subjugation are seeking more independence, but are being met with contempt and—in some cases—violence.

One of the most highly publicized examples of this was the 2012 gang rape of Jyoti Singh, a 23-year-old who worked the night shift at an IBM call center to fund her medical school education. Singh was returning home from a movie one evening when she was beaten and sexually assaulted by six men on a bus. She died two weeks later from her injuries.

The assault made headlines globally, and ushered in a greater awareness of, and activism and policy changes aimed at addressing, gender-based violence (GBV) in India. Yet the problem persists, with the gruesomeness of some of

the acts particularly shocking. Just last spring in India, three teenage girls were sexually assaulted and then set on fire so they couldn't identify their accusers.

Last fall, political science Professor Rekha Datta received a Fulbright Scholar Award (see sidebar, p. 31) that enabled her to travel to Haryana, India, to study whether and how education and economic empowerment can help overcome GBV. Working with Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), a New Delhi-based NGO, and research assistants from the Public Policy graduate program at O.P. Jindal Global Univer-

sity, Datta conducted focus group discussions with women and youth participants living in rural areas of Haryana. Those discussions provided insight into how families in Haryana's rural areas feel about education and the roles of women in the changing Indian society.

Datta, who was born in India, says the country has changed dramatically since she left in 1985, largely on the crest of the information technology boom and economic liberalization. But in some ways, the more the country lurches forward as a leading world power, and new perspectives on GBV take hold, the more many traditionalists seem to tighten their grip on old-world values—a tension that has possibly contributed to continuing violence against women.

An example of this can be found in a documentary about the 2012 gang rape of Jyoti Singh. The film includes interviews with the men imprisoned for the assault, and it is clear they resent women who are advancing their careers, especially in the urban-based new economy. “These women are taking our jobs,” said one man. Another expressed the opinion that women should not be going out at night without a male relative.

“Because women are going out more, they’re more visible,” says Datta. And as more women work in the IT sector, at all hours of the day and night, it’s not uncommon for them to leave work at 2 or 3 a.m., making safety and security a big concern, she adds.

“In country after country, in case after case, it is not uncommon for rape allegations to be slid under the rug, or for organizations to not want to publicize them for fear of tarnishing their names. In the case of India, it’s no different,” says Datta. “However, even though things are beginning to change somewhat since the 2012 gang rape, the issue remains nuanced and complex.”

Datta says she began to look at the impact of education on gender violence after realizing she couldn’t study GBV without getting into the topic of schools. Haryana was an ideal location for her work: The state has been a leader in agricultural production and a beacon of advancement in agriculture and manufacturing, and has one of the highest per capita incomes in India. Yet due to the persistence of patriarchy and socially regressive norms, practices such as child marriage and

INDIA AND BEYOND

GENDER-BASED violence is a global problem, says Professor Rekha Datta. According to one estimate by the World Health Organization, about one in three women worldwide have experienced some sort of physical or sexual violence. Studies also suggest that women with low education tend to be subject to greater intimate partner violence.

In India, the National Crimes Records Bureau data shows that crimes against women and other forms of gender-related violence increased 9.2 percent between 2010 and 2014. In the last two decades, India has achieved impressive and consistent economic successes, reaching an annual growth rate of 10 percent in 2010. Census data reflect that female literacy rates have risen from 21.97 percent in 1971 to 65.46 percent in 2011. Yet despite such progress, GBV continues to rise.

discrimination against female children are common there. According to recent census data, Haryana has the lowest sex ratio of any state in India: 877 females to every 1,000 males. The numbers are even lower for children: 830 girls to every 1,000 boys.

It is not uncommon to find that if you increase education, women will be treated more equally. “Economists such as Nobel laureate Amartya Sen have argued in favor of education as key to empowerment of both women and men,” says Datta. “The southern state of Kerala, for example, has the highest literacy rate in India at 94 percent, with an equally high female literacy rate of 92 percent. The Kerala model of development has been a result of the success of education and health policy.” And yet recent studies suggest that violence against women is not decreasing even as education is rising.

“And so that is another puzzle I wanted to explore,” says Datta.

Part of the dilemma is the complicated relationship India still has between gender roles and tradition as the country marches toward modernization and economic prosperity. Datta’s field work involved focus-group discussions with girls living in rural areas who want to change and become more modern, but whose families are hesitant and afraid of such a prospect. They fear for their daughters’ safety if they travel far from home to seek higher education or employment.

“India remains, for a large part, a fairly traditional society,” says Datta, adding that even the researchers were advised to dress in a sari or salwar kameez—a traditional Indian pantsuit—and a scarf when they went to interview students at local rural high schools.

Datta found that while the government has implemented incentives that resulted in more girls going to school, those students tend to leave upon reaching adolescence. She interviewed families in rural areas who agree it is a good idea to send their daughters to school, but only until the end of high school.

“Many of the mothers my team and I spoke with concluded that after they complete 12th grade, or higher secondary in India, girls do not need further education,” says Datta.

An exception, she found, are girls who show educational promise—but even then they can continue their education only at a local school. Attending college

in a different town brings too many uncertainties. One big concern is safety—whether it be the roads, the transportation system, or the campus itself. The area lacks adequate safety for a woman being out and about.

“We were stunned to hear that some women felt that some of the victims of sexual assault were asking for it,” says Datta. “‘Why do you need to go out at odd hours?’ they asked. ‘Why do you need to go far away to college? You will be safe in your community and township’ was their conclusion.”

Datta says she recognizes that where and for how long a child goes to school is a familial decision, and one in which government should not intervene. But issues of safety and security are public policy questions, she notes.

“That is something that—as individuals, as citizens—girls and women can and should be able to demand of their government,” she says.

Gender violence occurs in both the public and private spheres, says Datta. Along with safety and security of women in public spaces, intimate partner violence, child marriage, misogyny, and discrimination against girls and women continue to be ubiquitous problems. The impact of such violence is well researched and documented. The challenge is how to overcome it.

“Education remains an important source of empowerment to overcome violence,” says Datta. “Education can empower both men and women to realize the importance of gender equity. Only when we learn to respect women as equal citizens and individuals will we be able to combat this scourge of gender violence at all levels.”

Moving the dialogue from a family matter to a public policy question is something Datta is attempting to incorporate into her work.

“I think these changes will come,” she says. “Along with laws and policies, cultural and social changes will help bring such change.” But it will take time, she adds. “The hopeful thing is that change is already coming, albeit slowly and in pockets.”

When asked what impact she hoped to make, Datta says she questions that herself sometimes. In the end, she hopes to be an “instrument” of change—that by observing and sharing her observations, and by hearing women’s stories and sharing them, she can raise aware-




THE FULBRIGHT EXPERIENCE

IN ADDITION TO THE research and field work that were part of her Fulbright experience, Professor Datta also taught seminars on education, gender empowerment, and sustainable development and public policy at O.P. Jindal Global University, located in the city of Sonapat. She gave talks on gender violence, and women’s rights as human rights, at several colleges and universities and the American Center in New Delhi and Kolkata (formerly Calcutta). And she participated in a panel discussion on violence against women in South Asia for All India Radio, Shillong.

ness that will hopefully inform public policy.

During one of her previous visits to India to do field work, Datta met a woman who didn’t know how to read, and who would go to work every day by bus. Because she couldn’t read the signs on the front of the buses, she would have to ask someone what it said. Some people would ignore her, others would scowl, and occasionally someone would help. It was humiliating, the woman said. But once that woman learned to read, she felt empowered.

“The ability to read gave her dignity and self-respect,” says Datta. “This is what empowerment does. With education, an empowered woman is able to stand up against discrimination and gender violence.

“As a social scientist and an educator, I cannot claim to bring about significant social change,” says Datta. “But I can share the voices of such women so that we can create a better and more empathetic understanding of women who face discrimination and violence, and how education can bring positive change.” 



ALL

CREATURES

GREAT

AND

SMALL

FROM BETTA FISH TO BOA CONSTRICTORS,
JEN STEINMAN '10M HELPS GRIEVING PET
OWNERS DEAL WITH THE LOSS OF
A BELOVED COMPANION.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY
PHOTOS BY STEVE GREER



I

t's all in her voice—at least that's what Jen Steinman's clients tell her.

A Virginia native who moved to New Jersey a decade ago to pursue a career in funeral directing, Steinman has a soft, Southern accent that helps her make grieving pet owners feel as if they're being consoled by a dear friend.

