

# D'Mensions

D'Youville College Alumni Magazine  
SUMMER 2015

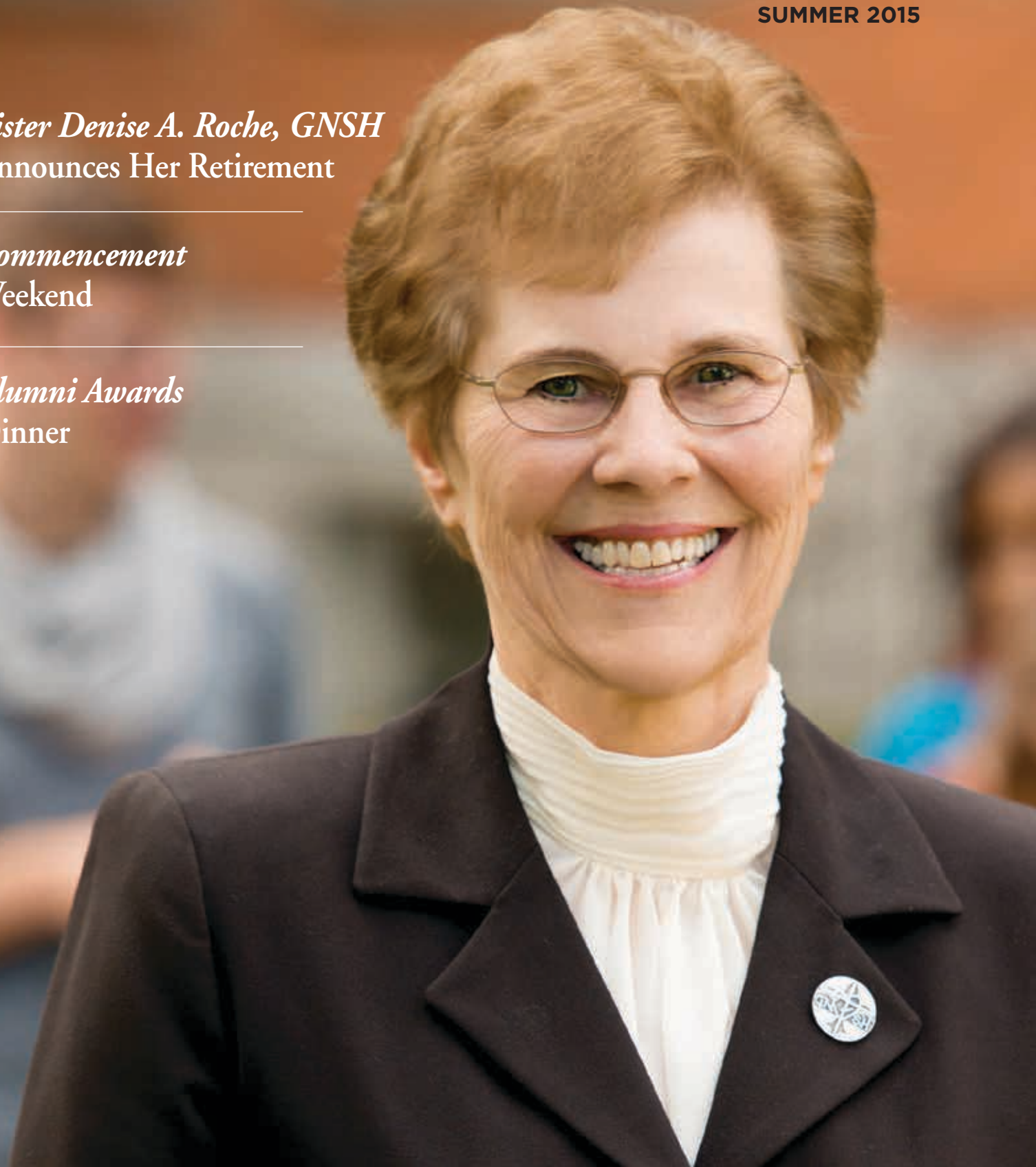
*Sister Denise A. Roche, GNSH*  
Announces Her Retirement

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*Commencement*  
Weekend

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*Alumni Awards*  
Dinner







# D'Mensions

D'Youville College Alumni Magazine

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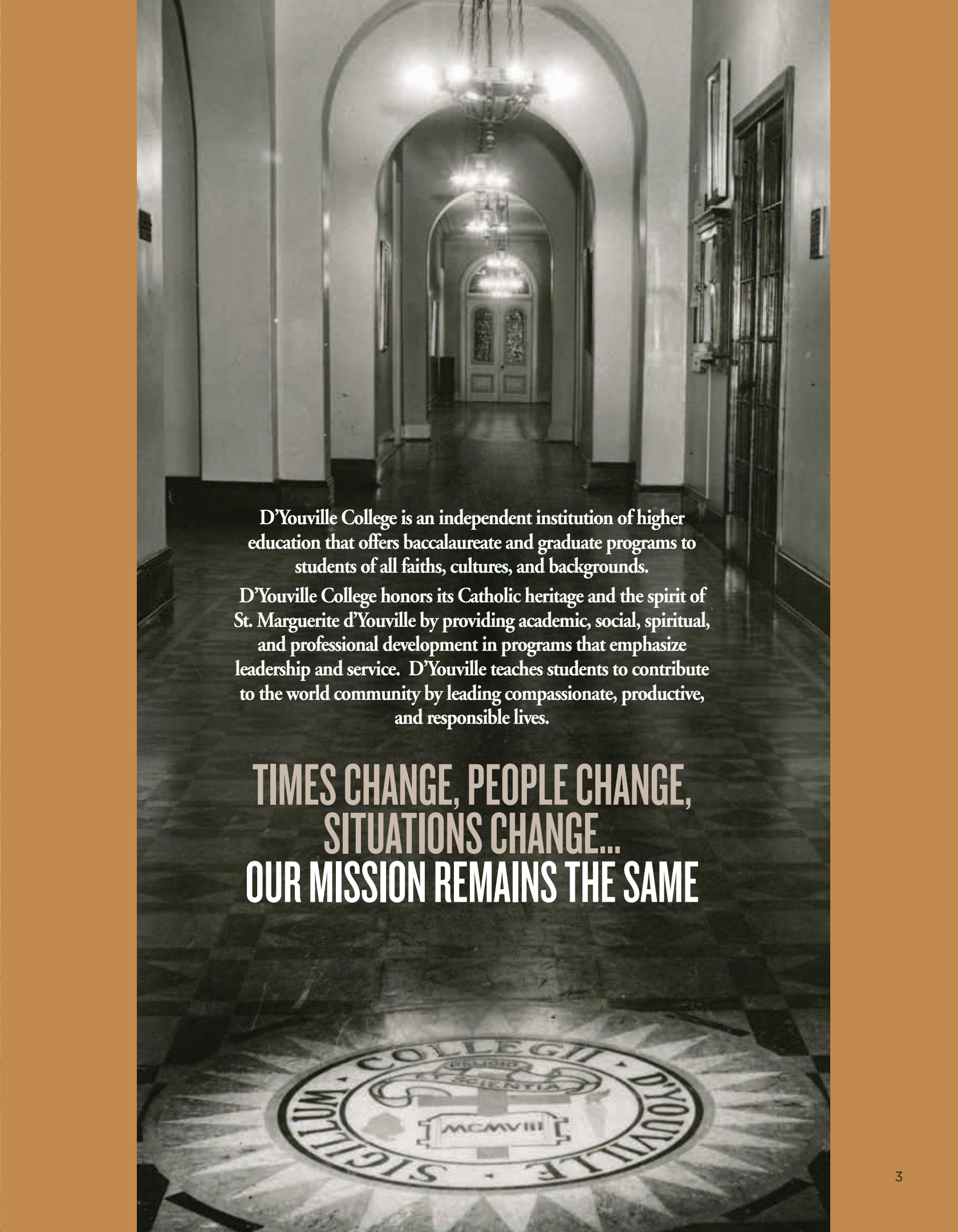
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D'Youville College is an independent institution of higher education that offers baccalaureate and graduate programs to students of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds.

D'Youville College honors its Catholic heritage and the spirit of St. Marguerite d'Youville by providing academic, social, spiritual, and professional development in programs that emphasize leadership and service. D'Youville teaches students to contribute to the world community by leading compassionate, productive, and responsible lives.

**TIMES CHANGE, PEOPLE CHANGE,  
SITUATIONS CHANGE...  
OUR MISSION REMAINS THE SAME**



# SISTER DENISE A. ROCHE, GNSH PLANS RETIREMENT FOR 2016



After

spending half her life at the president's desk of D'Youville College and building it into a modern, multi-school institution, Sister Denise A. Roche recalls with amusement that she earned the job almost by default. The college, founded by Grey Nuns in 1908, was governed by a lay board of trustees when her predecessor was reassigned elsewhere in the order in 1979.

As she tells it, "They wanted continuity, at least in the presidency, and they needed a Grey Nun with a doctorate. The ink was still wet on mine"—she received it in 1978—"and there were two other women who could have applied. However, neither of these Sisters was interested in applying for the position." That left the 36-year-old Buffalo native who had returned home to teach sociology at D'Youville where she, her mother and sister all had earned degrees.

The board chairman urged her to apply, and the group responded so quickly she had to rush out to buy some thrift store clothes for her interview. "I thought there would be only one interview. There were three," she said. And, while not a vain person in any way, she admits to being a little embarrassed wearing the same skirt and jacket to all three sessions. Perhaps they were impressed by her frugality. Perhaps they were taken with her charm and intellect. Or perhaps, as Sister Denise believes, "*It was God's providence.*"

She was hired and at age 36 became the youngest president in D'Youville history at a time when the school was facing serious threats to its continued existence. Enrollment was dipping below 1,000 students and the college's financial picture was more red than rosy. With the bulge of the baby boomers already aging off college campuses, crafting programs to attract new students was essential to D'Youville's survival.

### **For the young president, this was a challenge, not a crisis.**

"The college has a long history of being responsive to changing times," Sister Denise says. First, though, she needed to get a handle on exactly what a college president could and should do. "I knew the faculty pretty well but not the administrators," she says. "And I knew nothing about finances." With a swoop of her hand, she says, "It was a steep learning curve!" She reached out to experts and hired new faculty who helped upgrade the nursing program. Then the college added new degree programs in the growing fields of occupational and physical therapy. The school created a chiropractic program and degree tracks for physician assistants and nurse practitioners, along with graduate programs in education. All required a lot of work, a lot of cooperation and constant communication. The new offerings also required fundraising and borrowing.

Even with that robust track record, the project that Sister Denise said worried her the most was creating the pharmacy school. "To make pharmacy work took a lot of money and a lot of persuasion and I wasn't sure I was right," she said. "If it did not work, it would have cost us a lot. Thank heaven it worked."

The very toughest times in her career have had little to do with courses, buildings or even money, she said. The hardest part of her job has always been telling staff members that D'Youville is not the right place for them. "What I dislike the most is letting people go or not giving tenure, anything that terminates people. I agonize over it," she said. She also prays over it and adds, "What I've found is that often the person winds up in a better position for them."

**"I pray every day  
and I feel that  
what I do, is what  
God wants me  
to do."**



*Photo from Courier-Express on Sunday, October 14, 1979 (day before Sister Denise's inauguration)*

*Except from the article titled  
"D'Youville's New President  
Ready for Challenge"  
by Rita Smith*

A real Irish beauty, she sits in the president's chair at D'Youville College... "I'm enjoying the job," she beams. "I very much enjoy the challenge, especially planning for the future. There are very dismal prospects for colleges in New York State. Predicted enrollment is expected to grow 38 percent in the next 10 years."

"This means we'll have to make our programs even more interesting to students. We'll also have to change our programs so they will be even more service-related, particularly in the health fields."

"But," she adds "I can't worry too much about that because D'Youville has a marvelous heritage. It has a very high esteem in the community. It is easier for a smaller college to be flexible and adjust to change."

The college continues in the tradition of Blessed Marguerite d'Youville... That tradition to educate men and women, not only for lifetime work but also for the higher aspirations of wanting to give service to their fellow men.



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ister Denise Roche felt connected to D'Youville College by the time she was in elementary school. Her mother graduated from the school in 1929 and would take her two daughters back with her for special events. Since many of the Grey Nuns were Irish, Sister Denise says, the St. Patrick's Day celebrations were particularly memorable. "There were toys in the basement, and students would watch us," she said.

But nothing made a bigger impression than the first time she went into what is now the president's office – right alongside the entryway of the Koessler Administration Building. "Two nuns had died within days of each other. I can still remember walking up the front steps with my mother. I was maybe 7," she said. "I don't

know why my mother was bringing us to a wake."

They went inside, she said, and turned into what is now her office.

"One nun was laid out right here," she says, gesturing to the area along her wall where she has her bookcases. The other deceased nun was in repose in the office across the entry. "I had seen a lot of nuns before, but I had never seen a dead one," Sister Denise said.

Nearly 30 years later, when she went back into that office as president for the first time, the image that flashed across her mind was that of the nun in her coffin. "I never forgot that," she said, and she probably never will.



*Sister Denise Roche as a newly graduated sociology student in 1967.*



*Sister Denise Roche reviewing one of the many construction projects undertaken by the college under her leadership.*

## She knows the joy of being in the right place.

"The vision of the college is perfectly matched with my personal mission: To meet the needs of the poor and respond to the needs of the time," Sister Denise says. Both are inspired by the mission of Saint Marie-Marguerite d'Youville, founder of the Sisters of Charity and patron of the Grey Nuns, the order that founded D'Youville. Her mission, Sister Denise said, was "to meet the needs of the poor and respond to the needs of the time." **The 18th century saint is a vital presence in Sister Denise's life.**

"I wouldn't be here if my faith life couldn't mesh with my work life, my life as a Grey Nun," Sister Denise says. Those are values she has always cherished, but she admits that it took time for them to mature. As she heads into her final year at the school, she reflects on her first year there as an enthusiastic freshman, full of hope and with a world of options open to her.

"I wanted to be a nurse when I was growing up," she said, "which didn't show a lot of insight because I didn't like science at all." As a result, she spent her freshman year at D'Youville in the nursing program and did her best with "microbiology and all that." Medicine, it turned out, was not as interesting for her as she had hoped but another fundamental element of the college was.

She had grown up in Catholic schools and graduated from Holy Angels Academy, and at D'Youville she felt the pull grow stronger.

So, she said, "After my first year, I went into the Grey Nuns. I mean, I loved being a college student. I loved my friends. I dated. But there seemed to be something calling, and, being a pragmatic young woman," she said, "I figured I'd better do it now or I never would. I also figured I could always leave. I never went back to nursing."

**She liked the structure of religious life and the guidance that came with it.** "You get into a routine, and that comes easily," she said, "but philosophically, I transitioned more slowly."

Being in administration in any capacity also was not on the radar of the young Sister Denise. However, it worked out well. In her 36 years as college president, she has overseen an unprecedented expansion of the campus with new student housing, classroom buildings, a library and, most controversially, some parking lots, as enrollment tripled from its lowest point in the early 1980s to 3,000 students today. In the Buffalo area, she has served on boards and committees that addressed issues of poverty, church closings, urban development, higher education and, less predictably, Peace Bridge expansion, the World University Games and the AAA automobile club. Every organization in Western New York that hands out honors, with the possible exception of the Buffalo Bills, has found a way to honor her and her opinions and approval are courted from nearly every quarter—from City Hall to campus hallways.

**"My deepest value, my deepest love, is God, and the conviction that God is with me inspires all other things."**

Her outreach and open doors to the neighborhoods around the college are generally if not universally praised. She has a habit of listening and it works. "D'Youville always has been friendly with the neighborhood, but we have had some issues. For instance, nobody wanted parking lots next door," she said. "For example, one planned lot on a tiny corner next to homes was turned into a tiny park instead of paved over. "The residents said it would be disruptive, and they were right," she said. "People love the park." All in all, through meetings and a community advisory group, she said many of the best ideas have emerged from community input.



*Standing outside with some students on the balcony, facing West Avenue, of the Montante Family Library after the renovation project to move and enlarge the library from its former place on Prospect Avenue.*

# SISTER DENISE A. ROCHE, GNSH, B.A., M.A., PH.D.

President, D'Youville College; Associate Dean, Assistant Professor,  
UM Teaching Assistant, Acting Department Chairperson, Instructor

## CURRENT COMMUNITY SERVICE/MEMBERSHIPS

- Buffalo Public Schools Foundation Board
- D'Youville Community Advisory Board
- POLARIS, Inc., Board of Directors
- WNY Consortium of Higher Education

## PAST COMMUNITY SERVICE/MEMBERSHIPS

- AIDS Family Services
- American Red Cross
- Association of Colleges & Universities of the State of New York (ACUSNY)
- Automobile Club of WNY
- Buffalo Neighborhood Revitalization
- City of Buffalo Board of Ethics
- City of Buffalo Master Plan Commission
- Commission on Academic Excellence
- Diocese of Buffalo Strategic Planning Commission
- Erie County Sheriff's Foundation
- Federal Enterprise Community of Buffalo Board of Directors
- Grace Manor Health Care Facility Board of Directors
- Greater Buffalo Development Foundation
- Greater Buffalo Partnership
- Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart Administrative Board
- Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart Property Study Committee
- Healthcare Careers Center of WNY, Inc.
- Holy Angels Academy
- Independent College Fund of New York (ICFNY)
- National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
- NYS Department of Health/Physician Discipline Process Evaluation Panel
- Peace Bridge Public Consensus Review Panel, Co-Chair
- St. Joseph's Cathedral Sesquicentennial Committee
- St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute
- Sisters of Charity Hospital School of Nursing
- State Education Department, Commissioner's Advisory Council on Postsecondary Education
- State Education Department
- United Way of Buffalo & Erie County
- World University Games Buffalo '93

## AWARDS

- Patsy Casilio Humanitarian of the Year Award, Brothers of Mercy
- Women of Influence Lifetime Achievement Award, Business First
- Athena Award, Buffalo Niagara Partnership
- Doctor of Humane Letters, Christ the King Seminary
- Inclusion Award presented, Leadership Buffalo Values Awards
- Athena Award Nominee, WNY Women's Fund
- Red Jacket Award, Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society
- New York State Chiropractic Association, District 17, Recognition of Outstanding Leadership in Chiropractic Education
- Anne Lum Award, D'Youville College Alumni Association
- Dr. J. Warren Perry Health Professions Award, Coordinated Care
- The Bernice L. Poss Award, WNY Network of Women Leaders in Higher Education
- Holy Angels Distinguished Alumnae Award
- Exemplary Citizenship Award, Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation
- Cure of Ars, Christ the King Seminary
- WNY Women's Hall of Fame Inductee
- Lifetime Achievement Award, WNY Hispanics and Friends Civic Association
- Special Award, National Conference of Christians and Jews by the Masonic Parish Lodge #292 and the Knights of Columbus Kenmore Council #3076
- Citizen of the Year, The Buffalo News
- DeWitt Clinton Masonic Award for Community Service, Masonic Parish Lodge #292 and the Knights of Columbus Kenmore Council #3076
- Doctor of Humane Letters, Canisius College
- Award in Recognition of Exemplary Performance in the Field of Education, Erie County Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference
- Equity Award in recognition of contributions to equity in Western New York, Western New York Council for Educational and Employment Equity
- Susan B. Anthony Award, Interclub Council of Western New York
- Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal, University at Buffalo
- YMCA Toast to Leadership honoring community leaders for outstanding effort and commitment to the revitalization of Buffalo
- "Woman of the Year" Award, Girl Scouts 75th Anniversary Celebration
- Doctor of Humane Letters, Niagara University
- Community-University Recognition Award for Outstanding Women, Community Advisory Council of the University at Buffalo
- Brotherhood/Sisterhood Award in Religion, National Conference of Christians and Jews
- Public Service Award, University at Buffalo Alumni Association
- Queen Isabel Award, National Columbus Day Committee
- Citizen of the Year Award, Erie/Niagara Chapter of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers, Inc.
- Who's Who in the East



Confident enough to change her mind, savvy enough to change the minds of others and cautious enough to keep her college financially afloat through the roughest seas, Sister Denise has come a long way from the young woman who, during her first day on the job, signed a few papers left by the previous president then asked herself, “*Now what?*” She recalls rummaging through the desk drawers for clues to being a college president (it was her desk now, after all) and found the official seal of the college. She was checking it out, she said, when the secretary came in. “She said, ‘*What are you doing? That’s for important stuff. Put it away!*’”

The answers were not kept in the drawers; she found them elsewhere, through the support of faculty and other administrators, through the confidence of the college’s board members, through the backing of the business community and gifts from foundations, and through daily prayer. **As St. Paul advised the Corinthians, she grew where she was planted, she served wherein she was called.**

She still serves. There is no lame duck aura about her. The days are, if anything, busier since she announced her retirement plans in May. She doesn’t have an answer yet for the many who ask her, “What’s next?”

“I’m trying to prioritize things now, and I figure there will be plenty of time to think about what I want to do when I’m done here,” she said. “I do like some structure. I’m not someone who looks forward to a lot of wide-open time,” she said.

**“So, we’ll see.”**



*Sister Denise steps outside her office to speak to students. Hanging on the wall outside her office is a portrait of Saint Marguerite d'Youville, a constant reminder that “we never refuse to serve.”*





# BACCALAUREATE

## Sister Denise Urges Grads to Make a Difference Each Day

As countless college graduates across the country are bound to hear, it's time for them to make a difference in the world.

During D'Youville's traditional baccalaureate and hooding ceremony at Holy Angels Church on May 15, college President Sister Denise Roche, GNSH, issued that challenge to D'Youville's graduating class of 2015 but explained to them that making a difference does not necessarily mean committing a heroic or extraordinary act. Rather, it can spring from their response to daily challenges.