"A lot of people tell me they decide to come here after they talk to me," Steinman says about Forever Remembered Pet Cremation & Memorial Services, the pet funeral home she owns and operates in Jackson, New Jersey. "It's all about being patient and kind. I just make sure to take the time to listen to every single person's story."

The idea for the business came to Steinman while she was pursuing a master's degree in education at Monmouth. At the same time, she was also working toward a mortuary science degree at Mercer County Community College and working in a funeral home for humans.

"I had this idea in the back of my head the whole time, and honestly, it sounds pretty crazy—opening a funeral home for animals. Doesn't it sound nuts?" Steinman laughs. "But humans have a place where they can grieve humans, so why can't pet owners have the same for their pets?"

After graduating, Steinman bought a dilapidated 1950s-era building that once housed a post office and spent three years renovating it. It cost her nearly \$100,000 to purchase, transport, and install a retort, or chamber, in which an animal's body is placed during cremation. She also installed a body morgue—just like those used for humans—and decorated the welcome room and chapel in a homey, country store vibe.

"Everything I do here is done the same exact way as I would do for a human," says Steinman. "I have a chapel where



OPPOSITE, FROM TOP: Steinman shows one of the urns she decorated with mice and rat owners in mind; the chapel room is where pet owners can hold wakes and watch the private cremation of their pets; Steinman's business is decorated in a homey, country store vibe.

families can hold a small wake and where they can watch me perform the cremation. Everything is private.”

When a deceased pet arrives on site, Steinman places it in the body morgue on its own shelf while the owner decides whether to cremate or bury their pet. “The difference between taking your dog to the vet versus coming to us is that the vet puts them in a typical white freezer. Usually all the animals go in there, and the crematory comes once a week to pick them up,” says Steinman. “I had a body morgue made for me. It’s just a little shorter, and I put [pets] in there on a shelf, alone, with respect.”

Owners who choose the burial route can select from biodegradable, animal-sized caskets made of corn husk. Those who choose cremation can watch it be performed, either through a large window in the chapel that looks into the crematory or by streaming it online from the comfort of their home. The process takes anywhere from 30 minutes to four hours depending on the animal’s weight. Once complete, the owner can either take the skeletal remains that are left or have them reduced to ashes and placed in an urn, some of which are handmade by Steinman on site.

Regardless of which option they choose, owners can also hold a small wake where they can request a priest and invite family to say goodbye. The pet is cleaned when necessary, and laid out for viewing, much like at a human wake.

The process provides tremendous closure for pet owners, some of whom travel from as far away as Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and New York City. In turn, Steinman tries to personalize the experience based on the pet’s personality. If someone describes their cat as a princess, for example, Steinman might make the urn pink with a crown on top. She also offers taxidermy services for animals smaller than 18 inches, as well as disinterment services for pet owners who are moving and would like their previously buried animal cremated.

THE BUSINESS OF SAYING GOODBYE

PET OWNERS IN THE U.S. SPEND an estimated \$70 billion a year on their (living) furry, feathered, and scaly friends, so it should come as no surprise that owners are willing to keep spending after their beloved pets die. But it’s not just an American phenomenon. Numerous articles published in the last decade have highlighted how the private pet funeral business is experiencing a “boom.” Nowhere is that truer than in Eastern Asia, where elaborate Buddhist pet funerals can cost owners upward of \$600. Kathleen Schaab, of the International Association of Pet Cemeteries and Crematories, says her group’s membership numbers over 200 pet cemeteries and crematories in 15 countries, including China, England, Australia, France, Mexico, and Latvia.

Closer to home, a Google search reveals that in New Jersey, more than a dozen businesses offer some combination of pet cremation and memorial services. That includes everything from cremation, candlelight vigils, and burial in a pet cemetery to jewelry made from cremains, sympathy gifts, and handmade urns. Steinman says the boom likely stems from the fact that people are increasingly treating pets like family members.

“Animals aren’t humans,” says Steinman. “But with a lot of people now, they’re not having children—their dogs are their babies.”


“Sometimes in losing a pet, you don’t expect to be as upset as you are,” says Steinman. “But when you think about the unconditional love and everything that pet gave you all those years, it hits you—sometimes even a little harder than the death of a human can.”

Dawn Berman ’83, ’00M and her husband, David ’81, have gone to Forever Remembered twice, most recently after losing their 10-year-old golden retriever, Molly. Dawn says they were sold after their first experience and plan to return in the future when the time comes to unfortunately say goodbye to their other pets.


“[Jen] has a great way about her that helps even in the worst of times, so I didn’t hesitate to go back to her because it just helped a bad experience be as tolerable as it can be,” says Dawn. “It helps with the grieving process to actually be able to have a private time and pay respect to the pet, and it helps to let go and bridge the life-to-death process.”

The pet funeral and cremation business is a busy one these days (see sidebar). Steinman says that calls from owners who lost a pet come in around the clock, and that, on average, she performs 50 private cremations each month. But she makes it a priority to get the cremains back to families as quickly as possible. “We return everything within 24 hours,” she says, adding that owners also leave with a small booklet that contains the animal’s prints, whether nose and paw prints for a dog or a tail and feet prints for a lizard.


While she uses her degree from Monmouth to poignantly educate pet owners about the cremation process, what Steinman is most passionate about is being able to offer her clients a private and personalized experience.

“It doesn’t matter how rich, how poor, how educated you are—if you have a pet, at some point you’ll have to deal with loss,” says Steinman. “So, I give everyone the respect they deserve and take them through this process one step at a time.” 

TAG



THE TAG: Assistant Professor Keith Dunton (left) sutures a sandbar shark after inserting an acoustic tag in its underbelly.



MONMOUTH RESEARCHERS ARE
TRACKING SHARKS OFF THE COAST OF
NEW JERSEY IN AN EFFORT TO BETTER
UNDERSTAND HOW IMPROPER CATCH
AND RELEASE AFFECTS THEIR NUMBERS.

BY BREANNE MCCARTHY
PHOTOS BY TOM LYNCH

TEAM

It's dusk on a Tuesday in the middle of summer and Assistant Professor Keith Dunton and his students are intently eyeing the fishing rods they've cast out along the shoreline in Cape May, New Jersey.

It's been quiet so far, but now that the sun is setting and the warm tide is rolling in, the team is looking to spot a particular pull of the line that signals a potential catch. The smallest tug can indicate to them the difference between a wave rolling out and a bite from what we've all come here to see: a shark.

This is the team's second outing in a week, and since they didn't catch anything on their first night, the mood is anxious, but hopes are high. As they wait, they chat with the two fishermen from Apex Anglers—experts in land-based shark fishing who are on hand to help—about music, their favorite hiking spots, and shark tales.

Just as dark clouds roll in and the beachgoers begin to recede from their turf, the ticking of a line spurs action.

"Got one!" everyone seems to yell in unison as they jump into overdrive. Dan D'Alessio of Apex gets to the line first. "You have to keep the line firm," he says. "You can't have any slack because they'll have the opportunity to spit the hook."

The students quickly grab the tools they'll need: a blue stretcher, measuring tape, scissors, tweezers, a knife, test tubes, an acoustic tag, a dart tag, and a clipboard. If a shark is reeled in, the students will have just a few minutes to tag, measure, and remove parasites from it before release.

It takes about 90 seconds to haul in what turns out to be a four-foot sandbar shark that puts up a fight, slashing about in the waves. Once it's close enough, Dunton picks it up briefly to transfer it from the water to the stretcher, walking it a few feet onto the shore, before placing it down gently. The Apex crew removes the hook and stands by for assistance as Dunton begins his work.

He lays the shark on its side as two students firmly hold it down, two hands

on the head and two below the dorsal to keep it from biting and squirming. Dunton makes a small incision of two centimeters on its underbelly, where he places a 3.75-inch acoustic tag that he refers to as "E-ZPass for fish." It will allow him to track the shark's movements up and down the Atlantic coast for the next decade.

The students make note that this is a female, before their professor flips the shark right-side up to affix a much smaller dart tag, with his contact information on it, just below its dorsal fin. The students measure the shark's total length and its fork length, which runs from its snout to the point where its tail fin forks inward. Dunton snips a small piece of the pelvic fin for genetic testing and the students scan for parasites, collecting any they can see with the naked eye.

Once done, Dunton and the Apex fishermen carry the shark back out to the water for release. The whole operation lasts about five minutes, and just as quickly as the action came, it's gone, and the students and their professor settle back down into their beach chairs to wait for the next one.