Quoting Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the famed German theologian who struggled to identify his daily path amidst Hitler's atrocities, Sister Denise said, "God is interested in the whole world and everything that goes on in it. We must struggle to discover God's word for each particular situation. I see this as the highest responsibility in the world."

Consider the acts of a woman in South Africa who, using the only tool at her disposal—an umbrella stopped a gang of young men who were beating a defenseless man, Sister Denise told the audience of students, faculty and family members. The woman saved Mahatma Gandhi's life but likely never knew that her action saved one of the world's greatest peacemakers.

Sister Denise said D'Youville students can likewise turn to the example set by the college's namesake, Saint Marguerite d'Youville, who overcame the death of her husband and four of her six children and devoted herself to caring for the poor and needy. Although Marguerite was not prepared for the task, she eventually took the helm of General Hospital and transformed it into a beacon of hope for suffering people, Sister Denise said.

"I am convinced that Marguerite did not imagine the change she would make in the world," Sister Denise said.



"She only saw the needs of the person in front of her and tried to be resourceful in alleviating those needs."

DYC's class of 2015 will graduate with their education, the confidence of their family and faculty, and the example of Marguerite d'Youville, Sister Denise said. "All you need now is the determination to use these resources to respond to the needs of your own time."

She encouraged the graduates to consider each day how they could make a difference that day.

"You may never know the effect your life has on others," she said. "In the end, it is not us, but God working through us, that makes the difference."

"Let the generosity of your love conquer any fear or challenge that you face—and know that God loves you abundantly and will be with you every step of the way."

Sister Denise's remarks were one part of the unique ceremony, which began with the traditional procession from the Koessler Administration Building down Porter Avenue, with the Gordon Highlanders bagpipers leading graduating students and faculty clad in full academic regalia.

The ceremony also featured the Robert H. Chambers and Mark Mazur Ensemble playing Aaron Copeland's "Fanfare for the Common Man."

Brian Spillman '15 welcomed the crowd while the Rev. Janice N. Mehle, associate campus minister, gave the opening prayer. Abigail Savino '15 offered a Bible reading from Matthew, and Brian Schuster '15 shared a reflection from noted anthropologist and philosopher Loren Eiseley.

Graduating students were hooded by faculty members from their academic discipline indicating that the students had completed their degree requirements. The Rev. Quilin Bouzi, pastor of Holy Angels Church, offered the closing prayer.





# COMMENCEMENT 2015

## CEO Tells New Grads Learning From Failure is Key to Innovation



Failure is the key to what we do with our lives, Dr. L. Nelson Hopkins told the crowd of more than 3,000 people who gathered on Saturday, May 16, at Kleinhans Music Hall for D'Youville College's 107th annual commencement.

Hopkins, president and CEO of The Jacobs Institute, is a medical pioneer who developed catheter-based technology for minimally invasive endovascular neurosurgery, led the transformation of multidisciplinary treatment of vascular disease and helped oversee design of the new building for the Gates Vascular Institute in Buffalo.

"How many of you have an inkling or a dream of something you'd like to be in the next decade?" he asked during his commencement address. "I would

say to you there's only one thing that makes a dream impossible—that is fear of failure."

But rather than being paralyzed by failure, Hopkins encouraged the new graduates to embrace their mistakes as James Joyce did: as "portals of discovery." If we reframe failures as learning opportunities and natural parts of a growth process, we may find solutions, he said.

"When you fail at something, you don't quit," Hopkins said. "You find another way to do it." Quoting Thomas Edison, he said, "I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that do not work."

Hopkins said that grit is necessary for ideas to gain traction. For years as he pursued catheter-based neurosurgery, "I was considered a weirdo, a curiosity," but he held true to his vision and persevered.

"Continuous effort—not strength and intelligence—is the key to unlocking our potential," he said. "Success is struggling with failure after failure with no loss of enthusiasm."

During the commencement exercises, D'Youville President Sister Denise Roche, GNSH, conferred 760 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees to the class of 2015 as well as an honorary degree to Hopkins.

Representing the Golden Anniversary Class, Patricia Marino Smyton '65 offered the invocation while Dr. Gary Stoehr, dean of the School of Pharmacy, gave the benediction.

The salutatory was delivered by Marissa T. Benzin '15, a Lancaster native who earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in occupational therapy. Benzin is a recipient of the D'Youville Medal, the college's highest undergraduate award; the St. Catherine of Alexandria Medal, awarded to an outstanding junior at the college; and the occupational therapy program director's award.

Benzin urged her classmates to continue to find learning from each experience, good or bad.

"Our years at D'Youville have taught us that we will all be lifelong learners and to remember that everyone we meet knows something that we do not," she said.

At NYC, students are treated as professionals and viewed as the future of their fields, she said. And the D'Youville family will continue to care for and support the graduates as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

Likewise, the graduates have a duty to uphold the legacy of Saint Marguerite d'Youville, the college's namesake, Benzin said. "With her blessings imbedded throughout us, and as we continue on in life, let us all take the time to realize that the smallest word of encouragement or a tiny act of kindness have a long reaching and powerful effect on ourselves and others...."

"It is time for us all to go out into this world that we live in and to make this family proud. D'Youville is a part of each of our histories, and we are now a part of D'Youville history."









Student Successes  
Celebrated at

# HONORS CONVOCATION

On an afternoon when D'Youville College celebrated student achievement, student speaker Kristina Stumpf '15 reflected on the place that gave rise to their success.

For Stumpf, an education major from Cheektowaga, choosing D'Youville was an easy decision. It was her mother's alma mater, and her childhood was filled with stories about the college. She was eager to make memories of her own but didn't know how to plug in when she arrived on campus.

"Freshman year, I was shaky, awkward and desperately wanted to make friends," she told the crowd of students, family and friends who gathered on March 4 for the 56th Honors Convocation at Kleinhans Music Hall. "D'Youville gave me the cushion that I needed to get going."

Stumpf credits the camaraderie of campus life and the college's outstanding faculty and staff for helping her to grow and mature.

"They are willing to do whatever it takes to help you," she said. "I cannot tell you how many times I have walked into the offices of my professors just to say 'hi' or to discuss a topic, and ended up spending 45 minutes talking about life and what I plan on doing in my future.

"...The amazing people and the amazing memories that live in these walls truly bring meaning to the phrase, 'Home is where the heart is' because there is so much heart at this school between the students, staff and professors that it has become a home to not just me but others as well."

Stumpf, who will be staying at NYC another year to earn her master's degree in special education, made the college's dean's list several times and was a member of Lambda Sigma, the sophomore honors society. The co-founder of the Future Teachers



Association encouraged members of the D'Youville family to celebrate their accomplishments together.

"Our goals inspire us, our achievements unite us, so fellow students, congratulations! Be proud of what you have achieved!"

The convocation also featured remarks from Brenda Williams McDuffie, president and CEO of the Buffalo Urban League and a member of D'Youville's board of trustees.

Sister Denise A. Roche, GNSH, college president, conferred the college's highest honor, the D'Youville Medal, on Joseph Colasuonno '15, a biology student from Buffalo who received the St. Catherine of Alexandria medal in 2014. Colasuonno is a well-liked campus leader who is active in the Student Association and orientation. He teaches and mentors new students, is "welcoming and encouraging, supportive of friends and the college."

"Ever present at events and activities, he has done it all his own way, and yet he is the type of person who can light up a room or zero in on the one student who needs assistance," Sister Denise said.

She presented the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart Medal, the highest honor a graduate student can receive, to Roli Bansal, an occupational therapy student from West Seneca who faculty describe as "genuine, gentle and caring with a great sense of humor and a calming demeanor" who is "good at making decisions, taking charge and organizing, as well as taking the time to listen to others."

Bansal, a 3.80 GPA student, serves as a mentor, tutor, community volunteer and leader within the OT program's honor society.

On behalf of the alumni association, director of alumni relations Meg Rittling presented the Lee Conroy Higgins Award to Rebecca Mercuri,

a fourth-year occupational therapy student from Depew. The award is given to a student who has exhibited strong concern for fellow students and is active in campus activities.

Mercuri, an active participant in the Student Association and frequent volunteer, was recognized for tackling challenging roles and being an effective leader. "Most may not recognize her impact as a leader, as a doer, for she works quietly, never seeking recognition or attention, preferring to stay the course in a more humble manner and satisfied with a job well done," Rittling said.

Mary Jane Key '89 presented the St. Catherine of Alexandria Medal to James White, a business management/pre-law student from Albion. The medal is awarded each year to a third-year student with high academic standing and outstanding service.

Key described White as a self-starter who has taken on leadership roles within his academic department and the Student Association while excelling academically with a cumulative GPA above 3.80. White aims to work in the field of child and family law to advocate for people whose voices often go unheard.

"[He] isn't waiting for others to initiate change; he is looking to change the world around him and to have a positive impact on that world," Key said.

The Dr. J. Warren Perry Health & Human Services Leadership Scholarship was awarded to Stefanie

A. Pawelek, a chiropractic student from West Seneca.

In addition to the major awards, students were honored for school and department awards, dean's list, scholarships and inclusion in Who's Who in American Universities & Colleges. Candidates for membership into the Lambda Sigma Society, Pinnacle and Kappa Gamma Pi were also recognized.



*Left to right: Roli Bansal, Joseph Colasuonno, James White and Rebecca Meruri pose with Sister Denise Roche*



# CAMPUS NEWS



## DOUBLING DOWN ON ASSESSMENT

### Middle States Accreditation Review Highlights Strengths, Area for Growth at D'Youville College

Based on recommendations from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education accreditation site visit team, D'Youville College is refocusing its efforts to improve student and institutional assessment, particularly in general education—core coursework—and non-academic departments within the college.

“The site visit team reviewed DYC’s self study during a three-day visit in March, and the board of Middle States is scheduled to take action at its June meeting based on the team’s recommendations,” said Dr. Arup Sen, the college’s vice president for academic affairs.

“D’Youville met the requirements for affiliation with Middle States and complied with 13 of the 14 accreditation standards, Sen said. “The team found that D’Youville lives its mission as a student-centered institution, and the college’s commitment to strategic planning—and tying resource allocation to strategic plans—was also strong.”

“Overall, we’ve done very well,” Sen said. “We have a commitment to student success, and everything ties into that... We have some great programs and several new degree programs. We need to improve in assessment, which we have already started.”

“In addition, the college was recognized for weathering difficult economic times with sound fiscal management and increasing full-time faculty positions by 31 percent between 2009 and 2013 and student enrollment by 6 percent during that time period,” Sen said.

“For instance, for the mission and goals standard, the college had to demonstrate that it was living the philosophy of service to others and building leaders,” said Dr. Maureen Finney, chair of the physician assistant program. “Student and staff surveys were conducted to measure whether they understood the college’s mission and how it was reflected in their everyday work. The curriculum was reviewed across each discipline for how it supported the college’s mission. In addition, mission statements from academic programs and administrative offices were examined for their connection to service and leadership,” she said.

As part of retaining its status as an accredited college, every 10 years DYC undergoes a periodic review by a Middle States accreditation team, with the college conducting a self-study in between those reviews. College President Sister Denise Roche, GNSH, in August 2012 appointed Sen and Finney, to lead the college’s accreditation steering committee.

The committee members—about 20 administrators, deans and faculty members—were each assigned to chair working groups tied to one of the 14 standards (with weightier standards assigned two members) and charged with evaluating the college’s performance related to their standard and gathering evidence to support their conclusion and recommendation.

During the college assembly in August 2012, Sen and Finney issued a call for volunteers, expecting 30 to 40 faculty members to respond. Instead, they were very enthused when more than 130 faculty members, staff members and administrators volunteered to serve on accreditation working groups, Sen and Finney said.

“[The accreditation process] was absolutely a college effort,” Finney said. “It really did bring the morale of the school up.”

“The high level of faculty involvement in the accreditation process is shifting self-reflection from a periodic process to one that is knit into the fabric of their everyday work,” she said.

“What I think is beginning to happen on campus is that the process of self-study is leading to growth,” she said. “We are recognizing the value in self-study so that you can build on strengths and be honest about weaknesses so you can rectify them.”

“Across the board, I think that assessment culture is going to flourish, and I think that’s going to be a really good thing for D’Youville.”

In preparation for the site visit, the chairs met every two weeks with their working groups, and the steering committee gathered monthly to review overall progress with Sen and Finney. Their extensive work culminated in a 180-page self-study document, which linked to more than 400 pieces of evidence to demonstrate the college’s compliance.



In response to the March site visit team's exit interview, Sen submitted to Middle States on April 24 a blueprint for assessment at D'Youville detailing the college's action plan for improving assessment in the 2015-2016 academic year. He said he expects to make a key hire—a director of assessment, a newly created position—by the end of June to oversee the college's assessment structures and processes.

Sen has organized a committee for general education assessment and effectiveness charged with carrying out the blueprint, which calls for updates to the college's infrastructure and workflow. For instance, all academic schools, departments and programs will have student learning outcomes, and all non-academic offices will publish key performance indicators or goals. Academic and non-academic units of the college alike will develop assessment schedules.

That committee is meeting biweekly to implement the blueprint, Sen said, and to meet several key summer internal deadlines. Finney said DYC has made tremendous strides in assessment in the past five years and noted that most colleges and universities have room to improve in that area.

The Middle States site visit team recognized that DYC's programs and schools governed by specialized accreditation bodies, such as the health professional programs, have already organized effective processes for assessment.

D'Youville is fortunate to have in-house assessment expertise that can be leveraged to raise the college's overall assessment processes, Finney said.

D'Youville is a very collegial environment, Sen and Finney said. We all want to serve the students in the best way we can.

## **Military Guide Ranks DYC a Top School**

Military Advanced Education (MAE) designated D'Youville as a Top School in its 2015 MAE Guide to Colleges & Universities. The guide rates more than 600 colleges and universities on military culture, financial aid, flexibility, on-campus support and online support and can be viewed online at [www.mae-kmi.com](http://www.mae-kmi.com).

DYC's support for veterans has been recognized by Military Times Edge magazine, which ranked it fourth nationally among four-year schools for veterans. D'Youville is also a Yellow Ribbon college, supporting the Post-9/11 GI Bill for veterans.

## **Student Veterans Chapter Hosts PTSD Speaker Series**

D'Youville's Student Veterans of America Chapter presented a three-part speaker series about post-traumatic stress disorder in April to inform the community about PTSD. Topics included PTSD and its effects on mental health, relationships and productivity, helping someone with PTSD and identifying populations suffering from PTSD.

Speakers included the following:

- James Borzillieri, a psychology major and combat veteran, who spoke about PTSD and the stigma associated with mental disorders
- Mishelle Brown, a history major and widow of a Canadian soldier who died in Afghanistan, who addressed PTSD, loss, suicide and the struggle to maintain positive relationships
- Miranda Hulse, a biology major and three-time combat veteran in Iraq and Afghanistan, who discussed PTSD, stigmas and treatment options, and

- Robert Kubiak II, a biochemistry major and combat veteran, who spoke about mental health and how it affects everyday life.

The series concluded with a panel discussion featuring the speakers and three local mental health professionals.



## **Business Research Group Bestows Silver Award to DYC**

The Global Institute for Business and Finance Research honored D'Youville College with the Silver Award at its national conference in Las Vegas on Jan. 7 to recognize the college's support for the institute, its conferences and journals for five years or more.

Dr. Dion Daly, Dr. Bonnie Fox Garrity, Dr. Susan J. Kowalewski and Dr. Arup Sen have all published peer reviewed articles in the organization's journals.

Dr. Kowalewski, chairwoman of the department of business, accepted the award on behalf of the college. She presented a paper, co-authored by Caroline Michalik of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute, titled "The Implication of an Advanced Degree for Nurses in Health Care," which received an outstanding research award.

## **Center for Professional Studies Providing New Courses, Workshops**

D'Youville's Center for Professional Studies is now offering online non-credit continuing education courses for health profession workforce development.



Courses include Clinical Medical Assistant, Medical Billing and Coding and Medical Coding ICD-10. The need for medical assistants and clinical coding specialists is expected to grow in the coming years.

The center also hosted a workshop earlier this year sponsored by the Mental Health Association of Erie County and Compeer of Greater Buffalo to teach parents, family members, teachers and health and human services workers how to help adolescents experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or a teen in crisis. For more information, log on to [www.dyc.edu/professional](http://www.dyc.edu/professional).

The college also held free College Access Pathways Days in February and April to help students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form and provide assistance with income tax preparation, scholarships and application preparation.

## College Focuses Haitian Outreach on SOIL Program



D'Youville College's Haitian mission work this spring centered on raising funds for the Sustainable Organic

Integrated Livelihoods program. SOIL transforms waste into rich, organic compost for Haiti's depleted soils and creates economic opportunities for an impoverished population.

For the campus fundraiser, students painted and glazed flower pots that were sold in February. In conjunction with the fundraiser, Sister Mary Finnicks '60, GNSH, presented a talk about sanitation improvement efforts in Haiti. Finnicks has spent the past decade living in Haiti and serves as director of the Matthew 25 House in Port-au-Prince and as a board member of SOIL Haiti.

## College Hosts Run for Hunger Charity

DYC hosted the 11th annual Putting Hunger on the Run 5K Fun Run & Walk on Sunday, April 12, with the starting line at Niagara and Vermont Streets in Buffalo. The run benefited Friends of the Night People, a charity that provides food, clothing, medical care, counseling and hope to those in need.



## DYC Names New CFO

John R. Garfoot has been named vice president for financial affairs and treasurer for D'Youville College. As chief fiscal officer, he will provide fiscal management and oversee related financial and business offices at the college.

Prior to joining DYC, he was vice president and dean of administration at Jamestown Community College. He also worked for Canisius High School, the United Way of Buffalo, and Erie County and has served as an adjunct professor at Erie Community College, Niagara County Community College, Canisius College and the State University at Buffalo.

## DYC Student Honored by HearStrong Foundation

Brendan Kane, a business management major from Orchard Park, and son of Kathy Griffin Kane '79, was recognized by the HearStrong Foundation at the Hilton Chicago on April 23 for helping to change the face of hearing loss in the community.

He began using hearing devices when he was 18 months old, and his early adoption helped him to adapt well personally, socially, academically and athletically. Kane, the cousin of Chicago Blackhawks' star Patrick Kane, excelled in high school lacrosse. He currently works at People, Inc. assisting a paraplegic friend with day-to-day needs.



## DYC Offers Workshops to Help Low-Income Students Apply for College, Complete Financial Aid Forms

D'Youville earned a \$73,000 federal College Access Challenge grant to provide special assistance to help low-income students and their families prepare for college and complete financial aid forms.

The college's year-long outreach effort was designed to reach multi-ethnic families on Buffalo's West Side, and included a marketing campaign, multilingual print materials, translation services and a mentor program.



## School of Nursing Offering Advanced Care Planning Resources

DYC's School of Nursing is teaching students to help families prepare for advance care planning and offering end-of-life care resources to community groups.

Six D'Youville professors have been certified as advanced care planning facilitators, and in turn, the school has certified five doctoral students and 46 master's students as Respecting Choices First Steps Advanced Care Planning Facilitators.

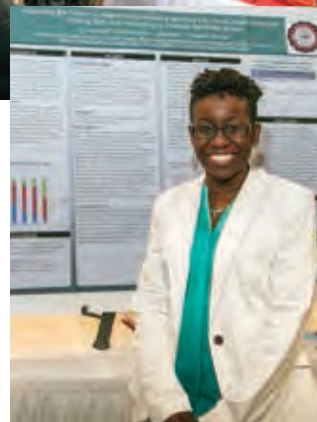
Three faculty members—Denise Dunford, Mary Catherine Kennedy and Sherry Pomeroy—led discussions about advanced care planning at three Buffalo area churches in 2014, and Kennedy and Dunford shared their work about end-of-life decisions at the Western New York Professional Nurses Association meeting in March. The school has also partnered with Erie County Medical Center to train members of its social work and ministerial group.

Organizations interested in partnering with the school to increase awareness about advanced health care planning are invited to contact Dr. Dunford at [dunfordd@dyc.edu](mailto:dunfordd@dyc.edu).

## Faculty, Students Showcase Projects at Research Day

Nearly 50 students and 35 faculty members prepared posters showcasing their original research for the college's second annual Research Day on April 28 in the Blue Lounge in the College Center.

Topics included the effect of part-time employment on academic performance while completing the PharmD curriculum; the Victorian novel, service work and the nineteenth century economy; and liquidity and solvency, a financial analysis of oil companies in BRIC countries.



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## Faculty & Alumni Attend AOTA Conference

The largest American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) conference in the history of occupational therapy was held April 16-19, 2015 and titled "Giving Voice to the Distinct Value of Occupational Therapy." (*Group photo pictured left.*)

Michele Karnes presented in the technology symposium with an alumnus, Quyen Tran '14, who developed an app for diabetes management, Diabetes Self-Management Evidence-Based App. Quyen was the winner of the DYC occupational therapy department research award in April 2014. Dr. Amy Nwora '96, Donna Brzykcy '96 and Dr. Theresa Vallone '04/'11 are DYC alumni and faculty in the occupational therapy department who presented "Out of the Ivory Tower: Perceptions of Level I Fieldwork Students Poster Presentation." Peggy Frye served on the AOTA Representative Assembly.

Michael Urban '02 received an honorable award for his service related to AOTA's coding project and Meghan Crow '06 presented a poster on behalf of Bethesda Medical Center.





## A VISIONARY STEPPING DOWN

### School of Pharmacy Dean Established Student-Centered Culture

#### *His door is always open.*

It's not a gimmick or a nominal offer. Colleagues, faculty and students who want to share a great idea or need advice know they can turn to Dr. Gary Stoehr, founding dean of D'Youville's School of Pharmacy.