"I got started in this because land-based fishing for sharks is becoming a hot topic," says Dunton. "It's getting a lot of interest right now, especially down in Florida, where there's a lot of people that fish for sharks from land or piers. They're catching really big sharks, and certain species suffer higher mortality than others."

Shark fishing is a big industry, especially in New Jersey, where the winner of the South Jersey Shark Tournament, held off the coast over two to three days, can win a purse of over \$300,000. The problem, says Dunton, isn't necessarily the experienced fishermen. It's the inexperienced ones who incor-





THE CATCH: Dunton casts a line into the Atlantic in hopes of hooking a shark.

rectly “land” sharks, meaning they fish them onto land, often dragging them through the sand and surf zone, and keeping them out of the water for extended periods of time, which can lead to post-release mortality. Because no boat is needed, it’s significantly cheaper and easier for the inexperienced to buy equipment online and fish from land—all that’s needed is a basic saltwater fishing license.

“The problem isn’t the fishermen who are out there all of the time,” says Dunton. “It’s the people that may be on vacation who want to give it a shot by themselves. But the problem is, if you’re not used to catching sharks, what do you do with it if you catch one?”

An inexperienced fisherman may be unable to properly de-hook a shark, leading them to simply cut the line for release, which can leave the shark with a hook in its mouth and sometimes 10 to 20 feet of fishing line behind it. Dragging the shark through the sand can cause damage to its gills, which do not have covers, and keeping it out of water to sit on it and take photos with its mouth open causes stress.

Not to mention, if the hook is improperly set, certain species like the sand tigers—which are gulp feeders—can get the hook lodged in their stomachs.

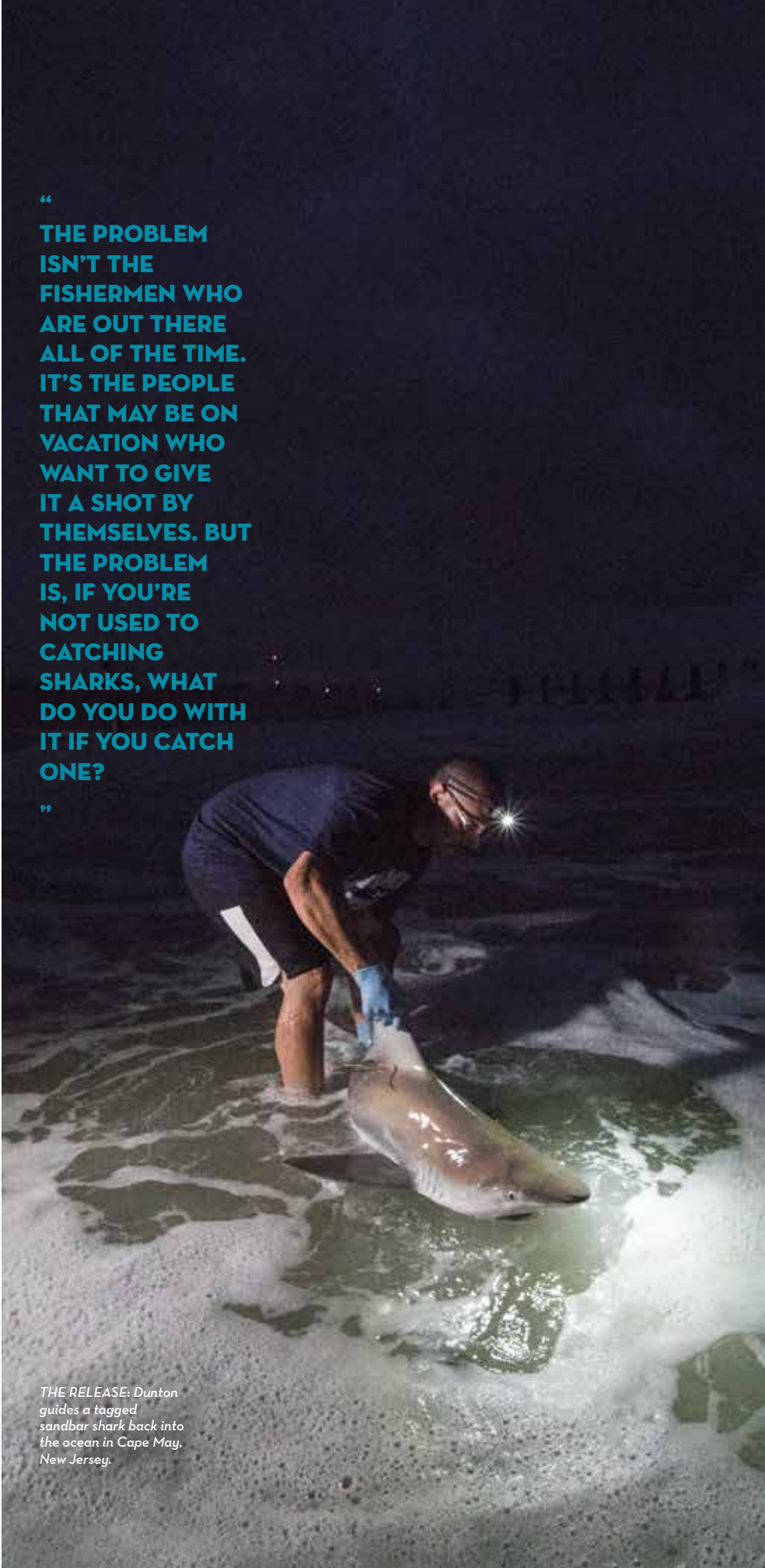
Dunton says many shark species have suffered population declines due to being caught as by-catch or being harvested for their meat. And because sharks are long-lived and late maturing, an increase in mortality due to improper fishing, combined with these other factors, can be detrimental to a species.

“Some sharks can live to be 60 to 70 years old, and don’t mature until they’re 10 years of age, so if you harvest them, you can really knock out a population,” says Dunton. “So, particularly the sandbar and sand tigers are prohibited because they were harvested in the past.”

An issue that arises with fishing in general, Dunton says, is that you never know what you will catch. It’s up to the angler to be able to spot the difference between species, as some can be harvested for meat and others can’t, and some species, like great hammerheads, are illegal to land at all in certain places.

“One of the prize sharks down in Flor-

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**THE PROBLEM
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”

A man wearing a dark t-shirt, shorts, and a headlamp is crouched on a sandy beach at night. He is holding a large, light-colored shark by its tail, guiding it back into the ocean. The shark is partially submerged in the shallow water. The man's headlamp is on, illuminating the scene. The background is dark, with some distant lights visible on the horizon.

THE RELEASE: Dunton guides a tagged sandbar shark back into the ocean in Cape May, New Jersey.

ida is a great hammerhead. [They're] critically endangered and they don't handle stress very well—just the hour fight of catching them, kills them,” says Dunton. “But the theory is that you don't know if you're going to catch one, right?”

Earlier this year, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission unanimously voted to direct its staff to hold public inquiries and draw up stricter regulations for those seeking to fish sharks from land. One idea being considered is requiring a special license for anglers looking to land sharks.

Dunton says part of the problem when it comes to sharks is that there are many unknowns because they have been largely understudied, leaving scientists without a good handle on how the industry affects various species. This includes sharks that are native to New Jersey, like the sandbar, sand tiger, and dusky shark, all of which are currently prohibited from being harvested.

While NOAA runs the Apex Predator Program in Rhode Island, and OCEARCH tags white sharks along the Atlantic Coast, New Jersey's coastal sharks have not been largely studied, save for young sharks in the Delaware Bay, a nursery ground for these native coastal species.

To fill this gap, Dunton set out not only to study shark mortality post-release for those sharks fished by conservation-minded fishermen—which provides a minimum mortality estimate—but also to map the demographics as well as spatial and temporal migratory patterns of New Jersey's coastal sharks.

“Sharks in general don't get the kind of attention they deserve ... no one has really paid attention to what is going on in the coastal areas,” Dunton says. “So, I thought it would be a great opportunity for my students and me.”

Summer 2017 was the first time Dunton and students from Monmouth's Marine and Environmental Biology and Policy (MEBP) program tagged sharks as part of their summer research project. Partially funded through the School of Science's biology department and the Urban Coast Institute, Dunton's students, with help from Apex Anglers, dorsal fin-tagged 53 individual sharks

over a 12-week period. Of those tagged, 15 sharks were also surgically implanted with the Vemco V-16-6H acoustic transmitters, which tracked the sharks' movements for the past year.