"Every time a student walks in our office, he stops everything to see what's going on," said Stoehr's administrative assistant Jessica Nieves.

Stoehr, who steered the school from conception to full accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education in 2014, announced that he will retire in August. He arrived at D'Youville in July 2008 from the

University of Pittsburgh, where he had served as associate dean for assessment and curricular outcomes and had been a faculty member for 29 years.

"I'm going to miss him," said Dr. Arup Sen, vice president for academic affairs. "He will be missed not only by the School of Pharmacy but by the whole D'Youville community."

"We are a small college, and with limited resources, he built this School (of Pharmacy) and made it such a great success."

In 2014, the school graduated its inaugural class of 56 students with a 100 percent job placement rate. Fifty-three of those students passed the national

pharmacy licensing exam on their first attempt, with a pass rate of 96.2 percent on the theoretical portion and 100 percent on the law exam. The school currently enrolls about 280 students and has 28 faculty members.

Stoehr's accessibility and focus on the student experience set the tone for faculty and shaped the school's culture, said assistant professor Dr. Teresa Donegan, who has worked with Stoehr both at D'Youville and at the University of Pittsburgh for a total of 14 years.

"His focus is always on students and how he could be a better teacher and how they could learn," she said.

Stoehr is proud that he has cultivated a culture of assessment at the school—assessing students not for the sake of assessment but to answer the question: How can we make this learning experience better?

"It's the idea that we would continuously improve, that nothing we do is perfect.... We have an idea of where we want to be, and then we measure it and determine, Are we there yet?" Stoehr said.

That philosophy guided course development and faculty hiring decisions. Many of the school's faculty members came to D'Youville without academic experience, but the leadership team searched for people who would embrace the student-centered assessment culture and then invested substantially in faculty development.

Dr. Joe Dunn, associate dean for research, credited Stoehr for helping faculty members transition to academia. "In teaching people to be teachers, [Dr. Stoehr has] been extraordinary in terms of better higher education techniques," Dunn said.

Donegan bonded with Stoehr over their shared love of teaching, and he has taught in her courses numerous times. "Whenever he's prepping, it's never a burden to him. He always tells me, 'I had fun. This is great.' That's where he shines. He loves being in the classroom."



Although the school was initially criticized for its green faculty, hiring for cultural fit has paid off.

"I take pride in the fact that our faculty bend over backwards for students," Stoehr said. "And it's noticeable....Our faculty do a good job. They really get into active teaching and learning. They care about the students a lot. It's impressive."

Stoehr has encouraged junior faculty members to take leadership roles, providing training and giving them new responsibilities to build the school's leadership base, Dunn said.

"Everyone appreciates how supportive he is of the faculty's endeavors," said clinical assistant professor Dr. Michael MacEvoy, whom Stoehr has mentored. "Even if an idea is outside the box, he'd tell them to run with it. He'd never shut them down or step on their ideas."

Stoehr's years of experience lend him credibility and perspective to make difficult decisions with integrity, MacEvoy said. "He's always a voice of reason, especially when there's student interests or concerns, especially with grades," he said. "He takes a step back and applies that experience. Snap decisions aren't made that are regretted later."

Stoehr's guiding hand led the school through the nebulous program building process, during which time faculty members were hired, the curriculum was mapped, the D'Youville Academic Center (where the school is housed) was built and the school's mission and values were defined. The school also had to develop its admission process and devise various policies and procedures as well as prepare paperwork for ACPE and New York state's Department of Education.

"We really went through the unknown to go from concept to accreditation," said Dr. Canio Marasco, assistant dean of faculty and student affairs. "(But) we felt secure following his lead that we were going to be all right."

Dunn said Stoehr was an expert organizer and problem solver, supporting what the

school was doing well and deploying the right people to attack the school's weaknesses. And he made sure that students participated in key committees to impart ownership, Nieves said.

Stoehr impressed the faculty and students with his sang-froid in navigating challenges during the accreditation process, his colleagues said.

"He was always very honest with us, very open," said Nate Welka '14. "He didn't try to pull the wool over our eyes and appease us. He instilled trust, and we followed him with blind faith...."

"He was always the rock. When things got bad, it didn't get to him. When things went well, he didn't let it get to him. He was always a reliable person."

After a critical site visit from the accreditation team, Stoehr had a short period of time to adjust course in order to keep the school on track for accreditation.

"The way he responded was amazing," Marasco said. "It would have been easy to fold up the tent and say, 'There are too many things to be done. We can't fix this.' (Instead), we went above and beyond what they asked us to do. They couldn't figure out how you could have that big of a turnaround."

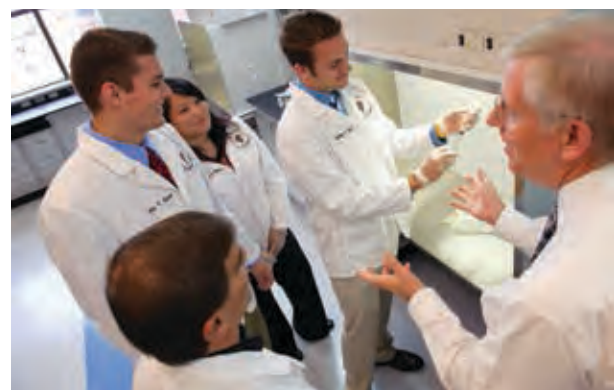
Dunn said he is impressed with Stoehr's ability to relate to numerous constituents—applicants, new and experienced students, junior and senior faculty and administrators. He allows people to flourish alone but also pulls them together to work as a cohesive team, Dunn said.

Welka, who took Stoehr's leadership seminar course, said Stoehr understands emotional intelligence in leadership. "Everyone's different so your approach to everyone has to be different," he said. "He was good at judging people's character and how to approach them. He knew how to act one way with some people and different with another."

Throughout his career, Stoehr has been honored with numerous leadership

positions and awards, among them serving as national president of the Rho Chi Society (the academic honor society in pharmacy) and receiving the University of Pittsburgh Chancellors Distinguished Teaching Award, the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy's Distinguished Alumni Award and the Pennsylvania Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Pharmacist of the Year award.

At D'Youville, Stoehr defers credit for the school's success, pointing to the leadership team and the faculty. He said that in addition to the school's student-centered and assessment culture, he is proud of the number of students engaged in research and in the school's international offerings, with opportunities in China, Uganda, Ecuador, Haiti and Canada. He said he is pleased to be leaving the school with a strong foundation upon which the next dean can expand.



Marasco said Stoehr's impact on the school will be lasting. "Our highest award that we give to our graduating students is the Gary P. Stoehr award," he said. "It's given to the student pharmacist who has really captured our core values of academic excellence, leadership and professionalism. We named it after Dr. Stoehr because that's what he brought, and I think ultimately that will be his legacy in the school."

Faculty and colleagues say they will miss Stoehr's wit and sarcasm as well as discussions about history, sports teams and great beer.

"He's made a big impression on me at a time in my life when I didn't think that was possible," Dunn said. "And he's inspired me."



## DEAN SEARCH

Dr. Arup Sen, D'Youville's vice president for academic affairs, last fall formed a search committee of about ten people to find the next School of Pharmacy dean. The committee, chaired by Dr. Judith Lewis, dean of the School of Nursing, conducted a nationwide search then narrowed the applicant pool to a handful of candidates. The committee ultimately brought in two candidates, one internal and one external, for on-campus interviews in the spring.

The search committee members are tasked with evaluating the applicants and drafting a written report detailing each candidate's strengths and weaknesses. They will not rank the individuals. Based on information from the search committee, Dr. Sen will select the final candidate and make an offer.

Dr. Sen said he hopes that the new dean will begin working at D'Youville in mid-July to allow for a month-long transition period with Dr. Gary Stoehr, the current dean.

"What the students have said when we had listening groups for the next dean (search) was they wanted another [Stoehr]—someone who is internally focused, has an open door and cares about students," said assistant professor Dr. Teresa Donegan.

## FACULTY NEWS

**Megan Whalen, an assistant professor of dietetics and clinical coordinator for the dietetics department,** has been selected as a recipient of the Council of Food Service Associations' Silver Medal. Whalen is a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Western New York Dietetics Association. She was named Outstanding Dietetics Educator of the Year in 2013 by the New York State Dietetics Association.

Members of the college's department of chiropractic and Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy facilitated a workshop at the National Association of Chiropractic Colleges Research Agenda Conference in Las Vegas in March. **Lisa DeMarco, assistant professor of chiropractic, Stephanie Brian, clinical assistant professor in the School of Pharmacy, Lynn Pownall, clinical assistant professor of chiropractic, and Alice Duszkievicz, clinical assistant professor in the School of Nursing,** presented Interprofessional Education Workshop Using Simulation, featuring a live simulation that invited participants to act as chiropractic and physical learners and a video that promoted discussion about teamwork and the unique roles of each health provider.

**Michael Cimino, clinical associate professor of pharmacy,** wrote a book about herbal medicine titled "The Endemic Medicine of Middle Caicos as Practiced by Alton Higgs" and held seminars about health and longevity practices at his martial arts school in Hamburg.



**Dr. Renee Cadzow, assistant professor in health services administration and co-director of the Center for Research on Physical Activity,** was part of an evaluation team that analyzed data from a three-year major study of childhood obesity

involving 4,000 children in grades three through 12 in the Lockport City School District. The study results were published in the *Journal of Community Health*.

AM Buffalo interviewed **Lisa Rafalson, associate professor of health services**



**administration and department chair,** in March about career opportunities for public health and health analytics majors.

**Kimberly Bernosky-Smith, assistant professor of biology in the math and natural sciences department,** was selected to be part of the annual chiropractic Part 1 test committee, which met in April to review hundreds of test questions to be used on future chiropractic examinations administered by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners. Bernosky-Smith was one of three pathology experts from across the country chosen to participate.





# SPORTS NEWS

## Women's Soccer

For the fifth consecutive season, the women's soccer team reached the Alleghany Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) playoffs under head coach Lew Potter. The team's 4-5 record (8-8-2 overall) was good enough for a fifth seed spot in the playoffs, and the team upset fourth seeded Medaille in the first round with a final score of 2-1. Juniors Melissa and Nicole LaVere were named to the AMCC All-Tournament Team for their playoff performances. Melissa LaVeve and senior Mallory Hojnacki were named to AMCC Second Team All-Conference selections, with Lavere also earning Upper 90 Magazine All-WNY First Team. Junior Amanda Drake was named to the magazine's second team and Hojnacki was named to the third team.

## Men's Soccer

Head coach Brendan Murphy led the men's soccer program to its first AMCC postseason appearance this past season. The team's 3-5-1 conference record (4-11-2 overall) earned a sixth seed place in the AMCC Playoffs. Murphy was named AMCC Coach of the Year and Upper 90 Magazine Coach of the Year for guiding the team to the playoffs after a winless season in 2013. Sophomore Pat Mann was named to the Upper 90 Magazine All-WNY third team after scoring two game winners and one game-tying goal to help push the Spartans to the postseason. Freshman Mike Lekanka

II was also named to the magazine's third team. Senior Edward Appah and sophomore Joe Hall were named to the AMCC All-Tournament Team.

## Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team was led by first-year head coach Stephanie Kazmierczak. The team had a 9-16 overall record and was highlighted by a pair of underclassmen, freshman Megan Schneider and sophomore Savannah Brayton.

## Women's Cross Country

Junior Emily Quast was the team's standout runner in the 2014 season. Quast, an AMCC All-Conference Selection due to her strong running in the AMCC Championship, placed fifth overall and led the team to a sixth place finish. The team competed in eight races during their season.

## Men's Cross Country

Sophomore runner Matthew Silver made history for the Spartans this past season by setting a school 5K record by running a time of 17:19.45 and finishing twelfth overall. Silver was an AMCC All-Conference Team member. The team finished fourth in the AMCC Championship, one of the team's best finishes in the conference championship.

## Golf

Junior Joe Bellavia was a standout performer for the Spartan golfers this season. Bellavia had three top ten finishes this season, including fifth overall at the Spartan Shootout in September. Bellavia was named to the AMCC All-



Conference Second Team and finished as the second best golfer at the AMCC Tournament. The team finished last at the conference tournament, which was hosted by D'Youville at the Oak Tree Country Club in Middlesex, Pa.

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## Crew

Head coach John Dorn finished the spring season at the New York state championships, with both boats advancing to the finals. The women competed in eight total races between fall 2014 and spring 2015, racing against Division I programs such as UB, Canisius and other Division III opponents such as St. John Fisher.

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## Women's Basketball

The Spartans opened up their season by taking the title in the Max Ziel Tournament with a 7-2 overall record. The team finished the season with a 10-14 overall record (6-12 in conference). Senior Bridget Andrews became the eighth player in D'Youville women's basketball history to eclipse the 1,000 point mark. She is one of the most decorated shooters in the school's history.

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## Men's Basketball

The men's basketball program had a great deal of team success this past season under the tutelage of fourth-year head coach Earl Schunk. Schunk, who was named the AMCC Coach of the Year, took his team to the playoffs after a 1-24 record in 2013-14. The team's 8-10 conference record (10-16 overall) earned the team the sixth seed in the conference tournament. In the team's lone playoff game, junior Marcus Clarke scored his 1,000<sup>th</sup> point and was named

to the AMCC All-Tournament Team. Senior Julian Reed made a massive impact on the conference, being named AMCC Defensive Player of the Year and an AMCC First Team All-Conference member.

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## Men's Volleyball

The men's volleyball program entered its first season in the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) and made an immediate impact in the conference. D'Youville lost in the championship game to rival Medaille but finished the regular season with an 11-3 conference record. The team is led by head coach Nick Johnson, who was named NEAC Coach of the Year. Freshmen Brock Tetreault was a NEAC First Team All-Conference selection and the conference's Newcomer of the Year. Junior Matt Loos was a NEAC Second Team All-Conference selection, and fellow junior Chris Busha was a member of the NEAC Third Team All-Conference.

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## Softball

The women's softball team won the regular season title in the AMCC. As the number one overall seed in the AMCC Playoffs, the Spartans hosted the tournament and advanced to the championship game but were ultimately defeated in 13 innings. D'Youville earned the number one seed with a 16-2 conference record (23-7 overall) and walked away with several conference awards. Second-year head coach Ona Halladay was named the AMCC Coach of the Year, with junior Kalie McHenry being named AMCC Pitcher of the Year. McHenry was also a First-Team All-Conference Team member and an AMCC All-Tournament Team member. Juniors MacKenzie Kehlenbeck and Lydia Monin were both named to the AMCC All-Conference Second Team,

and juniors Lauren DeVantier and Amanda Drake were AMCC Third Team All-Conference Team members. Kehlenbeck, along with sophomore Hannah Turek, joined McHenry on the AMCC All-Tournament Team.

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## Baseball

The men's baseball team was filled with young talent this past season, including nine freshmen and four sophomores. Junior pitcher Dan Fox was a standout performer for the team, leading the team in wins, strikeouts and ERA. The team's season was highlighted by a three-game winning streak where senior Kyle Taylor and junior Brian Mattina-Chmiel picked up back-to-back complete game wins to lead the Spartans. Junior Eric Simoncelli and freshman Thomas Brummer led the offense for the team throughout the season by ranking in the top three each for home runs, batting average, steals and runs.

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## Women's Tennis

The women's tennis team ended its season with a 2-6 conference record and 2-10 overall record. Meghan Atallah, the lone senior, was first on the team with six singles wins. Junior Courtney Fox was second on the team with five singles wins and was first with three doubles wins. Stephen Weiss, head coach of the men's tennis team, will also coach the women's team beginning in fall 2015.

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## Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team ended the season with its second conference win of the year, with a 2-4 conference record and 3-7 overall. The team went 3-3 in its final six games and was led by sophomore Wei Yen Huang, who won six singles matches.



# MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



Dear Alumni:

As you know by now, Sister Denise A. Roche, GNSH, Ph.D. has announced her retirement for 2016. Sister Denise is the face and heart of this institution, and her retirement means change is coming. We say change is good, but it's scary.

Sister Denise has guided the college into the 21st century and created degree programs that continue to meet the needs of the community. She has been our leader through dress codes, co-ed dorms and presidential visits, and witnessed the canonization of Marguerite d'Youville in Rome. She has seen countless students, faculty and administrators walk through the doors to become a part of DYC. She has spearheaded numerous building projects that have enlarged the campus. In fact, if you haven't visited the campus in a while, come see the new gym, the Bauer Family Academic Center, the student apartment complex, the D'Youville

Academic Center, the Montante Family Library and Dobson Athletic Field. And this fall, the brand new School of Arts, Sciences and Education building will open. You will not believe the changes in the footprint of our alma mater!

Through my role as president of the Alumni Association, I have had the privilege of working with Sister Denise and meeting alumni at numerous events and programs sponsored by the association. One of the first questions I am often asked is, "Will Sister Denise be there?" At all events, the people come to see and hear her. She is the face of D'Youville College!

D'Youville's story includes generations of alumni who respected and admired the education and environment they experienced so much that they have encouraged their children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and even neighbors to attend D'Youville. Recently, I watched Sister Denise speak to each graduate who walked across the stage, offering her congratulations. Alumni loyalty to D'Youville has resulted in the presentation of Alumni Association Kinship Scholarships to third and fourth generation students.

D'Youville College also has many first-generation college students who want to set an example for their families and improve their lives. I have met Sisters from Africa who are at D'Youville to take their education back to their countries and, in turn, educate the next generations in their villages. D'Youville is home to Leonardo DaVinci High School, which prepares students for college and allows several of its students to attend college classes. D'Youville's reach in the community is astounding, locally and globally. D'Youville's 18,000 alumni live across the United States and

around the world. That means that at any given time or place you are probably in close proximity to a D'Youville graduate. So, remember your physical therapist, teacher, nurse or pharmacist might be a DYC alum—just ask. The mission of the college teaches students to contribute to the world community by leading compassionate, productive and responsible lives. From the stories alumni share with us, D'Youville continues to uphold that mission.

Congratulations to you and thank you, Sister Denise, for your leadership these past 36 years. Congratulations on your achievements as president. We send our prayers and good wishes for your next endeavor.

As for the alumni news, we enjoyed a successful first trip to Italy. Five of us—including two sets of mothers and daughters—traveled to Rome, Florence and Venice, and it was a wonderful trip. All the things you read or hear about Italy and its history paled in comparison to actually being there. Please consider joining us for our next trip. The trips are coordinated through AAA's international travel companies. Watch for announcements on our Facebook page, the D'Youville Alumni Association and on the college's website: [www.dyc.edu](http://www.dyc.edu).

The Alumni Association is planning several new events this year, including a paint night in October and a Churches of Buffalo tour in November. Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities and the spring schedule. And, you might want to drop in to the campus and just say "Hi."

Jodie Vrana Cunningham '89  
President, Alumni Association  
D'Youville College



# JOINING THE CLUB

## NEW GRADUATES WELCOMED INTO DYC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Over glazed salmon and a champagne toast, the alumni association feted more than 250 of its newest members and their families on May 14 at a lunch in the Porterview Room of the College Center on the D'Youville campus, a longstanding tradition.

Alumni Association President Jodie Cunningham '89 welcomed the graduates into the association, and each new alumnus received a gift and information about alumni services and benefits.

Joe Colasuonno '15 offered the invocation after acknowledging college President Sister Denise Roche, GNSH, and her dedication and extensive service to the school. He presented her with a bouquet of flowers while attendees gave her a standing ovation. Legacy alumna Jacquie Milbrand '08 and her daughter Brittany Milbrand '15, gave the benediction.

Sister Denise addressed the graduating students and encouraged the graduates to follow the message of Saint Marguerite d'Youville—to demonstrate compassion and provide service to the needy. She reminded the graduates that even as they departed the D'Youville campus, they would remain in her daily prayers. Following Sister Denise's remarks, Meg Rittling, director of alumni relations, recognized the legacy alumni. Eleven legacy were recognized at the lunch:

Ann Marie Moore Wrobel '77, mother of Andrea Wrobel; Marianne Koch O'Brien '80, mother of Maureen O'Brien; Carmela Marino Zelasko '81, mother of Marissa Zelasko; Mary Saltarelli Knoerl '83, mother of Natalie Knoerl; Julie Calo Stoddard '87, mother of Rachel Stoddard; Jacquelyn Gooslin Milbrand '08, mother of Brittany Milbrand; Grace Correa Diaz '14 wife of Felix Diaz. Felix's sister-in-law, Ada Correa-Miller '05 and her husband, Michael Miller '07, sister-in-law, Maria Carmen Cruz '82 and her daughter Felicia Cruz '12.

A Class of 2015 banner signed by each graduate was displayed and will be used at future reunions.









# CREAM OF THE CROP

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNAE HONORED AT AWARDS DINNER



*Pictured with Sister Denise are (left to right): Patricia Lyons Van Dyke '52, Michelle D. Swygert Seay '98, Joan Tulumello, who accepted on behalf of her late daughter Nancy A. Tulumello '85 and Catherine M. Braniecki '73*

The quiet, generous spirit of Marguerite D'Youville continues to dwell among NYC alumni, four of whom were recognized on May 20 for exemplifying the qualities of the founder of the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart.

During the alumni awards dinner at Park Country Club, four women—Nancy A. Tulumello '85 (posthumously), Catherine M. Braniecki '73, Michelle D. Swygert '98 and Patricia Lyons Van Dyke '52—received the Delta Sigma Award and were inducted into the Marguerite d'Youville Honor Society. Honorees are selected each year for improving the quality of life of others through service to

family, church, D'Youville College, civic activities or international endeavors.