“What the transmitter does is, it sends out a unique signal every minute and a half to be picked up by the acoustic receivers that we have placed around the ocean,” says Dunton. “We have 15 to 18 receivers now in Northern New Jersey. We work with the NJDEP, which has receivers close to where we fish in southern New Jersey, so between us we cover at least the span of New Jersey.”

In addition to those receivers, Dunton also has partnerships with various institutions and organizations including the ACT Network, a collaborative group of researchers who share data. The groups have acoustic receivers from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to the Gulf of Mexico, and once or twice a year the researchers pull the data at their respective receivers and send it to Dunton and his students, who then organize it to see the movements of their tagged sharks.

The students this past summer were the first to both tag sharks and interpret a year's worth of data collected from sharks whose acoustic tags pinged up and down the coast over the last 12 months. What they found was low mortality when sharks are properly fished by experienced anglers. They also found that the larger species, like the sandbars, travel further distances—swimming as far south as North Carolina.

“We've realized that we've been catching mainly juveniles, so they're younger, which can be a problem because you don't want the babies to die—you want them to survive,” says Lauren Kelly, a junior MEBP student. “It seems like the sand tigers are the ones traveling further south than the sandbars and, we caught mostly sandbar females, which is another thing we're trying to see—why are we catching mostly females?”

This past summer, Dunton, along with his MEBP students, including Kelly, Charlie Vasas and Troy Ohntrup, tagged a total of 54 sharks—18 of which were sandbar sharks that were implanted with acoustic transmitters and will be studied by next summer's cohort of summer researchers.

For the MEBP students, this was one of their first hands-on experiences in the field doing research.

“I got into this because I love sharks and care about shark conservation,” Vasas says. “I never really had that hands-on experience—I was always just like, ‘I care about shark conservation.’ But now that I've actually physically touched the sharks, and brought them on land, and did research and collected data on them, it makes me care even more about them.”


Dunton is steadily building a baseline database of information that will soon include genetic data, which can be cross-referenced with data from the Delaware Bay shark nursery grounds to help determine lineage and population estimates.

All of the information Dunton and his students are compiling can be used to support real-world legislative and policy decisions, like those taking shape in Florida now, with shark conservation in mind.

“In doing this research I wanted to get an idea of what I actually wanted to do with marine biology,” Kelly says. “It was a great experience to be able to see that our work—it's not like we're just doing it to do it—it actually means something.”

Next summer, Dunton plans to expand the project to include more local fishermen and hopes to begin working with local bait shops to encourage them to display or hand out brochures with NOAA guidelines, which outline best practices when it comes to shark fishing.

For now, he is looking forward to next season, when he'll get to work with another set of students who will get to experience for the first time what it's like to catch a shark.

“Working with the students I find to be amazing, and research like this is always awesome to do because I feel like this one experience can really change the course of their career or life,” says Dunton. “Just to see their pure excitement at seeing their first shark, and then for them to actually work on it and collect samples, is obviously really amazing.” 





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THE CHANGEMAKER » Alumni making waves

FAMILY MATTERS

STEPHANIE RAMOS IS PAVING THE WAY FOR EXPANDED PAID FAMILY LEAVE IN NEW JERSEY AND BEYOND.

BY MOLLY PETRILLA

From the outside, it looked like Stephanie Ramos '10 couldn't possibly make policy changes for her entire company. She was a brand-new hire who didn't work in human resources. She wasn't a CEO or even a manager. But something compelled her to try anyway.

Just four months into her new job as a social media specialist at the New Jersey tech company Internet Creations, Ramos teamed up with a coworker and developed a proposal to bring paid family leave to IC. Now the policy that they crafted and refined is the company's official rule.

"I'm still in shock," says Ramos. "I had a big idea, I proposed it, and people said yes."

She traces the spark back to 2013, when she read Sheryl Sandberg's book *Lean In*. That's when she learned that the Unit-

ed States is the only industrialized country that doesn't guarantee its workers paid leave when they welcome new babies or care for sick parents.

New Jersey is one of only four states that require paid family leave—six weeks covered at two-thirds of the employee's salary—but Ramos thought her company could still do better. The policy she helped design provides eight weeks of paid time off, with the option for a gradual return-to-work schedule spread over 12 weeks total.

BE THE CHANGE

Stephanie Ramos says anyone looking to champion a paid family leave policy at their place of employment needs to do three things:

1 » Focus on why this is good for business—rather than simply the humane thing to do—and back it up with facts and data.

2 » Be prepared to answer every question that could arise, because the decision-makers are going to ask them.

3 » Be persistent, even if things move slowly or you encounter pushback. "Persistence is the reason [our policy] was passed," says Ramos.

When she showed up to present her idea to IC's board and CEO, Ramos knew it would be a big commitment for the small company. Rather than tugging at heartstrings, she focused on why paid leave is good for business: It boosts employee retention, helps recruit better talent, and keeps workers engaged and happy.

One new parent has already used the leave since it became a policy earlier this year. "When he got back, we talked about how impactful the leave was and how he's so happy and thankful that he was able to take it," says Ramos. "I know that it impacted him, his wife, and his new child. And I'm sure the ripple continues to get bigger from there."

Energized by her policy victory and the current political climate, Ramos is now serving as an elected county committee member and volunteering as a coach for the nonprofit Paid Leave for the United States, where she helps other employees push for better family leave policies.

"I'm trying to put myself out there and show people that you don't have to be a manager or a director to make an impact," she says. "You can make an impact here, today, with the tools you have in your hand right now."

OPPOSITE: Ramos is co-chair of the Alumni Association Board of Directors' Social Events Committee.



ALUMNI ROUNDUP

LISTED BY GRADUATION YEAR

1960s

» In April, **Peter Murgio '65** (Bus. Adm.) released his second book, *Fear Not Greatness*, a sequel to his first book, *The Act of Settlement: The American Who Would Be King*. Murgio, a retired entrepreneur and real estate investor, is a lifelong Anglophile who frequents the United Kingdom to complete research for his books.

» **Ken Boyle '68** (Elec. Eng.) competed in the British Rowing Indoor Championship event held at the Velodrome Arena in London on Dec. 9, 2017. Boyle won a gold medal after placing first in his event and is now the Great Britain National Indoor Champion in his age group.

1970s

» **Jim '70** (Elem. Ed.) and his wife **Rita (Mahon) Akers '70** (Elem. Ed.) traveled to Spain this past April, where they showed off their Monmouth pride as they walked 72 miles of the Camino de Santiago.

» **Richard E. Carmichael '70** (Bus. Adm.) recently published an updated version of his book, *American Economic History, Eighth Edition* with Pearson. The book examines the evolution of economic thought and the historical events that affected the economic growth of the world's industrialized countries, with an emphasis on the United States. It contains current data for the U.S. Gross Domestic Product, employment, the money supply, the president's 2019 budget, and many other economic indicators. Carmichael is currently a professor in the Degree Completion Program at Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina.

» **Ricki Grunberg '75** (Poli. Sci.) wrote in from her log cabin in the woods of rural Wisconsin to share fond memories of Monmouth and tidbits of her life since graduation. Shortly after graduating from Monmouth, Grunberg, along with some of her roommates who were also political science graduates, moved to Washington, DC., to work for Senator William Proxmire (D-WI) for several years. She became a certified massage therapist in 1984 and has worked as a massage therapist ever since.

She toured Europe and Southeast Asia in the '70s and '80s, and in 1992 she received a Master of Arts degree in counseling/psychology from Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont. Soon after, she moved to Wisconsin and started a family while also working as a massage therapist and psychotherapist in Madison, Wisconsin. She homeschooled her daughter until she started high school — she is now a college junior. Grunberg continued her work as an artist and became the director of The Womonscape Center, a nonprofit organization in Baraboo, Wisconsin, that is geared toward celebrating women and girls. Currently, she works as the coordinator of a local farmers market while continuing the art of hand-painting and hand-dyeing silk scarves, reforming coins into rings, and painting animal skulls. Grunberg says she tries to get to the East Coast as much as possible — she brought her family to Monmouth once so she could show them where she went to school, her dorm, and the beautiful surrounding area. She's still in touch with several of her Monmouth friends and sorority sisters.