Tulumello, a social worker employed at the Research Foundation at Buffalo State, was assigned to the Alzheimer's Disease Center and Kaleida Health Geriatric Center of Western New York. For more than 15 years, she provided compassionate care to patients facing memory impairing illnesses and mentored countless social workers through her teaching at Buffalo State. She demonstrated her commitment to D'Youville by serving as treasurer for the alumni association board of directors and creating the Nelson L. Tulumello



*Nancy A. Tulumello '85*

Fund in her father's memory. Even as she fought cancer, she thought of others; her 50th birthday was planned to be celebrated with a charity fundraiser for her favorite organizations including D'Youville College. She passed away on March 15, 2013, two months shy of the event, which raised more than \$21,000 for the groups.

Braniecki is vice president and community development manager for Key Bank's East region. Her duties include maintaining contacts with business and community leaders and assisting with community reinvestment efforts and programs.

Since 2007, Braniecki has organized a team of KeyBank employees to volunteer as tax preparers through an IRS program. She also serves as a board member for a number of Buffalo non-profit groups and chairs the KEEP committee for the





***Catherine M. Braniecki '73***

United Way's CASH (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) coalition, which provides credit counseling and savings campaigns. Many of the programs she supports help community residents transform distressed neighborhoods into healthy and sustainable communities of choice and opportunity, increase homeownership in the city and provide residential services to people in recovery from substance abuse, addiction, homelessness and mental illness. Braniecki is a 2001 graduate of Leadership Buffalo and a past president of the NYC's alumni association board of directors and St. Mary's High School's board of trustees.

Swygert Seay continued the nursing education she started at NYC with a master's degree in the nurse practitioner program from UB. She began her nursing career at the Erie County Medical Center in medical geriatric psychiatry and went on to direct the Health Center for two years at NYC.

In 2009, Swygert Seay returned to ECMC to work as a unit manager in the chemical dependency department and in 2013, she became nursing care coordinator for behavioral health where she supervises the nursing staff and manages ten acute psychiatric units in



***Michelle D. Swygert Seay '98 with Sen. Timothy Kennedy '99***

addition to the chemical and detox unit. ECMC honored her as its 2015 Nurse of Distinction.

Swygert Seay is a past president of the NYC alumni association board of directors. She has directed the Ladybug Community Support Group and the Jaelah Jenkins Soft Bed Project and taken two mission trips to Haiti to provide medical care for the needy.

Van Dyke's strong Catholic faith is woven throughout her personal and professional life. She raised nine children with her husband. She earned a master's degree in education from Canisius College and was active in many of the schools her children attended. For instance, she served on the board of Canisius High School for six years; she taught for two years at her alma mater, Mt. Mercy, and served on its board and development committee from 2000-2007. Van Dyke established a scholarship there in her mother's memory, and the school honored her with the Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award.

After working for several years in alumnae relations and development at Nardin Academy, in 1986, Van Dyke returned to NYC as director of alumni relations and director of the Loyalty



***Patricia Lyons Van Dyke '52 poses with her son Rev. James Van Dyke, S.J., and her daughter Gretchen Van Dyke.***

Fund and received the college's Anne Lum Award that year. Van Dyke has served for more than 20 years as director of major and planned gifts at NYC and as editor of *D'Mensions*. She served two terms as president of the college's alumni association board of directors and served on NYC's Centennial Planning Committee.

In her spiritual life, Van Dyke practices her faith commitment through daily attendance at Mass, and she recently completed a four-year certificate program in Bible Studies. She is a fixture at Nativity of Our Lord Church, having served as a Eucharistic Minister and a religious educator for 20 years as well as having served on the parish council and the Nativity School board.

Alumni board president Jodie Cunningham '89 and vice president Deanna Rusek '11 presented the awards to the Delta Sigma recipients.



Alumni relations director Meg Rittling presented The Young Alum Award to Alyssa Cometto '11. This award recognizes alumni who have graduated within the past 10 years, distinguished themselves in their career and demonstrated potential for continued success in their profession. In addition, recipients must have participated in community service or service to the college.

Cometto, a registered dietitian, works for Personal Touch Food Service's administrative team to assess nutrition strategies and goals for the company and its clients developing menus, procurement initiatives and educational pieces suitable for each client's needs. In addition, Cometto provides group and private nutrition education counseling and serves as a dietetic preceptor for D'Youville students. She is also a heart healthy cooking instructor for Tops Markets and can be found at various store locations preparing delicious and nutritious meals.

During the dinner, recipients of the Sister Mary Charlotte Barton GNSH Alumni Kinship Scholarship were also recognized. The award is given annually for the following academic year, and recipients are chosen based on the applicant's high school or college record, financial need and extracurricular activities. The recipients must be children, grandchildren, stepchildren, siblings, nieces, nephews or spouses of a D'Youville College graduate.

This year's recipients were Emily Dziulko, sister of Kimberly Dziulko '14, an incoming freshman who is interested in becoming a nurse; Ashley Seyfried, daughter of Douglas Seyfried '95, an incoming freshman who will be pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy; Gillian Wittig, niece of Elizabeth Kusmierczk Karan '94, who will be matriculating in NYC's combined bachelor's/master's degree in international business and Lauren



*Left, Young Alumni Recipient:  
Alyssa Cometto '11*

*Below, Kinship Scholarship  
Recipients: Gillian Wittig,  
Christina Joyce '10, event  
chairwoman, and Lauren Zanda*



Zanda, niece of Sandy Denton Spoth '83, who is in the physician assistant program.

The awards dinner was organized by the alumni association board and event chairwoman Christina Joyce '10. Board member Ruth Reilly Kelly '89 gave the invocation.

Sen. Timothy Kennedy '99 made a surprise appearance and presented

citations to the award recipients. College President Sister Denise Roche, GNSH, also spoke during the dinner and recognized the honorees for their work and dedication to D'Youville. The evening concluded with a benediction from Aimee Thompson Larson '10, the inaugural recipient of the Young Alum Award.



# SISTER DENISE VISITS FLORIDA ALUMNI

D'Youville College President Sister Denise A. Roche, GNSH, traveled to Florida earlier this year to meet with alumni groups around the state and share updates about the college and the D'Youville Campaign.

On February 21, college trustee Paul Bauer sponsored a luncheon at the Coral Ridge Country Club for alumni in the Fort Lauderdale area. Attendees were especially excited to learn about the new athletic field and the construction of the School of Arts, Sciences and Education building which is scheduled to be open for the fall semester.

On March 14, Sister visited with alumni at a luncheon organized by Beth Ann Jaworski Beilein '77 and Don Beilein '76 at Seasons 52 restaurant in Naples. The next day, Sister attended a lunch hosted by Dr. Joseph Grande, professor emeritus, and Sylvia Boggan at the Palm Aire Country Club in Sarasota.

*Don Beilein '76 and Beth Ann Jaworski Beilein '77, organizers of the Naples event.*



*Left to right:  
Cathleen Curran  
Snyder '65 with  
Cecilia Spano Breen  
'59 and her husband  
Robert*



*Former trustee Leo Bradley chats with  
Sister Denise.*

## NAPLES





*Left: Jamelah Lee, Sherel Bailey '81 and  
Tonya Durgo Nuusa '86*



*Left: Annmarie Lenoci Hawes  
'72, Patricia Byrne Myles '66  
and her sister Sharon Byrne '65*

*Below: Kathleen McGowan  
Clotfelter '69, Sister Denise and  
Rosemary O'Connor Lawley '60*



# FORT LAUDERDALE



## Donor Spotlight

# JOHN GRANDY '04



It's been 11 years since John Grandy '04 graduated from D'Youville, but every day he is thankful for the education he received at the college and the opportunities it has afforded him as a physician assistant.

"This profession has been good to me," said Grandy (profiled in the July 2010 D'Mensions). "I've had a lot of good experiences. I've gotten to help a lot of people. I wanted to give something back, and that's why I gravitated toward (making a donation to) the PA program."

When he reflected about his time at DYC, Grandy remembered the financial

challenges he faced as a fourth-year student, and he decided to make an annual gift to help students in the summer of their fourth year, which is when their clinical rotations start. As he explained, the rotations are in and of themselves a full-time job, making even part-time work impossible, especially given the students' rigorous study schedules. Financial aid does not kick in until the fall semester begins, which can be difficult for students who are filling their gas tanks to drive to clinical sites across western New York, among other expenses.

As a result, several years ago Grandy established the John Grandy Physician Assistant Award, an annual \$2,400 donation that is split among four fourth-year students to support them during the summer.

Grandy, a full-time physician assistant for North Country Urgent Care in Watertown, enjoys the wide variety of patients he sees in the urgent care setting.

"You have to be able to deal with whatever comes through the door," he said. "You're never bored. You're always on your toes and have to recall all the areas of medicine."

Being exposed to a wide variety of clinical settings during his D'Youville rotations provided a solid foundation for his career, Grandy said. He still calls

upon knowledge and experience he gained through his clinical rotations in his practice.

And in his service as a preceptor and mentor to students and new clinicians, he tries to mimic the preceptors who helped him grow and provided good explanations to difficult topics. "When we get students or new PA's, I think 'What did I have to do to learn this?' and go from there."

In his spare time, Grandy conducts original research about human consciousness and has developed a neurogenetic model of consciousness. He has published more than 30 academic papers and presents at conferences around the world.

He said he is excited to learn about the college's growth—particularly that D'Youville is "not just buying properties and constructing buildings but starting programs that are shaping the future. They're doing the right things."

*To learn more about donor opportunities at D'Youville, contact Aimee Pearson, director of annual giving, at 716.829.7803 or [pearsona@dyc.edu](mailto:pearsona@dyc.edu).*



# CLASS NOTES

## 1950s

**Edith M. Flanigen '50** was presented by President Barack Obama with the nation's highest award for inventors, the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. Flanigen, who worked at Union Carbide, helped develop a manufacturing method that produces more gasoline from every barrel of oil. During her 42-year career, she invented more than 200 synthetic materials, including the artificial emeralds she wore for the occasion.

**Carol Kelleher Herwood '52** recently published a book, *Psalms of an 83 year old Woman*, that contains prayers of praise and thanksgiving from her perspective after a long life of contemplation and action.

## 1960s

**Mary Alice "Mimi" Higgins Donius '69** is the director of the School of Nursing at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

## 1970s

**Mary Anne Staudt Dumas '70** became a consultant for the partnership of Hofstra University North Shore LIJ

Health System to establish the new School of Graduate Nursing and Health Professions. The school will be starting two nurse practitioner programs, pending approval from the New York State Department of Education. Dumas is the senior associate dean of academic affairs and director of the nurse practitioner programs.

**Fr. Anthony Pascaretta '77**, a registered nurse, licensed professional counselor, and licensed marriage and family counselor, is an ordained Catholic priest and a member of the Benedictine Community of St. Anthony.

**Marsal Naples Stoll '77** has been named CEO of the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The ACEN supports the interests of nursing education, nursing practice and the public by the functions of accreditation.

## 1980s

**Susan Glose '87**, a nurse practitioner, was appointed by UBMD Internal Medicine to work at its geriatric inpatient consult service at Erie County Medical Center.

## 1990s

**Jennifer Ball '90** was named chief financial officer at Heritage Centers.

**Jacqueline DeCarlo '92** has been appointed director of quality management at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.

**Lorna MacDonald Czarnota '94** had her newest story, "Native American

& Pioneer Sites of Upstate New York: Westward Trails from Albany to Buffalo" released in paperback by The History Press. Czarnota has previously written about Western New York subjects and is a professional storyteller.

**Mary Swartz '97** was named regional director of strategic planning at Niagara Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.

**Erin Smith Diebold '98, '01**, a physician assistant, has joined the staff of Delaware Pediatrics.

## 2000s



**Courtney Fasolino '01** has been appointed executive director of Fallon Health Weinberg in Amherst. Fasolino serves on the Niagara County Long-Term Care Advisory Committee and is a member of the Health Foundation of Western and Central New York Leadership Fellows Cohort 4. She is a licensed New York State nursing home administrator.

**Jamie Dils Phalen '02, '05** became a board certified Geriatric Clinical Specialist through the American Board



of Physical Therapy Specialties in May 2014.

**Aaron Polanski '03** was appointed administrator of the Autumn View Health Care Facility by The McGuire Group.

**Don Carrato '05** was named software developer at PLS 3rd Learning, an education technology company.



**Erin Donohue Brough '06**, employed by Synergis Education, earned her Professional Project Management Certification, a global credential achieved through years of proven project management experience and successful examination. She and her husband

Todd have a one-year-old son, Aiden James Brough.

**Karen Krieger '06** has been hired as a technical assistant at the Medina Campus Center of Genesee Community College.

**Keith Michael Hutchings '09** and Kristen Marie Rabuano were married on July 19, 2014. Congratulations!

**Amanda Wiertel '09** and Sean Ulsifer were married on August 30, 2014. Congratulations!

**Nicole Klem '10** has been named director of the nutrition and dietetics program at Trocaire College.

**Grant Gibson '10** and Meghan Murphy and were married on August 9, 2014. Congratulations!

**Khristin Pietraszewski '10 and Raymond Degli '10** were married on October 4, 2014. Congratulations!

**Sara Yuhnke '10** was named nurse manager at VA Western New York Healthcare System

**Tamara Higgins-Cain '12** is a registered nurse at the State Correctional Institution in Dallas, Pa.

**Antonina Napierala '12** was appointed by Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center as coordinator of bariatric services.

**Todd Potter, Jr. '12**, member of the SUNY Buffalo Law School class of 2015, announced his candidacy for Erie County's 4th Legislative District, which includes Grand Island and the City and Town of Tonawanda. He currently serves as an elected trustee on the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda board of education and on the board of the alumni association.

**Jill McNinch Simko '13** was appointed as nurse manager of the intensive care unit by VA Western New York Healthcare System.

**Dana Machajewski '14** was promoted to supervisor in the underwriting department at Geico Insurance. She was interviewed by Business First for an article about a career in insurance.

**Christine Olson '14** and Dustin Lorello were married on August 30, 2014. Congratulations!

**Bethany Anne Sirianni '14 and Brian Francis Jones '06** were married on October 11, 2014. Congratulations!



**Eileen Hanley Noworyta '78, '15** with her son, CPL Brian Noworyta, who surprised his mother when he came home from his USMC base at 29 Palms, Calif., for her graduation.



# IN MEMORIAM

Marie J. Caruso '41  
Tonawanda, N.Y.  
November 22, 2014

Mary Moriarity Cottrell '45  
Elm Grove, Wis.  
May 8, 2015

Sister Mary Elaine Malloy '45 RSM  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
February 22, 2015

Mary Reilly '46  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
January 7, 2015

Sally Swanson Lawless '48  
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.  
January 13, 2015

Ann Healy McMahon '48  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
March 19, 2015

June Kniffin Nugent '48  
Cleveland, Ohio  
November 22, 2014

Mary Pandy Koessler '49  
Lakeview, N.Y.  
June 16, 2015

Mary Haar Arnold '50  
Jacksonville, Fla.  
December 16, 2014

Betty-Lou Diebold Frangoles '50  
Tonawanda, N.Y.  
February 22, 2015

Rita R. Palmer '50  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
January 25, 2015

Clare Zablotny Finnegan '52  
Watervliet, N.Y.  
May 16, 2015

Catherine Whalen Portolese '53  
Massena, N.Y.  
June 13, 2014

Mary White Floss '55  
Snyder, N.Y.  
May 3, 2015

Ann Carnevale Huber '55  
Attica, N.Y.  
April 4, 2015

Pauline Gallagher Kapke '55  
Roswell, Ga.  
March 1, 2015

Janet Gargiulo Ueberschaer '55  
Braselton, Ga.  
April 25, 2015

Moira Cassidy Koehler '59  
Lancaster, Pa.  
January 31, 2015

Elizabeth Cybulski Kowalski '63  
Boston, N.Y.  
February 9, 2015

Idamarie Battaglia Rich '64  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
February 10, 2015

Kathleen Sylves '65  
Tonawanda, N.Y.  
November 20, 2014

Elizabeth Wigton Fortunato '67  
Batavia, N.Y.  
November 25, 2014

Joyce "Joy" Klam Erickson '68  
Dewey, Ariz.  
December 22, 2014

Kathleen Hejmowski Splett '69  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
April 11, 2014

Ethel Coates Robbins '70  
Port St. Lucie, Fla.  
March 17, 2015

Linda Caputi Sanita '73  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
May 1, 2014

Helen Bueme '74  
Lake View, N.Y.  
February 2, 2015

Phyllis Ross Sloan '77  
Osteen, Fla.  
July 30, 2014

Elizabeth Meincke Steward '78  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
January 11, 2015

Lee Scott Hellis '08  
Greece, N.Y.  
January 27, 2015

Teresa Mary Winship Barker '10  
Grand Island, N.Y.  
May 17, 2015

Mark E. Koncikowski '11  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
October 30, 2014



# CONDOLENCES

Mary Curry '44 on the death of her sister, Barbara Curry, cousin of Sister Karen Marie Voltz, GNSH '68 and aunt of Suzanne Andelora Perez '77. Predeceased by her sister, Margaret Curry '48 and cousin, Joan Voltz Warner '46.

Mary Schweitzer Bauer '47 on the death of her husband, Charles D. Bauer, M.D.

Mary Lou Farrell Curtin '48 on the death of her husband, James Curtin

Verna Blassey Mattimore '50 on the death of her husband, Joseph Mattimore, M.D.

Kathryn Parsons Benfanti '57 on the death of her husband, Charles Benfanti

Sueanne Smith Houck '58 on the death of her husband, Robert Houck

Jane Fitzsimmons Cane '62 on the death of her husband, Richard A. Cane and Joann Maida Giamberdino '79 on the death of her father

Arlene Bevilaqua Rudell '64 on the death of her brother, Samuel Bevilaqua

Rosalie Vacario Sperrazza '64 on the death of her mother, Rose Vacario

JoAnn Tymorski Hess '66 on the death of her husband, David W. Hess

Mary Catherine Wilson Kennedy '68 on the death of her mother, Dorothy Boland, and Sen. Tim Kennedy '99 on the death of his grandmother

Liane Turski Browning '75 on the death of her husband, Anthony D. Browning

Linda Athans Pollinger '83 on the death of her father, Frank N. Athans

Drew Cerza '84 on the death of his father, Andrew Cerza

Lynna Villella Blessing '91 on the death of her mother, Linda Ann Villella

Ian Brown '97 on the death of his father Vincent J. Brown, husband of the late Sally Norwalk Brown '53

Julie Marinaccio '04 on the death of her brother-in-law, Nicholas Gentile

The Rev. Patrick O'Keefe, campus chaplain, on the death of his father, Dennis O'Keefe

Dr. William J. Mariani on the death of his father, Bruno J. Mariani

Dr. John Abbarno on the death of his brother, Frank M. Abbarno

Dr. Teresa Donegan on the death of her mother, Ada Teresa Donegan

Andrew Case on the death of his father, Hubert Peace, father-in-law of Hilary Lochte and grandfather of Liam Ragain

## ALUMNI TEA STIRS UP MEMORIES

About 75 NYC alumnae gathered at this year's alumni tea on Saturday, March 7, at The Buffalo Club on Delaware Avenue in downtown Buffalo.

Women representing classes from the 1940s through the 2000s mingled throughout the club's second floor as they sampled scones, assorted sandwiches, fine teas and desserts. Participants reminisced about professors and classmates and marveled at the campus's expansion.

The tea, which was sponsored by the alumni association has grown in popularity each year. Next year's tea has already been scheduled for March 5, 2016, at The Buffalo Club.

The tea is one of a number of alumni social gatherings held throughout the year. For a list of upcoming events, visit [www.dyc.edu/alumni](http://www.dyc.edu/alumni)

*It was reported in the winter 2014 issue of D'Mensions that Karen D'Arcy Wydra '64 models her nurses cape. The cape actually belongs to Pollyanna Radley Zinck '64.*



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**BE PART OF THE  
CELEBRATION!**

# Homecoming

**September  
25, 26 & 27**

**Spotlighting class years  
ending in 5 & 0**

[dyc.edu/alumni](http://dyc.edu/alumni)

- Happy Hour
- Coffee and Conversation with Sister Denise
- Family Day at the Buffalo Zoo
- Downtown Walking Tour by Explore Buffalo
- Open Air Autobus Tour of Buffalo
- Campus Tours
- Dinner Social and Presentation of the Anne Lum Distinguished Alumni Award to Marie Cosgrove Shea '65
- Mass
- Brunch

Spouses, friends and all classes are welcome. Save time and postage. Register online at [dyc.edu/alumni](http://dyc.edu/alumni)



# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

**EVERYONE  
HAS A STORY !**

remember

*If you have news,  
we want to know.*

Complete this form and send to:  
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631 Niagara Street  
Buffalo, New York 14201  
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alumni@dyc.edu

NAME

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CLASS

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☐ THIS IS A NEW ADDRESS

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EMPLOYER

JOB TITLE

NEWS





OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT  
631 Niagara Street  
Buffalo, New York 14201

## SPECIAL OCCASIONS & DATES

### July

18 **DYC Family Night at the Bisons**

### August

24 **First day of classes**

### September

3 **Alumni Board meeting, 6 p.m., College Center boardroom**

19 **Annual Scholarship and Recognition Mass and Reception**

25-27 **Homecoming Weekend**

### October

1 **Alumni Board meeting, 6 p.m., College Center boardroom**

8 **Paint Night at DYC**

15 **Presidential Scholarship Reception**

For the most up-to-date information  
about alumni activities, check the  
website: [dyc.edu/alumni](http://dyc.edu/alumni).

You may also call the alumni office at  
**716.829.7808**

e-mail: [alumni@dyc.edu](mailto:alumni@dyc.edu)

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