» **Raymond Klose '77** (Bus. Adm.) was elected to Monmouth University's board of trustees effective July 1, 2018. Klose is the president and CEO of Klose Associates, a full-service marketing communications design and build production firm in West Long Branch, New Jersey. He is also a managing partner in Meditirinia Properties in West Long Branch, best known for the commercial real estate development of the Factory in West Long Branch. Earlier in his career, Klose worked in new business development for Honeywell, ADT, and Atlas, and was a project manager for Visual Communications Consultants. Prior to his election to the board, he was a member of the Leon Hess Business School Dean's Advisory Council and the Monmouth University Business Council; he will continue serving on those councils concurrent with his board term.

1980s

» **Robert Suhay '86** (Engl.) and his wife, Lisa, recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on September 11. The couple were married on campus by their then philosophy professor. Lisa's 10th children's book, *America the Grateful. Where Thanksgiving Really Began*, which Robert designed, was released in September.

» Congressman Chris Smith (R-4) gave **Nick Gattuso '88** (Engl.) (M.S. '90) and his students from Point Pleasant Borough High School a shout-out during a speech on the House floor in June. Smith highlighted the advanced software engineering class as well as the Panther Assisted Learning Software (PALS) initiative that Gattuso launched in 2013. Through PALS, Gattuso partners his computer science students with special education students to develop apps that solve real-world problems for the latter. One app his students developed, called Lunch Buddy, which helps special needs students find a classmate to sit with in the cafeteria, won the 2017 Congressional App Challenge.

» **Michele Powers '88** (M.B.A.) was elected along with three others to serve on Rider University's board of trustees. Powers, who is a global operations leader at Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, has accumulated more than 30 years of experience in the health care industry. Formerly, she was vice president of customer service for Independence Blue Cross and previously held positions at Prudential Healthcare, Aetna, CIGNA Healthcare, and EmblemHealth. Powers received her Certified Healthcare Insurance Executive (CHIE) designation as a graduate of America's Health Insurance Plans' Executive Leadership Program. Powers received a Bachelor of Science degree in commerce with a major in management and organizational behavior from Rider before receiving her master's at Monmouth.

» **Regina Foley '89** (Nurs.) was appointed as chief operating officer of Hackensack Meridian Health Southern Ocean Medical Center (SOMC). Previously, Foley was the chief operating officer at Bayshore Medical Center, where her team achieved Magnet designation, the highest credential that can be achieved within the nursing profession. Prior to that, while serving in the role of chief nurse executive and vice president of hospital operations at Ocean Medical Center, Foley was instrumental in the development of Ocean Care Center, New Jersey's first satellite emergency department, in Point Pleasant. In addition, she led an \$82 million expansion effort that included a new, state-of-the-art emergency department. Foley has received the Governors Merit Award for Nursing Administration, as well as the New Jersey State Nurses Association CARE Award for Administration. She served two terms on the Point Pleasant Board of Education and was named a Woman of Distinction in 2017 by the Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore.

» **Julia Zapcic '89** (Engl./Poli. Sci.) was named board secretary for the Brookdale Community College

Foundation board of trustees. Zapcic works as a publicist and digital marketer at Marketing Rival, an agency specializing in social media, public relations, and inbound marketing for American brands in the architecture and design industry.

1990s

» **Eric Kerecman '90** (Crim. J.) (M.A.C.J. '02) is Belmar's new life-guard director. Kerecman recently retired as a detective and water safety instructor with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office.

» **Thaddeus Klepac '91** (MSEd.). See note for Lillian Gaskill '16 (Engl./Ed.) (MSEd '18).

» **Tracey Radigan Sabino '91** (Bus. Adm.) was inducted into Hightstown High School's 24th Athletic Hall of Fame class. Radigan, who was co-captain and point guard on the 1986-87 girls' basketball team – the lone Group IV state champion in school history – was also an All-CVC and All-Central Jersey »



NOT TO MISS »
Nov. 9–18

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

When a die-hard theatre fan plays his favorite cast album, the characters come to life in this hilarious musical farce presented by the Department of Music and Theatre Arts.

field hockey player. A three-year field hockey starter, Radigan led the team in goals as a junior and assists as a senior, earning All-CVC and All-Central Jersey honors. In basketball, she led the Rams to two Central Jersey titles and scored 15 points in the 1987 state final. Today, Radigan lives in Rumson and is president of TS Hoops, which manages and runs high-profile girls' basketball tournaments and leagues.

» **Debra J. Serafin '91** (M.B.A.) is the new principal of Mater Dei Prep in Middletown, New Jersey. Serafin, who received her undergraduate degree from Rutgers University, worked as the assistant principal of North Brunswick Township High School in North Brunswick, New Jersey, before retiring in 2012. Since then, she has been working part-time as an educational trainer and facilitator for the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association.

» **Tracey Dubey '92** (Bus. Adm.) (M.A.C.P.C. '18) earned her master's degree after 19 years. Along the way, she had two children, worked full-time, and volunteered at Rescue Ridge Animal Shelter in

Spring Lake, New Jersey. Completing her degree was always something she wanted to do, and she is happy to have accomplished it.

» **Deborah Klepac Gaskill '94** (MSEd). See note for Lillian Gaskill '16 (Engl./Ed.) (MSEd '18).

» **Christina Almeida '95** (Bio.) was promoted to senior vice president at Sanibel Captiva Community Bank's College Parkway branch in Fort Myers, Florida, where she will be responsible for supervising and overseeing all aspects of the Bank Secrecy Act/Anti-Money Laundering Program. Almeida, who joined the bank in February, has more than two decades of banking experience and previously held positions as a compliance officer and vice president. She received her Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist credential and is a member of the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists.

» **David Stout '98** (M.A. Psych. Coun.) was named the seventh president of Brookdale Community College, headquartered in Lincroft, New Jersey. Stout, who was appointed as interim pres-

ident in July 2017 after former president Maureen Murphy left, will be in charge of the college that includes a 220-acre main campus in Middletown and five regional campuses. Throughout his 20-year career at Brookdale, Stout worked as a student counselor, a full-time faculty member, the department chair of the psychology and human services department, and the dean of the college's Freehold campus before assuming his role as vice president for student success. In addition to serving as a member of Brookdale's senior executive leadership team and the president's cabinet, he has served as an adjunct faculty member at Monmouth, Rutgers, Kean, and Thomas Edison State universities.

2000s

» **Harrison Sangster '00** (Bus. Adm.) was named the Northern Region corporate banking manager for Glen Falls National Banking and Trust Co. Sangster, who joined the bank in 2006 and most recently served as vice president/credit manager at the company's corporate headquarters in Glens Falls, New York, will manage commercial lending in the Plattsburgh, New York region, helping to create and implement business development strategies in conjunction with the regional branch manager and business development team. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Sangster is an active member of his community and works with a number of local nonprofits.

» **Angela Gallinari '01** (Comm.) married Fielder Strain at The Barn at Allenbrooke Farms in Spring Hill, Tennessee, on Oct. 7, 2017. Eight Monmouth alumni were on hand for the event: Justine De Vingo '00; Christine Kopecky '01; Amy Brancato '00; Anne Marie Havens Price '00, '02M; Paul McCarter '00; Arete Bouhla Tzovolos '01; Nicole Weiss '01; and Lauren Bertoni '03. »



NOT TO MISS » Nov. 8 THE WEEKLINGS

The Beatles tribute band will play selections from the legendary *White Album*, accompanied by live horns and strings, as part of Monmouth's *White Album* symposium. Info at monmouth.edu/the-white-album/.

BRINGING THE DRAMA

AN ALUMNUS CREATES ENTERTAINING SHOWS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS.

BY KELLEY FREUND

One morning, private investigator Jimmy Fortune, the main character in the groundbreaking web series *Fortune*, receives a desperate phone call from his former best friend, Daniel Tait—Tait's wife has been kidnapped.

Over the course of the series' six episodes, you learn the truth about Fortune's and Tait's pasts, and, if you're an English language learner (ELL), a bit about present perfect tense.

Fortune is the brainchild of Scott Granville '01 and his company Chasing Time English, which produces original drama series for ELLs. The company's roots were planted years ago, when Granville, a standout soccer player from New Zealand, came to Monmouth University to major in English.

"Monmouth fit the bill in terms of the size that I was looking for," says Granville of his decision to come to New Jersey. "And, since most people in New Zealand live close to the water, being near the shore was a massive draw for me."

Granville says he felt welcome at Monmouth—there were other international students on campus, and the Global Education Office helped him feel included with activities like Thanksgiving dinners. But Granville also had opportunities to go beyond his comfort zone, like the feature writing class that pushed him to write—something he had always wanted to pursue.

"Pursuing your interests is an important part of growing as a person," says Granville. "If you engage with activities outside your comfort zone, you learn, even in failure, more about yourself, and that should always

be looked at as a positive."

Granville was also interested in filmmaking, but, as with writing, always found himself otherwise occupied. But when he returned to New Zealand and reconnected with high school friend Ben Woollen, who was producing a low-budget feature, the two decided to join forces to create Chasing Time Productions. While their films received some acclaim, they were having trouble monetizing their creativity. So Granville and Woollen decided to tackle a niche they felt didn't exist—providing original, quality narrative dramas for ELLs through Chasing Time English.

Granville had worked in language education in South Korea and New Zealand for several years after graduating from Monmouth, and he knew the challenges of finding engaging content for ELLs. He says popular shows like *Friends* are useful but not designed for teaching English, and videos that do provide a strong language focus don't connect with viewers.

But Chasing Time English productions are created with the help of teachers to fit into a tailored syllabus. Each episode includes teaching materials *and* is written with the audience's desire for entertainment in mind.

"We want to give our audience a story they can enjoy so the learning materials aren't such a chore," says Granville. "We're



"IF YOU ENGAGE WITH ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE YOUR COMFORT ZONE, YOU LEARN, EVEN IN FAILURE, MORE ABOUT YOURSELF, AND THAT SHOULD ALWAYS BE LOOKED AT AS A POSITIVE."

"

not saying this is going to teach you English comprehensively. But you'll learn a lot about the use of the language. We've found that to be a good strategy."

Chasing Time English was recently nominated for a PIEoneer Award, which recognizes achievements in international education. Now that they're receiving global recognition, Granville hopes to have a global impact. One of the organization's goals from the beginning has been to provide accessible learning opportunities to people anywhere in the world regardless of socioeconomic background. Chasing Time English has made price points affordable, and wherever possible, works with nonprofits (currently in New Zealand, India, and Central Africa) that can provide materials to learners who can't access them otherwise.

"It's exciting to be able to provide something that has tangible benefits for learning a language," says Granville. "The creation of an original idea from the ground up and the recognition for the team's hard work have been hugely rewarding."

ABOVE: Granville, right, on the set of *Fortune*.

Gallinari is a full-time top-producing realtor with Re/Max Masters Nashville, and her husband is a freelance product and architectural photographer and high-end photo retoucher for Hudson Yards. The couple are expecting their first child, a girl, this fall.

» **Andrew Amendola '02** (Comm.) (MSEd '12) is the supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services/Guidance at Clark Public School District. Previously, Amendola worked as a school/college counselor at Old Bridge High School, where he maintained college relations for the district, was a lead counselor for all standardized testing and a class advisor for four years, and coached boys' lacrosse. Prior to his work in Old Bridge, Amendola was an assistant director of undergraduate admission at Monmouth University and also worked in the business field in a leadership capacity. Professionally, in his eleven years in education, he has served as the president of the Monmouth County School Counselors Association, has been a speaker for the National Association of College Admission Counseling, and has participated in many workshops and panels to promote college planning and affordability.

» **Adam Worth '02** (Comm.) took home two Emmy Awards at the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences' 61st annual event. Worth was recognized in the categories of Outstanding Editor: Short Form and Outstanding Photographer: Short Form for work featured on the local public access station in Asbury Park Television.

» **Kristen Krone '04** (Art) was named one of NJBIZ's 40 Under 40 for 2017. Krone, who is the brand content director at Sigma Group in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, was selected as one of five people honored in the Marketing category. A key member of the leadership team at Sigma, Krone plays a central and pivotal role in shaping the team culture and creative pace. She has helped shape numerous successful consumer campaigns for brands such as Panasonic, Famous Footwear, Braun, De'Longhi, Alex Toys, and others. She's also involved in a range of charitable initiatives, offering leadership and hands-on service.

» **Philip Dunn Jr. '05** (Poli. Sci.) is senior vice president of Alliant

Insurance Services in Wayne, Pennsylvania. Dunn utilizes his experience in risk management, insurance, and employee benefits expertise to provide a national portfolio of clients with integrated solutions that address enterprise-wide issues. Prior to joining Alliant, Dunn was senior vice president with a global insurance brokerage firm. He currently serves on Monmouth's School of Humanities and Social Science's Dean's Advisory Council.

» **Andrea Cimino '06** (Hist./Ed.) (M.S. Ed. '09) and Paul Kovach welcomed a daughter, Angelina Marie Kovach, on June 8, 2018.

» **Jennifer (Solar) Hagendoorn '07** (Psych.) (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun. '10) and her husband, Keith, welcomed a son, Keith Joseph, on April 3, 2018.

» **Aimée Babbitt '08** (Chem.) (M.A.T. '14) and Rohan Chatterjee welcomed a son, Vincenzo Raja Chatterjee, on July 13, 2018.

» **Jenna Gaudio '09** (Comm.) was named to NJBIZ's 40 Under 40 list for 2018. The award "recognizes candidates who share a commitment to business growth, to professional excellence, to their community, and are shaping the economic future of New Jersey." Gaudio was recently promoted to vice president of product management at Vydia, a cutting-edge media management technology company headquartered at the historic Bell Works campus in Holmdel, New Jersey. She also recently accepted board positions as the editorial director of TEDxAsburyPark and as marketing chair of the TJ Martell Foundation's Music Promise for Curing Cancer Young Professional Advisory Committee.

» **Katharine Skuback '09** (Comm.) was promoted to digital conversion optimization manager for Comcast's Digital Center of Excellence (DCOE) at Comcast Corporation's headquarters in



NOT TO MISS »
Dec. 6

WILSON HALL HOLIDAY CONCERT

A cavalcade of holiday favorites featuring the Monmouth University Chamber Orchestra, The Jazz Hawks, The Concert Choir, the Chamber Choir, soloists, and a special appearance by the Colts Neck Reformed Church Exultation Ringers, all in the magisterial setting of Wilson Hall.



CELEBRATIONS

WEDDINGS: 1. **Angela Gallinari '01** married **Fielder Strain** at The Barn at Allenbrooke Farms in Spring Hill, Tennessee, on Oct. 7, 2017. 2. **Nicole Freitas '11** married **Jeffrey Duymich '11** on June 3, 2018. 3. **Christina Lynn Grothues '13** (Comm.) wed **Ryan Forrest '13** (Bus. Adm.) on July 14, 2018. **ENGAGEMENT:** 4. **Stefanie Mastbeth '13** (Poli. Sci./Psych) is engaged to wed **Angelo Trento '15** (M.A. Crim. J.) on Dec. 2, 2018. **BIRTHS:** 5. **Andrea Cimino '06** (Hist./Ed.) (M.S. Ed. '09) and Paul Kovach welcomed a daughter, Angelina Marie Kovach, on June 8, 2018. 6. **Jennifer (Solar) Hagendoorn '07** (Psych.) (M.S. Ment. Hlth. Coun. '10) and her husband Keith welcomed a son, Keith Joseph, on April 3, 2018. 7. **Aimée Babbín '08** (Chem.) (M.A.T. '14) and Rohan Chatterjee welcome a son, Vincenzo Raja Chatterjee, on July 13, 2018.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The DCOE manages the digital properties for both residential and business services customers. Skuback has also been accepted to the Fox School of Business M.S. in Digital Innovation in Marketing program at Temple University beginning in fall 2018.

2010s

» **Lindsey (Melody) Specht '10** (Poli. Sci.) has accepted a position as senior counsel at the Americans for Prosperity national headquarters in Arlington, Virginia.

» **Fernanda Andrade-Brito '11** (M.S.N.) received her Ph.D. from New York University's Rory Meyers College of Nursing. She was both the graduation speaker and valedictorian of the 2018 graduating class. While pursuing her master's at Monmouth, Andrade-Brito worked as a part-time nurse in oncology at Riverview Medical Center, taught nursing students through an internship at Brookdale Community College, and had a full-time position as a teacher in Seton Hall's nursing program. A social media influencer with 250,000 Instagram followers worldwide, Andrade-Brito is pondering her next move, with sights set on one day working with the World Health Organization or United Nations to effect policy change that supports women.

» As of August 2018, **Morganne (Firmstone) Dudzinski '11** (Comm.) (M.A. Pub. Pol. '13) joined the Monmouth University marketing and communications team as the director of news and public affairs. Previously, Dudzinski worked as the director of advocacy and public affairs for JerseyCAN, a statewide education policy and advocacy organization. Prior to that, she served as the legislative director for Senator Jennifer Beck (R-11) and was director

of constituent affairs for Beck and then Assemblyman (now Senator) Declan O'Scanlon '86 (R-13). Dudzinski served as captain of the field hockey team and as a senior editor at the student newspaper, *The Outlook*, while at Monmouth.

» **Nicole Freitas '11** (Engl./Sp. Ed.) and **Jeffrey Duymich '11** (Bus. Adm.) were married at Brant Beach Yacht Club in Long Beach Island, New Jersey, on June 3, 2018. There were 14 alumni from Monmouth in attendance.

» **Dan Benfer '12** (Comm.) and his two brothers recently opened Raritan Bay Brewing, a craft brewery in Keansburg, New Jersey. The three renovated a historic building, furnished it with a seven-barrel brewing system, and created a gathering space for tastings and events. Benfer invites anyone to stop in for a tour to taste one of their 12 beers on tap or fill up a growler or crowler of beer to take home.

» **Lauren Buonpane '13** (Ed./Math) and **Lindsey Irwin '13** (Ed./Engl.), who were both education majors and members of the dance team while at Monmouth, recently took a vacation from their respective jobs as teachers during spring break. They carried their MU spirit all the way to Scotland, where a trip highlight was hiking the Quiraing on the Isle of Skye.

» **Christina Lynn Grothues '13** (Comm.) wed **Ryan Forrest '13** (Bus. Adm.) on July 14, 2018.

» **Stefanie Mastbeth '13** (Poli. Sci./Psych) is engaged to wed **Angelo Trento '15** (M.A. Crim. J.) on Dec. 2, 2018.

» **Rob Molson '13** (M.B.A.) was recently promoted to the role of senior vice president of finance at HL Group, a public relations firm in Manhattan.

» **Jennifer van Alstyne '13** (Engl.) graduated from the University of Louisiana with an M.A. in literature as one of four Outstanding Master's graduates »



CELEBRATIONS

ACCOLADES + ACHEIVEMENTS: 1. **Ken Boyle '68** won a gold medal at the British Indoor Championship in London. 2. In April, **Jim '70** (Elem. Ed.) and **Rita (Mahon) Akers '70** (Elem. Ed.) walked 72 miles of the Camino de Santiago in Spain. 3. **Tracey Dubey '92** (Bus. Adm.) (M.A.C.P.C. '18) earned her master's degree, 19 years after starting. 4. **Raymond Klose '77** (Bus. Adm.) was elected to Monmouth University's Board of Trustees. 5. In May, **Lillian Gaskill '16** (Engl./Ed.) (MSEd '18) became the third generation to receive her master's degree at Monmouth. She was joined by first generation graduate **Thaddeus Klepac '91** (MSEd) and second generation graduate **Deborah Klepac Gaskill '94** (MSEd). 6. **Jenna Gaudio '09** (Comm.) was named to *NJBIZ*'s 40 Under 40 list for 2018. 7. **Ralph and Marie Adams** met as undergraduates on the steps of Wilson Hall 61 years ago. For their anniversary, the couple revisited the spot where sparks ignited. 8. **Lauren Buonpane '13**, left, and **Lindsey Irwin '13** carried their MU spirit all the way to Scotland over spring break.

Nov. 12

Philadelphia Happy Hour

Men's Basketball vs. St. Joe's
Landmark Americana City Line, PA

Nov. 15

Carolinas, Here We Come!

Men's Basketball vs. West Virginia
Conway, South Carolina
Check the web for more Hawk gatherings
in SC and NC all weekend long.

Nov. 28

NYC Viewing Party Reunion

Men's Basketball vs. Kentucky
Pennsylvania 6, NYC

Jan. 30–Feb. 6

Florida Gatherings

Join us in select cities throughout the
state. Check the web for details.

More information on these and
other upcoming regional events
is available online.

monmouth.edu/hotr

Contact us!
Office of Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving
732-571-3489 | alumni@monmouth.edu

HAWKS ON THE ROAD

**Join Monmouth
alumni, parents,
and friends at
these upcoming
regional events.**



recognized by the graduate school and alumni association. She was engaged to Matthew M. Pincus at the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas, Texas, in June. Over the summer, she launched The Academic Designer LLC, which provides public relations services for academics, faculty, and researchers, such as personal websites and social media consultations. Discounts are offered for MU alumni and employees via theacademicdesigner.com.

» In May, **Emily Grace Smith '14** (Anthr.) graduated with a 4.0 GPA from New York University with her M.A. in Ancient Near Eastern and Egyptian Studies. She will begin her Ph.D. in Egyptian Art and Archaeology at Princeton University this fall.

» **Melissa Smith '14** (Comm.) is engaged to Stephen Natalewicz. Smith is a claims investigator at the New Jersey Department of Treasury, and Natalewicz is an audit manager at Deloitte and Touche. The couple is planning an August 2019 wedding.

» **Angelo Trento '15** (M.A. Crim. J.). See note for **Stefanie Mastbeth '13**.

» **Melanie Wallis '15** (Bus. Adm.) graduated cum laude with a Juris Doctor degree from Roger Williams University School of Law on May 18, 2018. Wallis, who has previously interned with the Ocean County Prosecutors Office, Ocean County Superior Court, and local law firm Carluccio, Leone, Dimon, Doyle & Sacks, L.L.C., will join the Ocean County Superior Court as a law clerk after completing the New Jersey Bar Exam.

» **Megan DeSalvo '16** (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '17) has joined Express Scripts, a pharmaceutical benefit management firm in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey, as a financial analyst.

» Three generations of Monmouth University master's graduates gathered at Wilson Hall on May 10 to celebrate **Lillian Gaskill '16** (Engl./Ed.) (MSEd. '18) who became the third generation to receive her master's degree at Monmouth. She was joined by first-generation

graduate **Taddeus Klepac '91** (MSEd.) and second-generation graduate **Deborah Klepac Gaskill '94** (M.S.Ed.).

» **Mariah Jacobson '16** (Crim. J.) recently competed in her first Pro Women's Bowling Association tournament in Eagan, Minnesota. Jacobson, who competed as a Hawk for four years, was team captain and helped lead the team to a state championship in 2012.

» **Lexi Swatt '16** (Comm.) was the keynote speaker at the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce's 31st annual Sports Award Banquet. A four-sport athlete at Johnstown High School, she was named as one of Johnstown's top athletes in 2013. While in college, Swatt worked for the New York Jets and interned with CBS Sports in New York. She currently works at CBS Sports as a production assistant.

» **Shem Filipek '17** (Bus. Adm.) is now the head tennis coach at Wagner College in Staten Island, New York. A tennis and academic scholarship recipient at Monmouth, as team captain, he led the Hawks to their first Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) championship in school history in 2016 — a feat that Monmouth repeated in 2017. Monmouth compiled an overall record of 56-39 while going an impressive 26-2 in league contests during Filipek's time as a Hawk. In addition to his playing ability, Filipek is the owner/instructor of his own private tennis instructing business and also has experience providing tennis lessons at the Fairfield County Hunt Club in Westport, Connecticut.

» **Justin Robinson '17** (Comm.) has signed with Élan Chalon, a French professional basketball club that plays in France's Pro A division. Prior to signing with the French team, Robinson signed with Avtor Saratov, a Russian club, and played with the Miami Heat for the 2017 NBA Summer League. [M](#)

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**Class Notes,
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400 Cedar Ave.,
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NJ 07764-1898.**

Monmouth University encourages alumni to share news regarding career changes, awards and honors, marriages, anniversaries, births, and other life events for inclusion in Class Notes. All submissions are subject to editing for clarity and length. We welcome submissions of high-resolution digital images for possible inclusion with your class note; however, we reserve the right not to print submitted photos due to space limitations or issues with image resolution. In addition to the news items sent by alumni, the university receives press releases from businesses and organizations announcing alumni achievements, and subscribes to an online news clipping service that provides news items about alumni. These items are edited and placed in the appropriate class section. Monmouth magazine staff members try to verify the accuracy of this information; however, the university cannot be responsible for incorrect information contained herein. If you would like us to correct any inaccuracies that have been printed, please contact the magazine at magazine@monmouth.edu.



NOT TO MISS »
Dec. 8
**WYNONNA
& THE BIG
NOISE**

One-half of the legendary duo The Judds rocks Pollak Theatre.

IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI

- » Melvin Coben '41 (A.A. Lib. Stu.) Jan. 25, 2018
- » Robert F. Connolly '56 (A.A. Bus. Adm.) June 28, 2018
- » Edwin Koenig '61 (Physics) Aug. 16, 2018
- » Arlie Ann (Gilmore) Seitz '61A (A.A. Lib. Stu.) May 7, 2018
- » Robert R. Conover '62 (A.A. Lib. Stu.) June 18, 2018
- » Thomas P. Gallagher '62 (Poli. Sci.) July 8, 2018
- » Vincent Vanacore '62 (Bus. Adm.) Feb. 10, 2018
- » Donald Ball '65 (Bus. Adm.) July 2, 2018
- » Edward J. Dodd '65 (Bus. Adm.) Aug. 7, 2018
- » John Reng '66 (Bus. Adm.) (M.B.A. '76) July 4, 2018
- » Jeanne Messner '67 (Math) June 20, 2018
- » Rosemarie Aramanda '68 (Elem. Ed.) Aug. 10, 2018
- » Mary Ann Connors '70 (M.A.T.) July 18, 2018
- » Patrick Del Vecchio '71 (Elem. Ed.) June 17, 2018
- » Samuel Dixon '72 (M.S. Elec. Eng.) March 2, 2016
- » Arnold Bard '73 (M.S. Elec. Eng.) (M.S. Soft. Eng. '94) Sept. 11, 2017
- » Herbert Fineman '73 (M.A.T.) July 4, 2018
- » Bernard McCreesh '75 (Bus. Adm.) Aug. 3, 2018
- » Gail F. Giordano '79 (Ed./Engl.) June 9, 2018
- » Michael Bastianelli '80 (M.B.A.) May 22, 2018
- » Richard L. Gaul '80 (Bus. Adm.) July 19, 2018
- » Jacques Vail '81 (M.B.A.) July 30, 2018
- » William Mason Caldwell '83 (Bus. Adm.) July 20, 2018
- » Susan Cahill '84 (Bus. Adm.) July 8, 2018
- » Dirk A. Plummer '85 (M.S. Elec. Eng.) July 21, 2018
- » Obrey B. Smith '86 (M.B.A.) Aug. 5, 2018
- » Mary Ann Schultz '98 (Sp. Ed.) Jan. 8, 2018
- » Paul Sollitti '06 (M.B.A.) May 31, 2018
- » Christopher Pappas '07 (Hist./Poli. Sci.) Aug. 19, 2018

FRIENDS

- » Edward L. "Ed" Abbott (former student) April 23, 2018
- » Jean L. Badgley (former professor) July 25, 2018
- » Eva Edelstein (former student) Sept. 15, 2018
- » Shaun Egan (former student) June 22, 2018
- » Kenneth George Decher Jr. (former student) May 6, 2018
- » Richard Churchill Gardner (former student) Aug. 1, 2018
- » Letitia Graybill (lecturer) Aug. 1, 2018
- » Katherine Hoover (former student) Aug. 3, 2018
- » Ruth Laufer (friend) May 19, 2018
- » Robert Thomas Morrow (former adjunct) July 5, 2018
- » Robert Murphy (former student) Aug. 10, 2018
- » Arthur J. Perschino (former professor) June 14, 2018
- » Jane Plangere (friend) Feb. 23, 2018
- » Eugene "Gene" Simko (professor) June 12, 2018
- » Elvira C. Torcivia (friend) July 25, 2018
- » Jane Straus Wildstein (former student) July 25, 2018
- » Albert Wuestefeld (former student) June 7, 2018

REMEMBRANCE

THOMAS GALLAGHER '62

US DIPLOMAT AND GAY RIGHTS ACTIVIST, 1940-2018

BY ROBIN MAMA

Tom Gallagher always had a story, and it was usually a fascinating one. At the Celebration of Life ceremony that was held for him in August, every speaker wove the same characteristics of Tom into their remarks: He was a kind, intelligent, fascinating man who stood up for LGBT rights and who touched everyone he met with his warmth and genuineness.

I had the pleasure of meeting Tom about 15 years ago. At the time, I was teaching the field seminar class for our Master of Social Work students in the International and Community Development concentration. Tom came in one day to speak to the students about his time in the Peace Corps and in the foreign service. He was a member of the first Peace Corps group that went overseas in the early '60s, which also made him Monmouth's first Peace Corps volunteer.

Tom had the students spellbound; they listened to every word and every story he told them. His best piece of advice was the following: "If you are going to work and live overseas, *do not* live in the American enclave. Live with the people. Shop in their stores, eat their food, and get to know them and

the country from *their* perspective." It was excellent advice, which we continue to use.

Tom continued to be involved at Monmouth, whether he was a guest lecturer in classes or teaching a course in political science. He was thrilled that Monmouth started a Peace Corps Prep program and lent his knowledge of the Peace Corps to many aspiring Peace Corps students.

We are very grateful and lucky to have known Tom and to have been able to work with him, to share our students with him, and to have benefited from his generous spirit, his vast knowledge, and his amazing stories. I don't think we will ever forget all his stories or the aplomb with which he told them. We miss him, but his stories, his legacy, and our memories will always remain.



REMEMBRANCE

EUGENE SIMKO

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MANAGEMENT
AND DECISION SCIENCES, 1953–2018

BY STUART ROSENBERG

When Gene Simko stopped by my office on a Monday this past June, he exhibited his typical fervor in describing what he had done over the weekend and what his plans were for the week ahead. He also told me about the latest scale model he was building and shared recent photos of his children.

Then, sadly, he died the next day, at age 64, and his unexpected passing shook the Monmouth family beyond belief. His memorial service brought a huge outpouring of support from across the University, which is a testament to his life and legacy.

As Guy Oakes, the retired Kvernland Endowed Chair in Philosophy and Corporate Social Policy in the Leon Hess Business School, remembers Monmouth at the time of Gene's arrival in 1978, there were no Ph.D.s in management on the faculty and no intention to attract them. Management professors were drawn largely from Wall Street and Madison Avenue. Academic publication was not a priority, and "peer-refereed journal" was barely a concept. So it was not surprising that Monmouth hired a person-

able graduate student in management, still taking courses. When Gene's dissertation finally emerged, like so many others it was based on the research of his thesis advisor: an unconventional project of developing a dialectical theory of strategic planning from the formidable writings of the German philosopher G.W.F. Hegel. In Hegelian dialectics, truth is produced by conflict. Oakes recalls Gene embracing these ideas with his customary exuberance along with a corresponding academic habitus—dispute and some measure of disputatiousness were good. He took considerable delight in upsetting the status quo, bouncing ideas and their faculty proponents off one another, and observing the results. This was certainly a novel approach to the older, top-down conceptions of management.

Over the succeeding 40 years, Gene's presence at Monmouth University was significant. He reciprocated the commitment that the University showed to him as a young man in spades—his dedication to the life of Monmouth was unmistakable. Gene's service to the institution was extensive. At the time of his death, he was busy preparing for his second term as chair of the Faculty Council. As for his teaching, Gene was very proud of his 1989 Distinguished Teaching Award; he enjoyed engaging his colleagues about the state of higher education and what needed to be done to improve it. He possessed a considerable amount of charm, with an ability to walk into a crowd of strangers and become everyone's friend with a smile and a wink of his eye.

Most days since his passing someone will invariably come up to me and ask what it's like to not have Gene around. They tell me that they miss him. It's evident that his loss has created a sizable void, but for those of us who were fortunate to know Gene as a friend and colleague, it's also evident that his impact on us is indelible.

Stuart Rosenberg is chair of the Department of Management and Decision Sciences.

Don't stop with Homecoming!

*Save the dates for
these upcoming events:*

Holiday Ball

DEC. 1, 2018

Black-tie event held in Wilson Hall to benefit the
Monmouth University Scholarship Fund.

Wine vs. Stein

MARCH 9, 2019

Network with alumni and friends as you taste your
favorite beers and wines.

Alumni Weekend

JUNE 7–9, 2019

Kick off the summer; participate in your class, club, and athletics
reunions; and celebrate your Monmouth family all weekend long!
Don't miss our Wilson Hall Rooftop Bash on Saturday night.

monmouth.edu/alumnievents



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Share your story by writing us at magazine@monmouth.edu or the address above.

